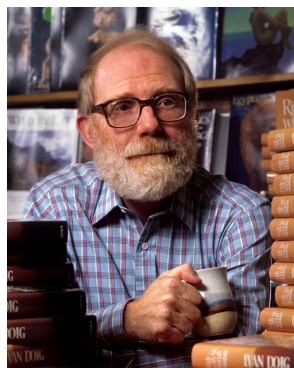


## Beloved at TKE: Friends Old and New

Kent Haruf died last year leaving us *Benediction*—a deeply touching and truth-telling book about the process of death—as a kind of farewell. Or so we thought. Turns out, he left us something else as well: *Our Souls at Night*. Slight in length, infinite in vision, compassion, wisdom, this luminescent novel begins with a request posed by widow to widower—to help fill the long nights with what she so misses: quiet conversations, side-by-side in the dark. Like all of Haruf's work *Our Souls at Night* (see page 2) delves deep into the issues that bind—and separate—families. And like all his books it shines fresh light on what we thought we knew. A gift to all of us, it provides a grace note to a body of work that defines us all.



Kent Haruf,  
 photo c/o Sophie Bassouls/Corbis



Ivan Doig

Ivan Doig also passed away recently, and we are gathering to celebrate his life and work on Tuesday, August 18 at 7 p.m. We are just one of many bookstores across the country that will participate. Please join us to share a favorite passage from one of his books or a happy memory you have of his visits to Salt Lake. He too left a final novel, *Last Bus to Wisdom* (page 10) which will publish the same day, August 18th. You can pre-order your book now and then join us for the party that day.

Kent Haruf and Ivan Doig were longtime and faithful friends to

TKE and to our customers. Each of their visits has been a cause for celebration, the publication of every book a memorable event. They will always live on, on our shelves and in your imaginations; it gives us unexpected joy to have a final, unforgettable novel from each of them.

Another of the infinitely pleasurable parts of our job is discovering and promoting a new generation of writers whose work will endure and will stand on our shelves side-by-side with the books of those we've long honored and loved. Seldom have we encountered recent work we love more than that of Colm Tóibín. *The Master* made those of us who love Henry James (and many others as well) giddy with joy, so masterfully (no pun intended) did Tóibín deliver that master novelist's work and life into our hands. And *Brooklyn*, in its very different way, beautifully evoked Ireland, Brooklyn, the currents that connected those very different places, the currents that drove a young woman hither and yon. But nothing prepared us for *Nora Webster* (page 7), not just because of the subtlety and power of her character, but also the way he slowly revealed it, treating us in the process to one of the most memorable transformations in literature.

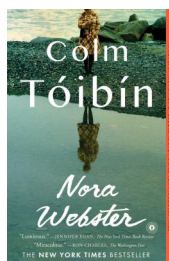
Colm Tóibín is coming to TKE on June 8 to celebrate the paperback release of *Nora Webster*. We are incredibly honored to welcome him and hope you will all join us in what will be one of the most extraordinary evenings imaginable at TKE. And, we hope you'll spend a part of your summer steeping yourself in the novels of three of the most memorable novelists of our time.

—Betsy Burton and Anne Holman



Colm Tóibín

## Coming this Summer!



**Wednesday, June 3rd, 7 p.m.** Paolo Bacigalupi will join us to read from and sign copies of *The Water Knife*.

**Monday, June 8, 7 p.m.** Internationally award-winning author Colm Tóibín joins us to read from and sign *Nora Webster*.

**Thursday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.** A Writers@Work reading with Alison Hawthorne Deming and

Kirstin Scott.

**Saturday, June 13, 7:30 p.m.** A Writers@Work reading with Lance Larson and Ann Hood.

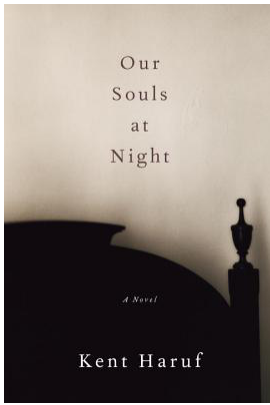
**Tuesday, August 18, 7 p.m.** Join us for a special tribute to beloved author Ivan Doig.

## TKE Semiannual Sale!

Thursday, June 11 – Sunday, June 14

All hardbacks are 30% off,  
40% if you buy three or more!

Everything else (excluding special orders) is 10% off storewide!



***Our Souls at Night*, Kent Haruf**

Old age is more than the accumulation of years and the disintegration of body parts, more than fond memories and rueful regrets. It also implies an accumulation of wisdom—despite the brain plaque—wisdom that recognizes the comfort of lying close to someone late at night, the pleasure of whispered conversations in the dark. Haruf began *Our Souls at Night* with this premise in mind. One evening when Louis Waters, a widower of many years, is home alone as usual there's a

knock on the door. It's Addie Moore, a widow he knows only slightly. She has a proposal for Louis: not marriage, not even cohabitation, but rather nighttime visits—not with sex in mind but simple companionship. To his own surprise, Louis says yes. And so begins their story, one that involves gossip in the town, tension with children, a needy grandchild, baseball, a border collie, and all the rural pleasures and pains that mark classic Haruf territory. If Kent Haruf's last novel gave benediction to our final act, death, *Our Souls at Night* provides a haunting and lovely grace note. We mourn Haruf's passing but will treasure forever the legacy he left: books rich with truth and graced with a simplicity that only the greatest art can achieve.

– Betsy Burton, Knopf, \$24

***The Book of Aron*, Jim Shepard**

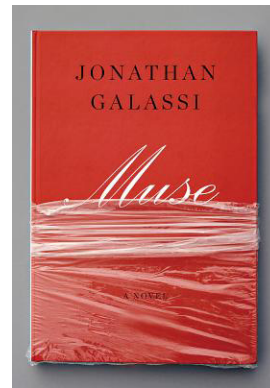
As Jews are herded into the Warsaw ghetto and the Nazi noose slowly chokes off all means of survival, we travel on the heels of a small boy into overcrowded apartments, along dangerous streets, through warrens of underground passageways. Aron, never an easy child, is always in trouble. His friends, a pack of wolves, sneak in and out of the ghetto to find food, bartering with helpless widows who are willing to give up the shawls on their backs in exchange for food for their families. But our wolf-children have families too—families they help support with their ill-gotten goods. The morality of survival. The ghetto is a complicated place, patrolled by the so-called Yellow Police, Jews used by the Nazis to maintain control through blackmail and threats which mere children are ill-equipped to handle. And then there's internationally known Janusz Korczak, who runs the orphanage where it is assumed his charges will be safe. When Aron finds his way to the side of the compassionate Korczak and the relative safety of the orphanage, we long for the boy's survival: I can't say whether our wish is granted, but I can say that I'll be hearing Aron's young voice—at once knowing and innocent, full of anger and of yearning, frightening and infinitely touching—for the rest of my life.

– Betsy Burton, Knopf, \$22.95

***The Green Road*, Anne Enright**

Irish novelist Anne Enright won the 2007 Man Booker prize for her novel, *The Gathering*. In her new book, Enright returns to familiar themes of family ties and struggles. What follows is a captivating story of four siblings scattered around the globe, and of a powerful

matriarch who brings them back together for a fateful Christmas Day. Rich, relatable, and full of wisdom, *The Green Road* leaves one to reflect on life's passages with a little more clarity for having known these characters. – DawnAnn Owens, Norton, \$26.95



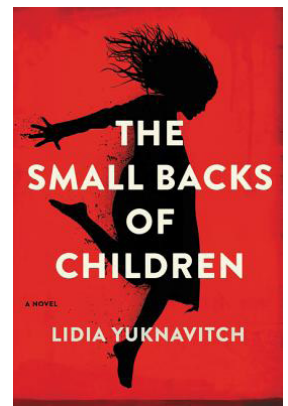
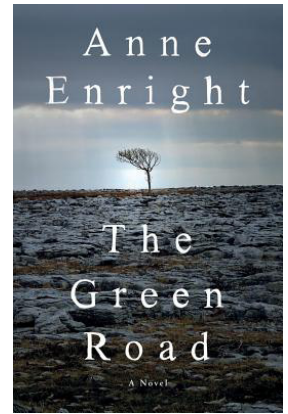
***Muse*, Jonathan Galassi**

At once poetic, satiric, deliciously dishy, *Muse*, Jonathan Galassi's novelistic tell-all, is both a hymn to and send-up of the publishing industry. It is also a book-lover's dream-come-true. Paul Dukach works for Homer Stern, an iconic, savvy, narcissistic, book-loving pirate known for his foul mouth, his determination,

his machinations. Paul adores Homer, but he has a secret love: he worships at the shrine of the country's—indeed the world's—greatest poet, Ida Perkins. Now in her dotage, Ida had run with, written with, the best of them, loved and been loved by the best of them, including Homer—and her cousin and longtime publisher, Sterling Wainwright. The two men, Homer and Sterling, are furious rivals, yet Paul, besotted by the work of—the idea of—Ida, approaches Sterling and soon the two are fast friends. The resultant triangle opens up the publishing world, the world of poetry and of literature across decades. Part of the pure pleasure of reading *Muse* is the witting confabulation of living literati with those who have sprung from the lively imagination of Mr. Galassi. Another is the poetry of Ida Perkins. But the deepest pleasure of all is its paean to books—and to those who write them, those who bring them to the marketplace, those who sell them. Sadly, Galassi sees publishing as a dying industry. I disagree, believing that books are here to stay and so are independent publishers—and bookstores. But agree with his final conclusions or not, *Muse*, written by one of the lions of the literary publishing, is a must-read for anyone who loves books. – Betsy Burton, Knopf, \$25

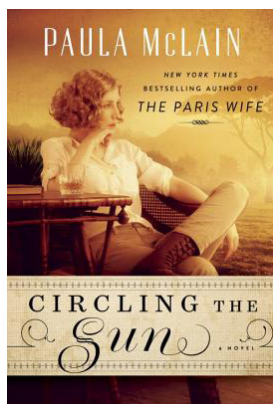
***The Small Backs of Children*, Lidia Yuknavitch**

Lidia Yuknavitch's outstanding new novel is only 208 pages long, its prose sleek and spare, but make no mistake—this is a heavy book. It's a lyrical, sexual and brutal narrative about being an artist, especially a female artist. There are no characters per se, at least not in the traditional sense, nobody has a name—there is instead a proliferation of artistic personae: the writer (the protagonist), the poet (an ersatz lover), the photographer (a different kind of seductress), the filmmaker (the writer's present husband), the playwright (the writer's brother), the painter (the writer's ex-husband), the performance artist (now the painter's lover), and so on. At the center of the story is a prize-winning photograph from an Eastern European war—a photograph of an explosion and a girl. The





explosion atomizes the girl's family, her entire world, and yet in this moment she becomes the organizing element of every other character's life. When the writer falls ill, her coterie decides to retrieve this girl from Europe and bring her back to America to help the writer recover. Since the photo was taken, the girl too has grown up to become an artist, a woman who uses every trauma she has endured—hunger, rape, war—and every bodily fluid she can conjure to produce the physical makings of her art. Her presence proves to be as destructive as it is restorative. *The Small Backs of Children* is an affirmation of the contradictory forces of art and the novel concludes with a series of conflicting alternate endings that comprise a last, convincing statement about the artist's power to stave off finality, her power over death, her power to create. – Kenneth Loosli, Harper, \$24.99



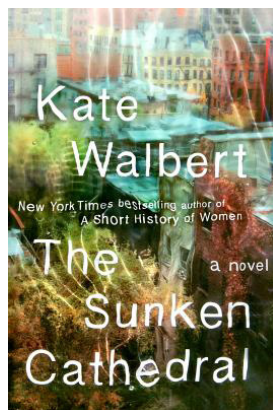
***Circling the Sun*, Paula McClain**

This novel by bestselling author Paula McClain (*The Paris Wife*) features Beryl Markham, aviatrix, horse trainer, and great beauty of the 1920s. Opening with a heart-pounding description of her trans-Atlantic east-west, solo flight we are hurtled back in time to her childhood home of colonial Kenya. Relocated there by her horse-trainer father, Charles Clutterbuck, subsequently abandoned by her mother, Beryl raises herself alongside a tribal boy-servant of the household. This

wild upbringing colors all her subsequent relationships with both men and women: failed marriages; affairs with the likes of Prince Henry the Duke of Gloucester, the adventurer safari guide, Denys Finch-Hatton; and even her failure as a mother. McClain's gorgeous descriptions of Kenya, the art of horse training as Markham becomes the first female trainer of the time, and the social circles of the British Colonial racing set make this a wonderful summer read. We are introduced to her rival Karen Blixen (Isak Dinesen) her husband Baron Bror von Blixen-Finecke, Mansfield Markham (the father of her only son) and Tom Campbell-Black who later teaches Beryl the joy of flying that becomes her ultimate joy and success. All of this and McClain's bringing to life of Beryl's adopted Kenya makes this novel a joy to read. – Anne Stewart Mark, Ballantine, \$28

***The Sunken Cathedral*, Kate Walbert**

In a novel of voices, often inventively, expansively footnoted, Kate Walbert weaves together a multitude of tales, at first emanating from a painting class taught by a down-at-the heels artist, Sid, in a down-at-the-heels New York tenement. The one we hear initially is that of Helen, who paints a world catastrophically immersed in water. But two of her classmates, longtime New Yorkers and old friends who survived WWII in Europe and are long-since widowed, form the heart of the novel. They seem indomitable despite their age, listening to each other's tales, propping each other up, helping each other move forward, however slowly. Until, suddenly, Simone is gone and Marie is left alone. Elizabeth, her upstairs neighbor, provides some comfort, joining the chorus in full-part harmony in the process. As

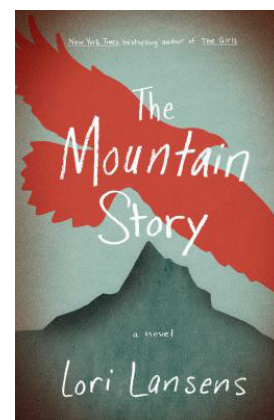


do, Jules, Marie's son, and others from the neighborhood, an actor, and an architect, all part of their community. Walbert gets at some interesting issues as she scores her latest choral symphony—the ways in which community, whether in a class or a neighborhood, connect people, the ways we remain alone however close our connections, the ways the past informs the present, the ways age and infirmity expand and contract our universe, the ways our profligate ways afflict our world—but most of all the ways our interior lives assimilate and hold, at least in memory, our hurts, our hopes, our satisfactions, our terrors, our loves. Pure Walbert, purely stunning—as always.

– Betsy Burton, Scribner, \$25

***The Mountain Story*, Lori Lansens**

Wilfred 'Wolf' truly intends to take his own life on his 18th birthday on the same mountain that took his best friend, but a bee sting and three ladies derail all that. Nola, Bridget and Von are initially convinced that search and rescue will find them before they run out of food and water although the mountain, beautiful and rugged, is home to a host of natural predators, including snakes and hypothermia. As hours become days Wolf and his companions forge a bond that, for the survivors, will last long beyond their experiences. – Paula Longhurst, Gallery, \$26



***The Festival of Insignificance*, Milan Kundera**

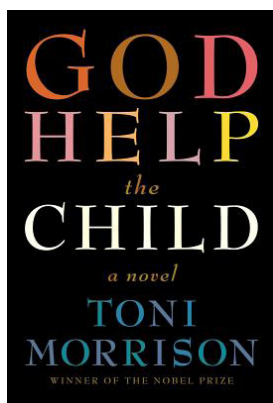
Milan Kundera's new book is a very French, very short novella about the navel. That is to say, it is a story that explores the sexual relations between men and women in philosophical terms. In the course of just over one hundred pages, the novella touches on questions of births, mothers and cutting the umbilical cord, whether Eve possessed a navel, not to mention the physical location of woman's seductive power. Characters include a

middle-aged bachelor who speaks to a portrait of his mother (and she speaks back), an out-of-work actor working as a waiter who pretends to be Pakistani so he doesn't have to engage with partygoers, a woman who leaves a party with a stranger to avoid a tryst with a man who loves her, and a couple of inveterate womanizers with very different methods of seduction. One of these womanizers argues that the best way to seduce a woman is to appear insignificant for "insignificance sets her free." And interesting idea... Throw in a subplot about Stalin's sense of humor (or perhaps lack thereof) and you have a book that only Milan Kundera could have written. It's the French version of a beach read. – Kenneth Loosli, Harper, \$23.99

***God Help the Child*, Toni Morrison**

Toni Morrison's latest novel is short enough to read in a single sitting—pick it up when you have time to do exactly that. Immersing yourself in this way feels a bit like losing yourself in an intense film. First a striking character catches your interest. Then the narrative catches you by the throat. Before you know it your heart is caught,

## FICTION



snagged in the coils of Morrison's tale. The character in question is Bride, so black that her mixed-race mother is repulsed; so black that she's a pariah as a child—not only at home but at school as well; so black that, ironically, as an adult, lithe and tall and dressed only in white, she's a nationally known fashion icon. The narrative that catches at you is a love story: Bride is in love with a scholarly young black man, named, with a double-edged humor, Booker, who leaves her, reducing the beautiful Bride to a child-like state of

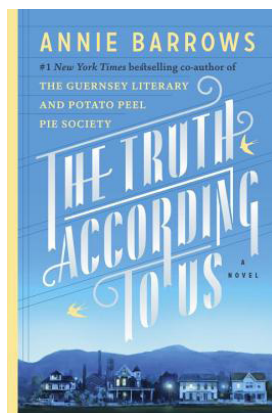
grief. The why of his abandonment and the why of Bride's inability to function without whatever he had brought to her life are braided into the story of a woman's release from prison—a woman to whom Bride is connected in ways only gradually revealed. The voices are distinctive and involving, the imagery vivid, cinematic, the writing fluid, dramatic, yet more pared down than in Morrison's previous work. The result is, if not Morrison's finest, engaging, often traumatic, in the end, cathartic. At 84 Morrison is as fierce—and compassionate—as ever. – Betsy Burton, Knopf, \$24.95

***The Truth According to Us,***  
Annie Barrows

In the same delightful vein as *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, Annie Barrows takes us to 1938 Macedonia, West Virginia, where Layla Beck has been forced by her wealthy father, under the auspices of the Federal Writers' Project, to write the town's history. Upon arrival she is like a fish out of water and soon discovers that the family she boards with carries secrets from and is entangled with the deep past of the town.

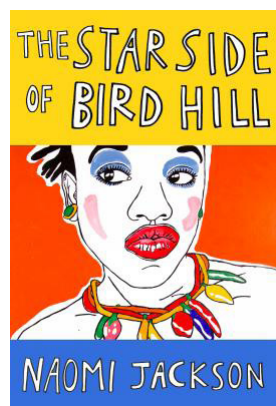
West Virginia charm and southern hospitality abound, and readers will enjoy the light-hearted view of 12-year-old Willa Romeyn, the stuffy attitude of Layla Beck, along with all the other oddly appealing characters Barrows has created in this perfect summer read.

– Vivian Evans, Random House, \$28



***The Star Side of Bird Hill,*** Naomi Jackson

Another good summer read, this debut novel rips two sisters from a broken home in Brooklyn and lands them with their stern grandmother in Barbados. Dionne is 16, Phaedra, 10, when their mother, in a state of severe depression, packs her daughters off. Neither girl is happy at the change or with their new surroundings, and Dionne, who has already developed some serious attitude, is clearly headed along the path their mother took at the same age. But Phaedra slowly begins to



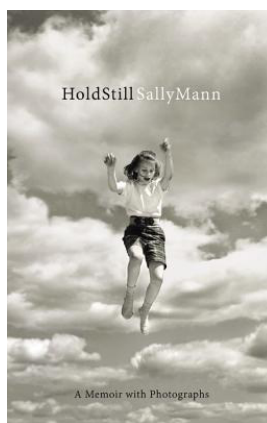
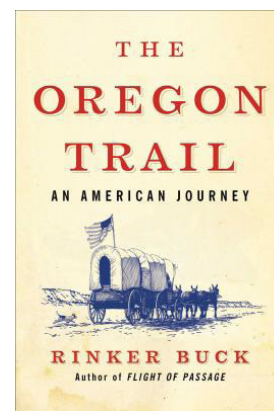
connect to her grandmother and to the island of her mother's birth—until their father suddenly appears in their lives. Interesting in terms of culture and setting, this is a touching coming-of-age story.

– Betsy Burton, Penguin, \$25.95

## NONFICTION

***The Oregon Trail,*** Rinker Buck

When Rinker Buck left journalism and decided to follow the original Oregon Trail from St. Joseph, Missouri to Baker City, Oregon, he didn't count on two important things—his brother Nick and Nick's feisty Jack Russell terrier, Olive Oyl. Fortunately for Rinker, and for us, the trio stayed together over the course of 2,000 miles, many broken axles, and terrible weather. The Buck brothers discovered, mile by mile, the real history of the trail and the stories of the people who fought, stole, and died crossing it. Fascinating as that history is, astute as is his social commentary, *The Oregon Trail* is often laugh-out-loud funny. A perfect summer read, especially if you are planning a covered wagon ride of any distance. – Anne Holman, Simon & Schuster, \$30



***Hold Still,*** Sally Mann

Sally Mann's memoir *Hold Still* unnerves and captivates the reader in much the same way her photographs uneasily enthrall the viewer. And while Mann does address the period of her family and artistic life during the making of her images for *Immediate Family*, as well as the controversy over them that catapulted her to national prominence following its publication in 1992, her memoir gives a long, rich and disturbing overview of her life within its larger context of the South,

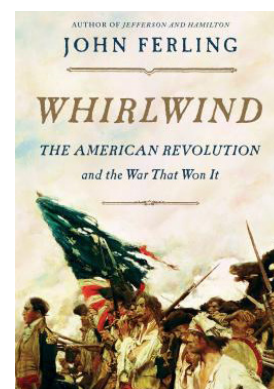
its history, and her and her ancestors' place within it. The book is as much a portrait of her literal place within the world as it is a series of self-portraits: a wild child raised more by Gee-Gee—her family's African-American housekeeper—than by her distant mother or doctor-father, a troublesome, renegade high school beauty discovering analog photography with her boyfriend in a darkroom, a rash young, married woman struggling with money, having children, and holding on to her artistic vision. As a photographer, and now in her memoir, Sally Mann bears both artistic and very personal witness to privilege, racism, sexism, family, motherhood, and death.

– Michelle Macfarlane, Little, Brown, \$32

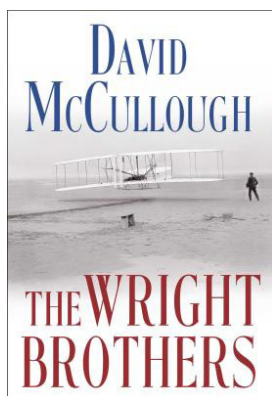
***Whirlwind,*** John Ferling

This excellent new take on the American Revolutionary War by an acclaimed historian and author employs a tight writing style to pack a large amount of detail into a good read. Ferling connects the events and the people we have all read about into a fast-paced narrative which gives insight into the “colonists” and their motives for separation from Great Britain. An audacious idea of a representative democracy was the goal, but the obstacle was the most powerful economic and military system in the world of 1775.

– Patrick Fleming, Bloomsbury Press \$30





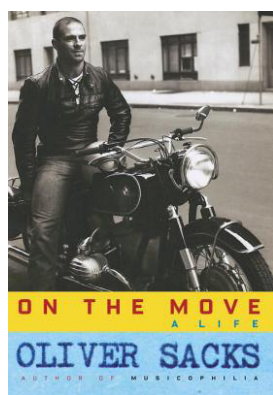


**The Wright Brothers**, David McCullough  
This fascinating re-telling of the development of manned flight is the story of two brothers who would work together for 50 years as talented mechanics with a dream of flight and of all of those who contributed to the technical solutions to get man airborne. Amazing to think that the first powered flight took place in 1903 and just 66 years later Neil Armstrong stepped on the moon. A perfect blending of the technical aspects of flight and the story of the two unlikely brothers from Ohio who

put it all together, this is the ideal book to take on a plane. I promise that more than once you will look out a window at the wing and say, "Wow!" – Patrick Fleming, Simon and Schuster, \$30

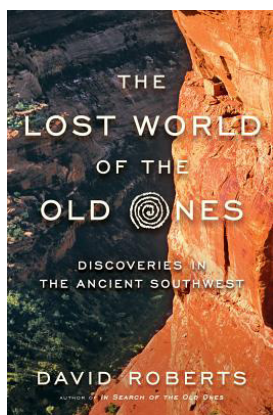
**On the Move: A Life**, Oliver Sacks

Oliver Sacks' public announcement in February that he has terminal cancer casts a deep pall over his many fans. Considered the bard of brain disorders, the usually shy Dr. Sacks exhibits unbounded curiosity, intellectual insatiability, gleefulness, silliness, and sparkle in his stirring and explicit new memoir. His story unfolds in unexpected ways, revealing his passions alongside his deep, almost telepathic empathy for those unable to explain themselves. His humanity is apparent on every page of this book and words cannot express how graced I feel my life has been by having the extraordinary pleasure of saying we are friends. His writing has touched and influenced people worldwide. I estimate conservatively that the percentage of readers interested in the quirks of the mind and 'narratives with neuroscience' doubled upon reading *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*. At the recent publication party for *On the Move*, Dr. Timothy Pedley, a preeminent neurologist, told us he'd discovered that 70% of his residents chose to specialize in neurology after reading Oliver Sacks. He wrote to me recently, "I am not in remission, but am having an intermission and I feel rather well." He's currently working on two books and I look forward to reading them. – Rosalie Winard, Knopf, \$27.95



**Lost World of the Old Ones**, David Roberts

I first read David Roberts a few years ago on the way back from a Grand Canyon backpack trip. We had stopped at Marble Canyon Visitors Center and they had a small collection of books about the Four Corners/Colorado Plateau area. I picked up *The Pueblo Revolt: The Secret Rebellion that Drove the Spaniards out of the Southwest* by David Roberts out of curiosity and a desire to support the small book store. Opening it that night I



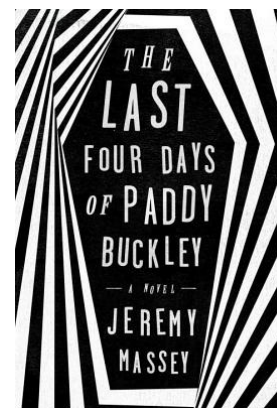
was pleasantly surprised by the story, maps, scholarship, and writ-

ing style. When *Lost World* came out, I was eager to read it and have been rewarded as anticipated. This book will be of special interest to people from Utah as the first part of the book focuses on Range Creek, Waldo Wilcox and the acquisition of the Wilcox Ranch by the state of Utah. Roberts' descriptions of Range Creek and its archeology are excellent, but the most interesting aspect of the book is Roberts' explanation of our evolving understanding of the Fremont and Anasazi cultures. Makes you realize what a wondrous place we live in here in Utah. – Patrick Fleming, Norton, \$30

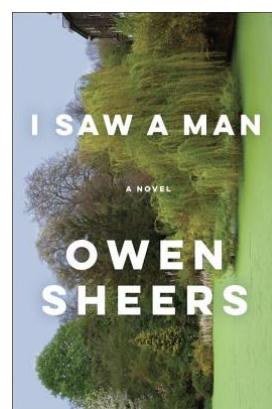
## MYSTERY/THRILLER

**The Last Four Days of Paddy Buckley**, Jeremy Massey

Massey has presented us with a terrific new Irish crime novel. Paddy Buckley is an undertaker in Dublin where he is respected and beloved by colleagues and the community at large. One fateful evening he accidentally runs over and kills the brother of the town's most terrible crime lord and the fun begins. In often hilarious scenes, Paddy takes us through 4 days of friendship, love and loyalty. I couldn't put it down and would recommend it to anyone with a love for the Irish, curiosity about the undertaker's business or just a great story. – Sue Fleming, Riverhead Books, \$25.95



**I Saw a Man**, Owen Sheers



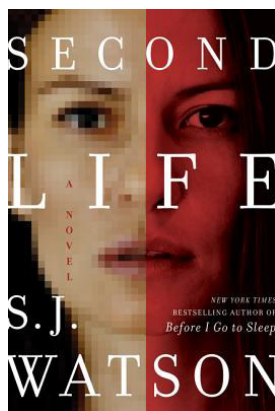
A man in search of a screwdriver his neighbor had borrowed from him enters the open door of the neighbors' house. He calls out but no one answers. He takes a tentative step inside, then another. The intruder is Michael Turner, a successful author of immersive journalism who has recently published a book in New York to rave reviews. But between the publication and the present much has happened to Michael. We learn it all in flashbacks as, step-by-step, he makes his way further

into the house and as we the readers make our way further back into his recent history. Alone and unable to form a meaningful relationship, he had felt incomplete—until he met Caroline, a foreign correspondent with her own impressive credentials and a taste for danger. The two fell in love and built a nest in Wales where they started to fashion a full life together—a life cut short when she traveled to Pakistan on a story. We also learn the backstory of Michael's neighbors, husband Jason, wife Samantha, daughters 4-year-old Lucy and 7-year-old Rachel, as Michael slowly makes his way deeper into their house. From the beginning we know something fateful is about to occur but Sheers builds the tension slowly, drawing us into the lives of all involved—into the tale of how they became involved with one another. The writing is mesmerizing, the surprises explosive—even to the last page. – Betsy Burton, Nan Talese, \$25.95

## *Second Life*, S.J. Watson

In his second novel after the acclaimed *Before I Go to Sleep*, Watson focuses on the dangers of online relationships. Julia had been an up-and-coming photographer until her lover's death in a Berlin squat sent her running back to England and into marriage with dull, dependable Hugh. Life with Hugh, a heart surgeon, and their adopted teenage son Connor is smooth sailing until news hits that Julia's younger sister Kate has been found dead in a Paris alleyway. Connor is Kate's son, and Kate had been making moves to get him back. At the funeral the family meets Anna, Kate's flatmate. Anna reveals that she and Kate used to frequent online chatrooms to meet men for sex. Frustrated at the lack of information from Paris and struggling to deal with Kate's death, Julia starts frequenting those same sites trying to draw out her sister's killer. This second life is intoxicating, addicting and Julia has no idea that's she's the one being drawn out into the open....

– Paula Longhurst, Harper, \$26.99



## *Dry Bones*, Craig Johnson

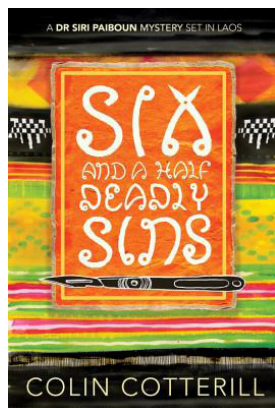
There's a new girl in town, Jen, who may be the largest and most intact dinosaur ever discovered. The problem is, she's found on Danny Lone Elk's ranch on the Cheyenne reservation and Danny turns up dead only days later. The High Plains Dinosaur Museum would love to have her but so would the Feds, the Smithsonian, and just about everyone else. While Walt Longmire is trying to solve the murder and protect the bones, his daughter Cady arrives with five-month old Lola for a visit to Grandpa. What should be a happy

reunion turns tragic and mother and daughter return to Philly with Deputy Sheriff Victoria Moretti in tow. There's never a dull moment in Absaroka County and this is no exception. Fans will love this cliff-hanger and wait anxiously for the next book. Save Jen!

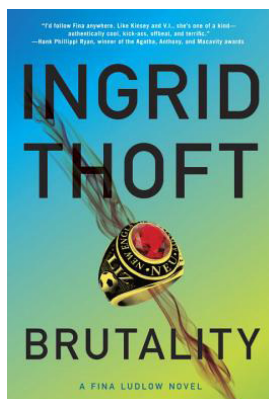
– Anne Holman, Viking, \$27.95

## *Six and a Half Deadly Sins*, Colin Cotterill

It is 1979 and Dr. Siri Paiboun is still philosophizing with his aging cronies and his wife, Madame Daeng, concerning the politics of Laos, China, Cambodia, and Vietnam. He cannot resist the urge to explore and solve puzzles; therefore, when he receives an unmarked package containing a hand woven “pha sin” and discovers a human finger in the hem, he and Madame Daeng must set out for the north on the trail of six and a half sins and a message sewn into the skirts. Getting to the north calls for a little ingenuity and a lot of Dr. S's friends, who march into political chaos on the northern Laos border and



become the victims of a personal vendetta. Readers eagerly awaiting another of Cotterill's Laoian mysteries won't be disappointed by *Six and a Half Deadly Sins*. The writing is a mixture of pathos and humor, and Cotterill combines reality and a little magic realism in the portrayal of Dr. Siri. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Soho Press, \$26.95



## *Brutality*, Ingrid Thoft

Fina Ludlow, the shoot-from-the-lip Boston PI, is back. Bostonians are suffering in the grip of a brutally cold winter but someone slogged through it to attack soccer mom Liz Barone in her own kitchen. Liz is on life support and her mom, Bobbi, hires Fina to track down the culprit, working alongside the police. Lieutenant Pitney isn't thrilled to have Fina poking around in Boston PD's investigation and Fina isn't thrilled that Detective Menendez is single again. Fina has a number

of suspects including Liz's husband, her former teammates, and her employer NEU. Liz, who played soccer for NEU and was encouraged to play through injuries and concussions which have left her with cognitive difficulties, was in the process of filing a lawsuit against the university. She also worked at a research lab on campus. Fina doesn't just have problems with the case, however. Her friend Risa's long-lost aunt is pressuring Risa for one of her kidneys and Risa is having second thoughts about donating. The Ludlows, two in particular, have designs on Fina's niece Haley, Rand wants his daughter to visit him and his new girlfriend in Miami, and Fina's domineering mother is insisting that Haley go. Fina's going to have to stamp on some toes to protect Haley, and this time her actions may just blow up in her face.

– Paula Longhurst, Putnam, \$26.95

# SPECULATIVE FICTION



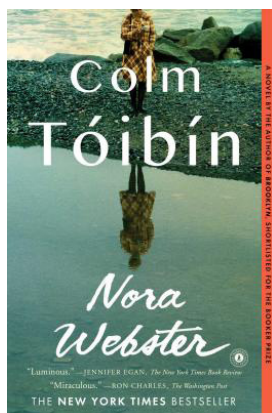
## *The Water Knife*, Paolo Bacigalupi

In his first work for adult readers since his 2009 Hugo- and Nebula-award-winning science fiction classic, *The Windup Girl*, Bacigalupi treats a subject that everyone living in the American Southwest is (or should be) concerned about: water conservation. The bleak, futuristic world of *The Water Knife* is not the result of a fatal pandemic or nuclear annihilation, but is an apocalyptic landscape created by circumstances that are equally frightening, but far more plausible: extreme drought.

Angel Velasquez is an enforcer for water magnate Catherine Case. Sent to Phoenix to track down a missing colleague, he discovers that the situation there has deteriorated beyond his wildest expectations, and even the degree of protection provided by his employer may have evaporated. – Aaron Cance, Alfred A. Knopf, \$25.95 *Editor's note: Paolo Bacigalupi will read from and sign copies of The Water Knife at TKE on Wednesday, June 3rd, at 7 p.m.*



## FICTION



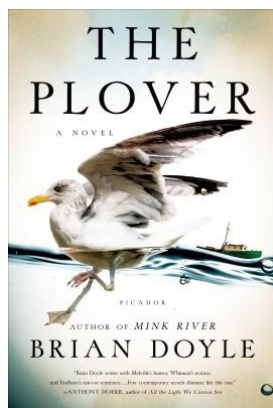
**Nora Webster**, Colm Tóibín

At first it's hard to know what to make of the newly widowed Nora Webster. That she loved her late husband is evident in her every thought and action. That she loves her children is less clear. Oh, she takes care of them dutifully enough, but her obliviousness to their feelings is maddening. Then slowly, over time, as she creeps out from under the carapace of her grief, moving forward into the world and back in memory, she becomes ever-more-fascinating, a character who is the polar

opposite of the blank slate that was young Ellis in Tóibín's quietly brilliant *Brooklyn*. What had at first seemed helplessness in Nora gradually begins to transform from fragile to tough, even formidable; watching that transformation is revelatory. I don't always believe in men's depictions of women in novels but Tóibín's are the exception. More thoughtful than Emma Bovary and less self-destructive, in the end far and away a better parent than the doomed Anna Karenina for all the latter's dramatic posturing, Nora Webster is easily as memorable as either—and far more believable. To say more would spoil a masterful—and unforgettable—novel. – Betsy Burton, Scribner, \$16

**The Plover**, Brian Doyle

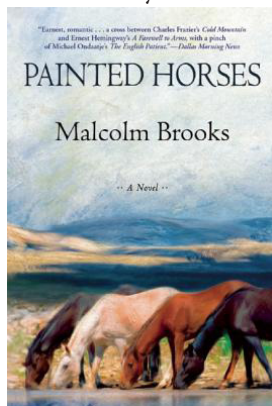
In plot and tone the seafaring novel *The Plover* lies somewhere between *Moby-Dick* and *Three Men in a Boat*. Hard to imagine, but true. The cast of characters is eccentric: a mad (in all senses of the word) Irish Oregonian with a jury-rigged fishing trawler; his old fishing buddy, numinous disabled daughter in tow; a monumental and monumentally sad island woman—all adrift in the South Seas, hunted, haunted by the Ahab of the tale, Enrique, captain of a rogue Russian trawler. The sea provides plenty of room for rumination, yet the boat is a closed world where people (and gulls—did I mention the gull?) have a hard time hiding from one another. The relationships that spawn and bloom, darken and shred, pull at our imagination as surely as the lurking trawler. Like all good tales of the sea, *The Plover* has a tidal rhythm, an ebb and flow of action. But it's full of enchant-



ment, too. And of compassion and humor and wisdom. It's an unusual book, and I loved it. – Betsy Burton, Picador, \$16

**Painted Horses**, Malcolm Brooks

Catherine Lemay, a young archeologist living on the East Coast, is hired by the Smithsonian to survey an untamed Montana landscape in preparation for a hydroelectric dam. Catherine takes off to discover what she can about the soon-to-be-drowned landscape. Unprepared for the vast empty landscape, she's helped

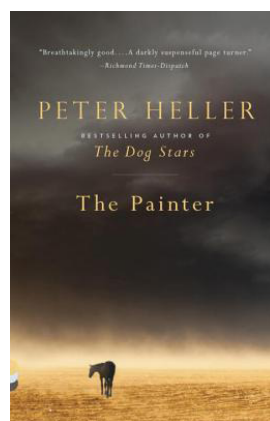
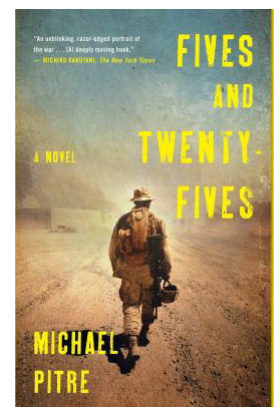


by a loner who is an expert horseman and just ahead of the law. She learns about the past 50 years of Montana history; of the changing lives of ranchers, shepherds and subsistent mustangers there; and the unwitting part she is to play for the Smithsonian. At once a love story, a novel of the land, and a paradigm for the state that exists in the West—and across the globe—today, *Painted Horses* is an astonishing debut effort, its eloquent writing reminiscent of the work of Wallace Stegner, Jim Harrison and Ivan Doig. Meticulous descriptions of land, early settlers' lives, and truth-telling of the Crow natives will enchant anyone who loves Western history and lore.

– Sue Fleming, Grove Atlantic, \$16

**Fives and Twenty-Fives**, Michael Pitre

A green lieutenant, the Marines under his command, and the “terp” who translates for them form a kind of family—with all the love and pain that implies—in this deeply personal novel of the Iraq war. Pitre weaves together past and present, using post-war scenes of dislocation and grief to recall scenes of war, the grit of it, the violence, the danger, but also the camaraderie, the trust, the pride in one another's skill. The squad is tasked with road maintenance—and although fixing potholes may seem like an innocuous pastime, the potholes in question are used to bury and disguise bombs. A bomb in every pothole, high alert the name of the game, fives and twenty-fives the series of meticulous steps the Marines must take to identify threats: the reality of modern warfare. As harrowing as this may sound, it is no more so than the characters' attempts to return to civilian life. Writing with caustic wit but also a delicate compassion, Pitre lays down the scenes involving these characters like cards dealt from a Tarot deck, each wartime face forecasting the shape of that same face in the future. Face by face, scene by scene, character by character—American and Iraqi alike—they wound their way into my heart; taken together, the chorus of their voices left me stunned. – Betsy Burton, Bloomsbury, \$17



**The Painter**, Peter Heller

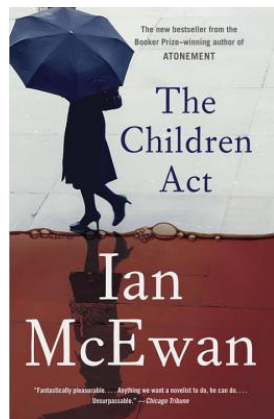
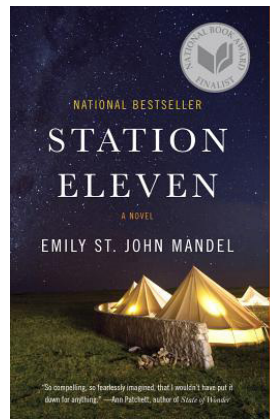
Grief, fishing, art, love, violence: all are ingredients in a book that hooks you savagely and completely on page one and holds you utterly in thrall. After the death of his daughter and the disintegration of his marriage, Jim Stegner has left the art scene in Santa Fe to settle in rural Colorado, hoping to fish his way out of despair, paint away the rage he can't shake and doesn't understand. Instead, he finds the violence he'd hoped to escape. It happens fast in the way of such things and Stegner

heads back to Santa Fe, ostensibly because of a portrait commission, but as much to outrun what he's done, who he's become. Heller is a gifted writer, one who crafts prose with insane intensity and tender grace. *The Painter*, a novel of action, surefooted in its narrative, is also a deeply introspective look at the forces that drive violent men, the forces that drive creativity, how they differ and their unsettling similarities. – Betsy Burton, Vintage, \$15.95

## FICTION

### *Station Eleven*, Emily St. John Mandel

A dystopian novel with a distinctive difference, *Station Eleven* postulates a population nearly extinguished by a deadly flu virus, its remaining inhabitants tied together—and entertained—by a group of itinerant classical musicians/Shakespearean actors. Kristen, a seasoned actor, has early memories involving a night on the stage with a famous Shakespearean actor who fell dead during a production of “King Lear.” This was the start of a decades-long drama involving a pandemic, violence, betrayal, and an insistent, persistent faith in the importance of music and drama in life. As the ongoing saga sweeps the players along through a sere landscape of abandoned factories and farms and across decades, the reader mourns with the players for what is lost, cheers with them for what they valiantly keep alive, fears for them as the legendary strength of a violent prophet grows. *Station Eleven* is at once a cautionary tale and a lyrical paean to life as we now know it and to the arts which presently grace our existence. Mandel, proficient in the fine art of suspense and possessed of a surprising turn of mind—and of phrase—is a wonderfully imaginative storyteller. – Betsy Burton, Vintage, 15.95



### *The Children Act*, Ian McEwan,

As slender as *On Chesil Beach* and every bit as emotionally fraught, McEwan's blistering new novel addresses not the first but the later days of a marriage. Fiona Maye, High Court judge, is editing one of her opinions when her husband comes home, pours a drink, and tells her that he wishes to indulge in what he considers to be his last chance at passion. Not that he wants a divorce—he has no desire to give up his wife, whom he loves. In essence he wants her permission. No spoiler alert

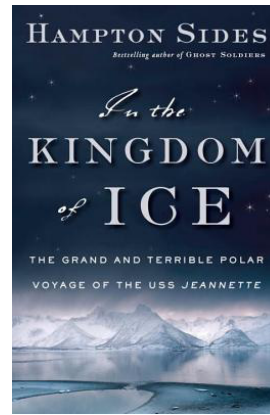
here—all of this occurs in the first few intense pages. Fiona escapes into her brief, and we begin to see how important her Family Law practice is to her—particularly a new case that comes via a phone call as she's negotiating the shoals upon which her marriage is foundering. A 17-year-old cancer patient is urgently in need of a transfusion his parents are refusing to allow on religious grounds; the hospital is requesting intervention. Fiona, hurled into the consideration of the boy's fate just as she is being forced to consider her own, has no option but to weigh both morally freighted issues. Like most of McEwan's work, *The Children Act* mines exquisitely unbearable pain in order to create clarity, his subject ever the pivotal moment that defines a life. – Betsy Burton, Anchor, \$15

## NONFICTION

### *In the Kingdom of Ice*, Hampton Sides (August)

Sides tells the story of the USS Jeannette and its Arctic Polar Expedition of 1880, the first real American expedition to the Arctic and one that signified the passing of the mantle of world exploration from the

## NONFICTION



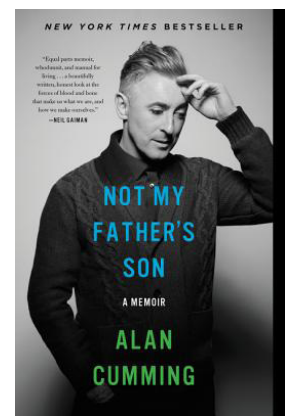
British to the Americans. The Americans were the young energetic people who relied on technology and organization to overcome any obstacle. Edison has just developed the light bulb, electricity was now powering American cities, telephones were becoming common, and there was no place on the planet that the Americans couldn't conquer. Then came disaster; the story of the USS Jeannette and her crew ranks right up there with that of Shackleton and the Endurance. This is a very readable book with short, tight, well written chapters, a perfect

choice for anyone who liked Sides' *Ghost Soldiers* or *Blood and Thunder*. – Patrick Fleming, Anchor, \$16.95

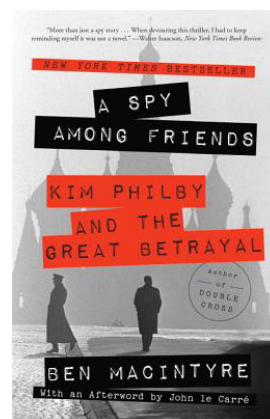
### *Not My Father's Son: A Memoir*,

Alan Cumming

We think we know him as Eli Gold in “The Good Wife,” as the host on “Masterpiece Theatre,” or in his stunning one-man “Macbeth” on Broadway. But in his new memoir, Alan Cumming reveals a childhood of abuse at the hands of his father and of family secrets left undiscovered until Cumming was an adult. In 2010, Cumming agreed to be on the British reality show, “Who Do You Think You Are?”. When the producers attempted to contact his father, the old man refused until two days before filming began when he shattered Alan's world with a secret that forced the actor to confront both his past life and his future. This memoir is as brilliant as Cumming is himself. – Anne Holman, Dey Street Books, \$15.99



### *A Spy among Friends: Kim Philby and the Great Betrayal*, Ben Macintyre



One thing stands out above all else in this saga of British master spy Kim Philby: the mind-bending degree of Philby's duplicity in each and every one of his relationships outside Moscow. His utter and absolute willingness to betray his friends, the care with which he establishes friendships in the first place, with which he nurtures them, with which he manipulates them, all the while giving up to Moscow countless documents, whole networks of

spies, make this at once a dazzling and devastating read. His treason, perhaps the most spectacular in the contemporary annals of spying, began well before the Spanish Civil War, carried on throughout WWII, first harming, then helping the Allies as Russia switched sides, and doing incalculable harm to the West during the Cold War. Chief among Philby's friends—and victims—is Nicholas Elliott, his comrade in arms from 1940 forward. This friendship forms the framework for the book; both young men are well-off, charming, ambitious—and successful, often with one another's help. If Elliott's

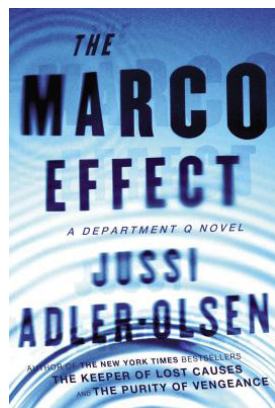


## NONFICTION

feelings for Philby are akin to hero-worship, Philby seems to return that affection wholeheartedly, “seems” being the operative word. As heart-stopping and Machiavellian as any thriller by John Le Carré, *A Spy among Friends* is the best kind of history, one that, thanks to its close attention to character, is as revelatory as the finest fiction.

– Betsy Burton, Broadway, \$16

## MYSTERY/THRILLER



***The Marco Effect: A Department Q Novel***, Jussi Adler-Olsen

The Marco of the title is a teenager small enough to be mistaken for a child; he's part of a tightly controlled clan in which the children beg and steal for Zola, their undisputed—and feared—leader. Meanwhile, in Department Q, the Copenhagen cold-case kingdom first encountered in *The Keeper of Lost Causes*, life is chaos. Beset by a raft of cases, Carl resists when the batty Rose wants to chase after a missing person—who, as it turns out, is a

corpse Marco has encountered early-on in the book and the reason his entire clan is after him. The chase that ensues involves not just that clan (ruthless enough), but also various Middle European thugs and boy soldiers from Africa—all looking for Marco with intent to kill. We immediately fall in love with him, following his crooked path through the urban jungle with bated breath and thumping hearts. As always, Department Q is the source of satiric humor and the plot, which involves government corruption at home and in Cameroon, the European Mafia as well as Danish street culture, is byzantine and intriguing. The book is long—nearly 500 pages. I was bereft when I turned the last one. – Betsy Burton, Plume, \$16

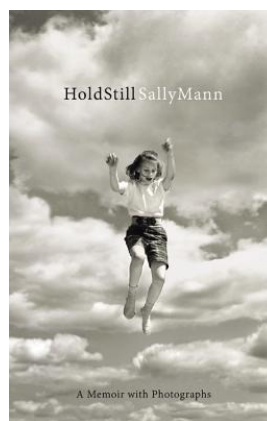
***The Snow Kimono***, Mark Henshaw

Retired Inspector Jovert and former law professor Tadashi Omura live in the same Parisian apartment building. Omura is an unwelcome visitor to Jovert's flat, but Jovert is drawn to Omura's stories of his old friend Katsuo Ikeda and the women in his life. The two men's stories from Algiers and Tokyo overlap yet their lives are puzzles of fact and fiction. Jovert has received a letter from a woman purporting to be his daughter; Omura is saying goodbye to a woman he has raised as his daughter. Through subtle word choice and description, Henshaw creates a vague atmosphere in which one surprise is overshadowed by another. The worlds of the two men are troubled and other characters both in Japan and Algeria are dreamlike and vague. Both men have secrets and both men reveal only the tip of the truth. The book becomes a philosophical creation in which the reader is forced to question truth and memory. Anyone who is drawn to Italo Calvino and his maze of truth and fiction will be fascinated by *The Snow Kimono*.

–Wendy Foster Leigh, Text Publishing, \$15.95

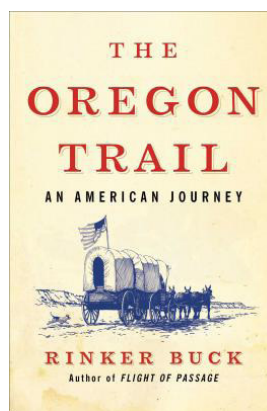
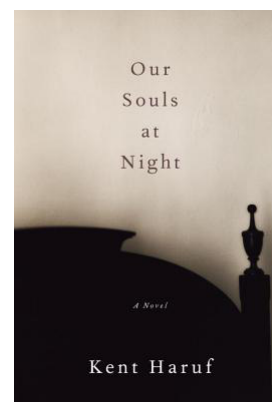


## Book-a-Month Summer Selections



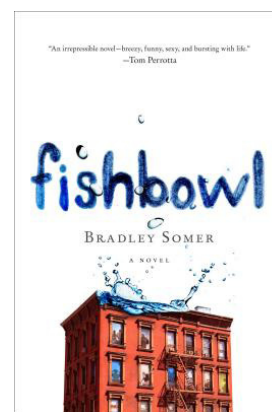
May:  
***Hold Still***,  
Sally Mann  
(see page 4)

June:  
***Our Souls at Night***,  
Kent Haruf  
(see page 2)



July:  
***The Oregon Trail***,  
Rinker Buck  
(see page 4)

August:  
***Fishbowl***,  
Bradley  
Somer  
(see page 10)

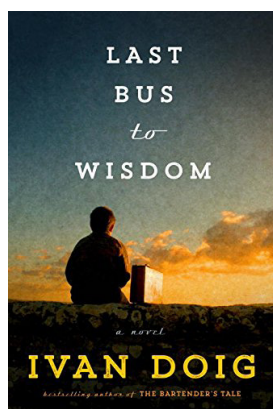


## FORTHCOMING THIS SUMMER

### FICTION

***Last Bus to Wisdom***, Ivan Doig (August)

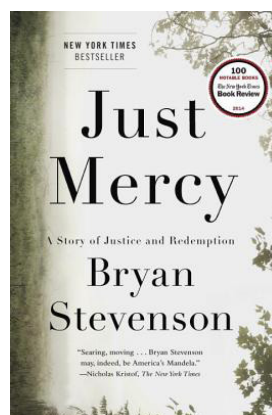
As this coming-of-age novel begins in 1951, 11-year-old Donal Cameron is on a Greyhound bus bound for Manitowoc, Wisconsin to stay with an aunt while his grandmother has surgery. Donny has never known a life without his Gram, a ranch cook in Two Medicine Country in Montana. When he meets his aunt Kate (not the famous Kate Smith to his dismay) he soon learns that she's not nice like Gram, not to him or to his uncle, Herman the German. And so as soon as he can, he hops back on the bus to go west, to go home. Once the trip is underway, Donny is surprised to find Herman on the bus with him. As the road trip progresses, the odd couple find themselves in all sorts of situations including sleeping in a hobo camp and looking for odd jobs. This story, the last from beloved Ivan Doig, is reminiscent of *The Bartender's Tale*. You'll wish you were on the bus with them and that the trip would never end. – Anne Holman, Riverhead, \$28.95



Roma, came of age in a Romani settlement during World War II. We are fortunate that the translator, Ann Major, chose such a fine novel to make available for English readers to enjoy. – Sue Fleming, Penguin Random House, \$17.95

### NONFICTION

***Just Mercy***, Bryan Stevenson



In one sense an account of coming of age in the world of law, in a larger sense *Just Mercy* is about the legal system itself. And about justice—or rather injustice. Bryan Stevenson might well have dropped out of Harvard Law School but for an internship in Georgia where he met a man condemned to death—and saw not a monster but someone of his own age with whom he had much in common. This unexpected glimpse of their shared humanity changed Stevenson. Returning to Georgia

after law school he was assigned a case involving Walter McMillian, a man on death row in Alabama. That case becomes the connective tissue of the book. Walter, convicted of a murder he couldn't possibly have committed, is, in microcosm, what Stevenson also reveals in macrocosm. He explores the court system from state prosecutions to the Supreme Court, the penal system in general, and on death row, the treatment of men, women, children, of people with disabilities, people of different races, all living under unspeakable conditions. Weaving Walter's tale into those of others he defended, Stevenson couples each of his remorseless attacks on the death penalty and on life sentences for children tried as adults to the story of a human being. These narratives take our breath away, but it's his cogent, passionate world view that makes this book important. That and the knowledge that the world he paints exists not just in Alabama but across this country. – Betsy Burton, Spiegel & Grau, \$16

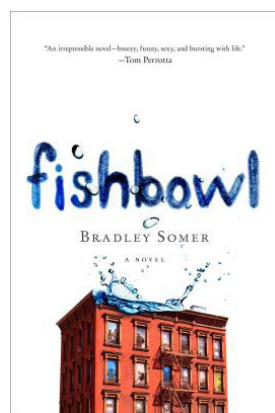
***Katrina: After the Flood***, Gary Rivlin

Ten years ago Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast, wiping out entire communities and taking thousands of lives. Rivlin focuses on New Orleans, conveying a vivid picture of what happened during the hurricane and the even greater catastrophe when the levees broke and entire sections of the city went underwater. New Orleans has always been a unique city, and Rivlin's tale of its rebuilding is breathtaking in its scope, considering each of the elements that define it from racism to poverty to greed to great wealth. – Barbara Hoagland, Simon & Schuster, \$27



***Fishbowl***, Bradley Somer (August)

In the four seconds it takes Ian, the goldfish, to fall from the 27th floor we are privy to the lives and loves of the denizens of the Seville apartment building. Prepare to meet Katie, and her “boyfriend” Connor and Connor's other “girlfriend” Faye. Garth is a burly construction worker who loves to cross-dress in the privacy of his own apartment, but he's lonely. Pregnant Petunia Delilah and agoraphobic Claire meet in a most unexpected way, and Jimenez is the building super who tries to

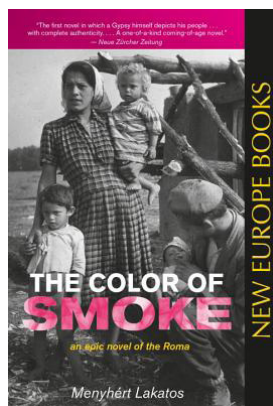


keep everything working. Filled with humor and surprise, this story has something for everyone including happy endings for some but not all. Because not everyone deserves a happy ending right?

– Anne Holman, St. Martin's Press, \$24.99

***The Color of Smoke***, Menyhert Lakatos (August)

Hungary's preeminent Romani writer, Menyhert Lakatos (1925-2007) was the award-winning author of many books. *The Color of Smoke*, published in 1975, is just now available in English. In this gripping, timeless tribute to one of the world's most marginalized peoples, the narrator, a young Roma, tells of his journey to manhood. Beginning in 1930, moving through fascism and the Holocaust, the reader learns of the ancient history of the Roma, or Gypsies—how they survived, thrived and moved on when no longer welcome throughout Eastern Europe. Lakatos, himself a





## NONFICTION



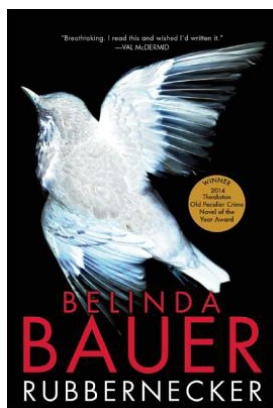
### *The Lost Landscape: A Writer's Coming of Age*, Joyce Carol Oates (August)

Growing up in a small town in western New York state, Joyce Carol Oates was far from the acclaimed literary giant that she is today. A shy girl with a vivid imagination and an endless fascination with storytelling, she grew into one of the literary world's most prolific writers. Her memoir frankly explores her family history and the fragility of her, and thus our, childhood memories. This is a deeply felt and deftly told memoir of an extraordinary

individual—and a one of the major talents of our time.

– Barbara Hoagland, Ecco, \$27.99

## MYSTERY/THRILLER



### *Rubbernecker*, Belinda Bauer (August)

A crash and the voice of the driver as he plummets downhill. The voice of Patrick, a young man who is going off to study death at medical school. The voice of his mother, who lost her husband in another automobile accident, one involving Patrick. The voice of a not-very-nice nurse attending a coma patient. The voice of that patient—unable to talk, but with a growing ability to hear, and to see... These voices slowly coalesce into a tale of deaths, old and new, of those who witness

death, those threatened by death, those who want to plumb its mysteries. Patrick is as clearly somewhere on the Asperger's Spectrum as is Mark Haddon's Christopher, and the mystery Patrick's intent on solving—by dissecting the body of the victim—is even more layered and compelling than that in *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. The world of the coma patient is terrifying, that of his daughter is troubled, as full of pain as is that of Patrick's mother, or of his roommates. Bauer's skills are prodigious, her characters both mesmerizing and believable, and the suspense she creates not only makes you think but at the same time leaves you utterly breathless. Wow. – Betsy Burton, Atlantic Monthly Press, \$24

### *Down Among the Dead Men*,

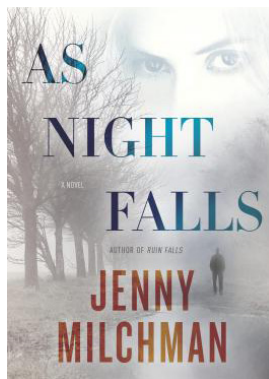
Peter Lovesey (July)

Peter Lovesey's detective, Peter Diamond, has his mates, his cat, and his girlfriend in Bath. He isn't interested in joining his irritating supervisor, Georgina Dallymore, on an internal investigation in Surrey—especially when he realizes that the detective being investigated is an old friend, one DCI Mallin, grouchy and irreverent but a good detective. Mallin, accused of dereliction of duty in a case involving her niece, had been investigating the disappearances of a group of girls when her suspension interferes with that



## MYSTERY/THRILLER

investigation. Diamond begins to snoop into those disappearances, showing his subtle side as he controls those outbursts of frustration for which he is well-known and demonstrates his restrained self in the treatment of both Dallymore and Mallin. This doesn't mean that he has become softhearted, just that he is a more complicated character than the reader might expect. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Soho Press, \$27.95



### *As Night Falls*, Jenny Milchman (July)

Sandy Tremont has a good life, a loving husband and a fickle teenage daughter, Ivy, but tonight two convicted felons aim to tear Sandy's world down brick-by-brick before fleeing for the Canadian border. The convicts didn't plan on a massive snowstorm rolling in or on Ivy escaping into it. Will any of them survive the night? – Paula Longhurst, Ballantine, \$26

### *Vanishing Games:*

### *A Ghostman Novel*, Roger Hobbs (July)

Angela taught the ghostman everything he knows and she's one of the few people who knows his real identity. For the last six years he's been wondering if she made it out of Kuala Lumpur alive. After successfully completing his last job, 'Jack' has been waiting for another phone call. He's bored, wants some action, no matter how dangerous. When that call comes he's on the first plane to Asia. Angela is alive, in Macau and in trouble. Macau is a smuggler's paradise and where there are smugglers there are also pirates. Angela put together a team to steal a fortune in precious gems, but one of her team went rogue and helped himself to something else. Now the people he took it from want it back, and Angela has no idea what it is he stole. She hopes that she and 'Jack' can recover the item and complete her original deal, but what she doesn't know is that a mercenary has been hired to silence anyone who lays eyes on the 'item.' 'Jack' and Angela's reunion could prove to be very short-lived indeed and Macau isn't going to know what hit it. – Paula Longhurst, Knopf, \$25.95



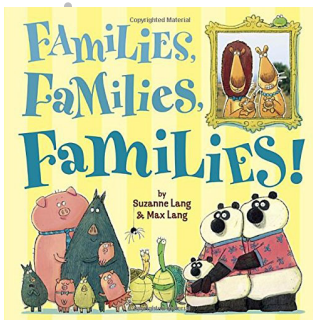
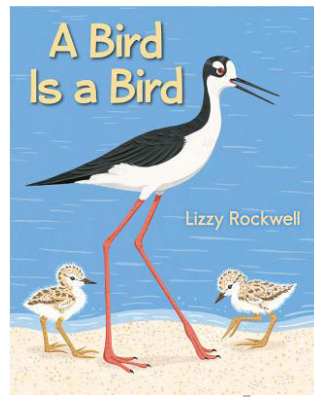
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Semiannual Sale!

Thursday, June 11 – Sunday, June 14

All hardbacks are 30% off,  
40% if you buy three or more!  
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orders) is 10% off storewide!

***A Bird Is a Bird,***  
Lizzy Rockwell

In lyrical prose, Rockwell describes the characteristics of birds. The beautiful illustrations provide examples of what makes a bird a bird. – Holiday House, \$16.95



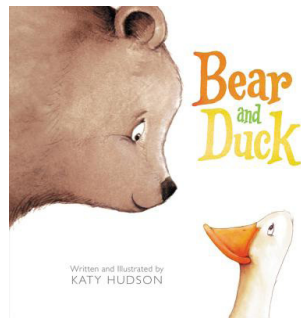
***Families, Families, Families,***  
Suzanne Lang and Max Lang

With simple text and silly pictures, the Langs include all kinds of families along with the basic

message that if you love each other, then you are a family. – Random, \$16.99

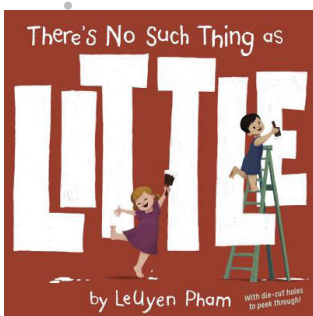
***Bear and Duck,***  
Katy Hudson

Bear is tired of being a bear with all that hibernating and wearing hot fur in the summer... and then there are those stinging bees! Maybe he should be a DUCK. You can imagine how that works out... – Harper, \$17.99

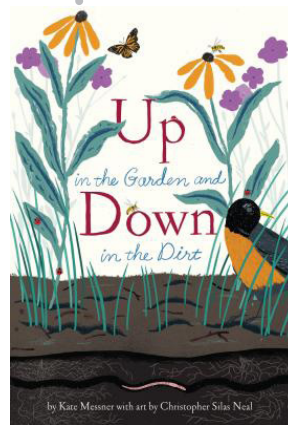


***There's No Such Thing as Little,***  
LeUyen Pham

It's all in the way you look at things. Maybe the light of a candle looks little, but what about the



light from the lighthouse? Lovingly told from the point of a young child, we begin to think differently about "little." – Knopf, 17.99



***UP in the Garden  
DOWN in the Dirt,***  
Kate Messner

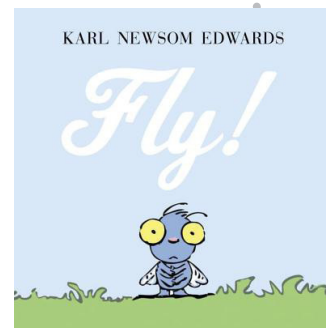
Following a girl and her grandmother throughout the growing season from early spring to early winter, Kate Messner has once again given us a two-level view. As

in ***Over and Under the Snow***, she provides a view of what is happening below and above the surface. A sweet relationship between the two human characters adds humor and warmth to the facts. At the end, Messner provides more information on the lively garden community. – Chronicle, \$16.99

***Fly!,*** Karl Edwards  
and Karl Newsom  
Edwards

With minimal text, the illustrations carry this story about a fly who is trying to figure out who he is.

He attempts to wiggle, roll and dig, all to no avail. When a bee, a butterfly and a dragonfly demonstrate their skills, he finally figures it out. Two pages of "Bug Facts" at the end add depth to this whimsical picture book. – Knopf, \$15.99

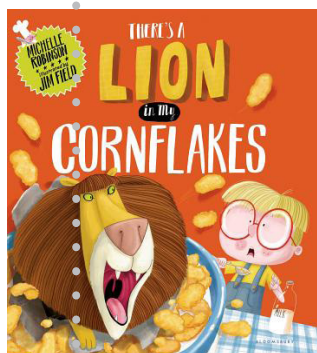
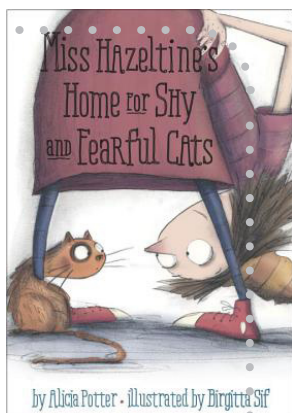




## CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS

### *Miss Hazeltine's Home for Shy and Fearful Cats*, Alicia Potter

Imagine a home for shy and fearful cats. Miss Hazeltine welcomes and helps them all, especially Crumb, the most timid of the crew. But when Miss Hazeltine gets herself in a pickle, how can a shy cat find the courage to be as bold as a lion and save her? – Knopf, \$16.99

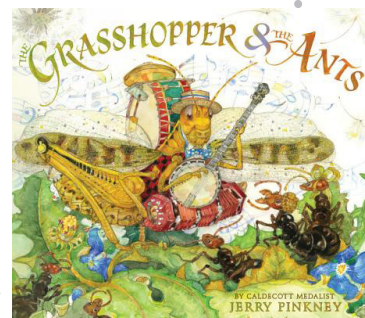


### *There's a Lion in my Cornflakes*, Michelle Robinson

Did you ever want to purchase the offers on the back of your cereal box? DON'T! At least if this book is right, you shouldn't. Dan and his brother save all the coupons to get a free lion, but everything goes wrong. Read and beware! – Bloomsbury, \$16.99

### *Grasshopper & the Ants*, Jerry Pinkney

Here's another exquisitely illustrated fable from Mr. Pinkney. Grasshopper loves to sing and dance and play, but he can't get those busy ants to stop and join him. Come winter, he discovers why, but it's not all finger-wagging. Every lushly illustrated page will take your breath away. – Little Brown, \$18



### *Ellie*

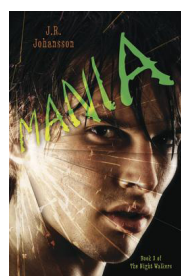


### *Ellie*,

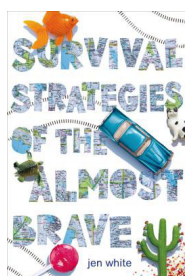
Mike Wu

When the zookeeper announces to the animals that the zoo is closing, they want to do something. Each has a special talent: the gorilla moves rocks off the path, the giraffe prunes the tall trees, and the monkeys clean up. But what could Ellie, a small elephant, do? Just maybe she could provide the special talent they need. – Hyperion, \$16.99

## SUMMER CHILDREN'S EVENTS



Friday, July 18th, 7 p.m.  
J.R. Johansson, *Mania*.

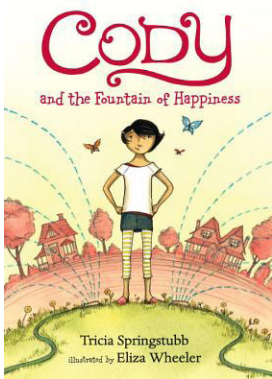


Thursday, July 16th, 7p.m.  
Jennifer White, *Survival Strategies of the Almost Brave*.



Saturday, August 8th, 2 p.m.  
Teri Harman, *Storm Moon*.

## TRANSITIONAL READERS



***Cody and the Fountain of Happiness***, Tricia Springstubb

Cody is smart, funny and a wee bit precocious. Her summer changes dramatically when camp is cancelled and her mother's new job becomes more time-consuming. Things improve a bit when she meets Spencer and his runaway cat MewMew. But maybe Cody is too smart for her own good. Being a good friend takes more than she knew. Charming illustrations are a great addition to this story which also

involves a child of color. Fans of Heidi Hecklebeck, Judy Moody, and Ivy & Bean will welcome Cody to their own bookshelves.

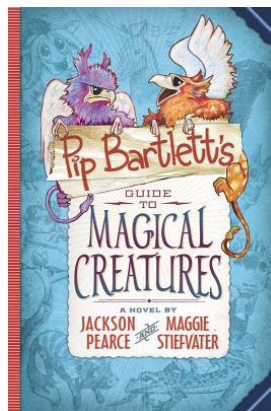
– Candlewick, \$14.99 (6 and up)

## MIDDLE READERS

***Pip Bartlett's Guide to Magical Creatures***, Maggie Stiefvater and Jackson Pearce

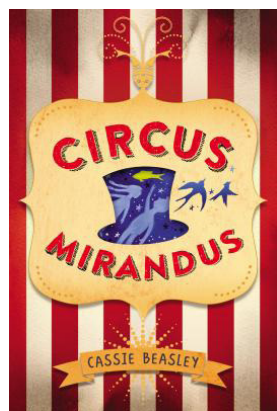
I am a huge fan of Maggie Stiefvater. In her new book, she turns her talent to a younger crowd. Pip is fascinated with magical creatures and can talk to them. After the "unicorn" disaster (great scene in the book) she has to spend some time with her aunt, a veterinarian who treats magical creatures. There, she works extra hard to solve a big problem with help from surprising places! The pages from a famous reference book give readers a quick view into the diversity of magical creatures and add to the fun. Adventure, mystery, and a funny quick-paced narrative will delight our younger readers.

– Scholastic, \$16.99 (8 and up)



***Circus Mirandus***, Cassie Beasley

Micah's beloved grandfather is dying. His grumpy and mean great aunt has come to town to take care of them. When Grandpa Ephraim tells Micah that the stories about Circus Miranda are real, Micah just knows that he can find a way to help his grandpa—all it will take is a miracle. Micah and Jenny the new girl, are determined; find the circus, find Lightbender, and save Grandpa. Magic, like hope and dreams, comes in many forms. Micah and his Grandpa will get their miracle. A

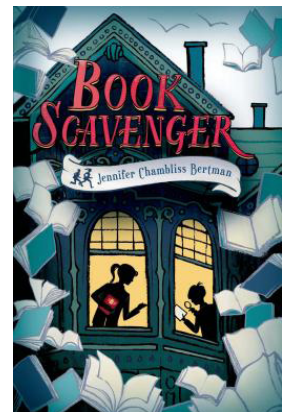


charming, tender, hold-your-breath kind of book. – Penguin, \$17.99 (9 and up)

***Book Scavenger***, Jennifer Chambliss Bertman

Emily and her family have landed in San Francisco. The only good thing about this move, one of too many, is that SF is the home of

the creator of the game, Book Scavenger (online clues and puzzles lead to finding books!). When Emily finds out that her idol, Griswold, has been attacked and may never recover, she and James, her new neighbor, end up immersed in a mystery over—what else—a book, a book she found where Griswold was attacked. Now they are racing to try to maybe save him and themselves. Book lovers will be thrilled. Mystery, adventure, quirky characters, iconic SF all add up to a great read! Henry Holt, \$16.99 (9 and up)



***The Arctic Code***, Matthew J. Kirby

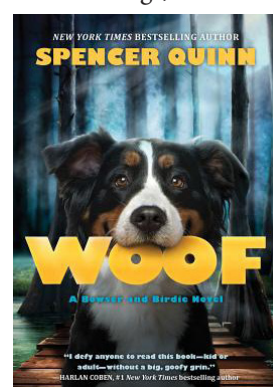
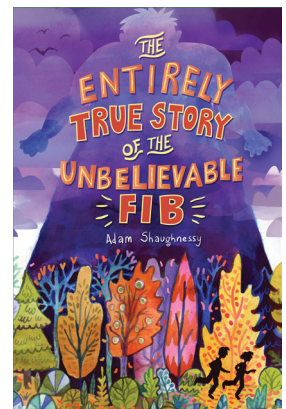
Eleanor Perry is staying with her Uncle Jack in Phoenix, while her scientist mother is in the Arctic trying to figure out why the Earth is moving quickly into another Ice Age. When her mom mysteriously disappears after Ellie gets a cryptic message, she knows she has to do something. She manages to stow away on a plane and make her way to Barrow, Alaska, desperate to find her mom. What she finds instead is a lawless land run by a psychopath. The Arctic is populated more



by criminals than scientists, and it is so cold that just breathing the air will kill you. Ellie's gumption just might save the day. Kirby does a fine job of combining terrific story-telling, science and science fiction. Readers will definitely be waiting to find out if Earth (and Ellie) can survive the big Freeze. – \$16.99, Harper (9 and up)

***The Entirely True Story of the Unbelievable Fib***, Adam Shaughnessy

Prudence might be the only person who could actually see the mysterious invitation, and it might be the only good thing in her life right now. Her quaint New England town is covered by dark, foreboding clouds that are not moving. Her teacher saddles her with the new kid, ABE. And a stranger is asking them to help find magical creatures. All of a sudden the kids are trying to decide if they believe in magic! An ancient connection to the Vikings, and their Gods, turns out to be more real than Pru



and ABE could have ever guessed. This is fast-paced fun adventure. Pru and ABE are challenged at every turn, and find all sorts of rewards. Clever and smart, this book will also send readers searching for the Norse myths. Great start for new author Adam Shaughnessy! – Algonquin, \$16.95 (8-12)

***Woof: a Bowser and Birdie Novel***, Spencer Quinn

Bowser, an over-sized slobbery mutt, has

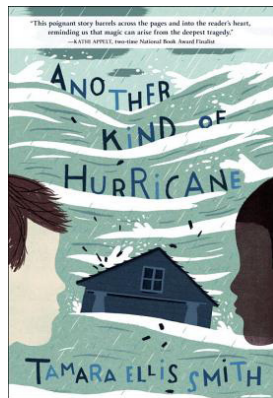


## MIDDLE READERS

sniffed his way right into Birdie's heart and home. Now he's over the moon and he'll do anything for his new human. When Grammy's prized stuffed marlin disappears from their Gaux Family Fish and Bait Shop, Birdie and Bowser team up to solve the mystery, but things get complicated and dangerous. – Becky Hall, Scholastic, \$16.99 (8-12)

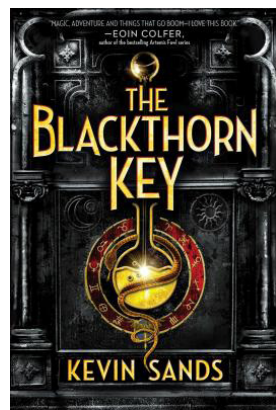
### *Another Kind of Hurricane*, Tamara Ellis Smith

Tamara Ellis Smith wondered, "What if a boy in Vermont named Henry donated a pair of his blue jeans to the (Hurricane Katrina) relief effort in New Orleans and a boy named Zavion got them? And what if Henry put his lucky marble—which he had just deemed unlucky because of his own terrible tragedy—into a pocket of those pants? And what if Zavion found the marble and wondered who had given him this magical gift?" From this question grew a beautiful debut novel about two grieving ten-year-old boys who struggle to rediscover themselves after tragedy strikes them both. And when a flood destroys Smith's home, she discovers even more heart and soul in her story – Becky Hall, Schwartz & Wade, \$16.99 (Age 9-12)



### *The Blackthorn Key*, Kevin Sands

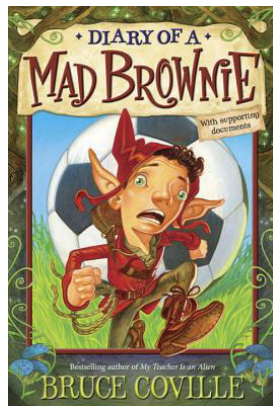
This novel starts with an invitation, "do not try this at home," which definitely provides motivation to keep reading! Debut author Kevin Sands does not disappoint. Christopher was literally saved from the short life of an orphan by Master Benedict and his need for an apprentice. Learning how to be an apothecary is fraught with perils and in this case the political ones are more dangerous than making gunpowder. When Master Benedict is murdered, Christopher and his



friend Tom are in more danger than they know. Solving the mystery of the murder takes cunning, daring and a bit of luck. Part adventure, part mystery, part history, this is a very satisfying read. – Aladdin, \$17.99 (8-12)

### *Diary of a Mad Brownie*, Bruce Coville

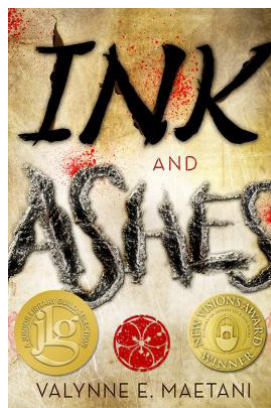
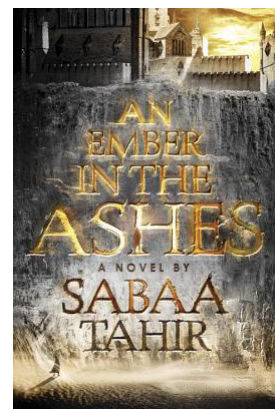
Angus Cairns, a brownie who is bound by a curse to continue serving the McGonagall family, has to travel from Scotland the U.S. to find his new human. After a harrowing journey (involving a selkie) Angus finds Alex, who turns out to be the messiest kid ever. But Angus is committed to being the best brownie, which involves cleaning up, playing tricks and trying to keep the other part of the curse secret. Told in diary and letter form, this novel is funny, full of magical creatures, part family, part adventure, all adding up to a romp. Bruce Coville continues to surprise and delight readers. – Random House, \$16.99, (8 and up)



## YOUNG ADULT

### *An Ember in the Ashes*, Sabaa Tahir

Laia's world is destroyed when her brother is accused of treason and the Empire takes away everything and everyone she loves. Laia knows that with the aid of the resistance she might be able to save her brother, but the cost will be high. She agrees to become a spy in an unimaginable, dangerous job as maid to the Commandant of the Military Academy. When she meets Elias, the best of his class, even more complications arise. Told in both their voices in alternating chapters, these characters are revealed as complex; both are trying to escape the horrors of their lives, both are shamed by their current circumstances. There is some romance, but the novel has a dystopic sourness, tinged with a bit of historical flavor, and a touch of magic. Literally something for everyone! This is the book you do not want to put down, so don't start reading it late at night! I can't wait to see where debut author Tahir takes the story. – \$19.95, Penguin (14 and up)



### *Ink and Ashes*, Valynne E. Maetani

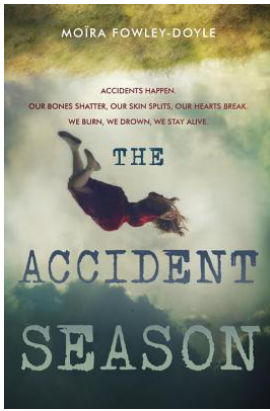
Claire hardly remembers her biological father, who died 10 years ago, but she is struck by an inconsistency she notices in one of his old letters that suggests her father knew her stepfather. Eager to piece together this mystery, Claire begins uncovering answers, but not the ones she wanted to find. What if her parents are not telling her the full truth? Action-packed, smart, and very funny, this is truly not one to miss. Maetani refuses to shy away from difficult issues, but she does so in a way that is conversational, practical, yet profoundly interesting, Claire's deeply human character and insatiable curiosity make her a heroine we all need in our lives. – Rachel Haisley, Tu Books \$19.95 (Ages 12 and up)

### *The Sacred Lies of Minnow Bly*, Stephanie Oakes

Minnow, illiterate and hand-less, is in juvie. Warm, meals three times a day, left alone most of the time, it is a surprising refuge. But Dr. Wilson offers her a glimpse of true freedom and Minnow has to revisit her past to figure out if it is worth it. Minnow's life was dystopic and painful; she was the victim of her parent's inadequacies. Her story pulls you in from the very first page. Creepy, authentic, compelling, this is a story worth reading. Penguin, \$17.99 (14 and up)



## YOUNG ADULT FORTHCOMING



### **The Accident Season,** Moira Fowley-Doyle

Every October, Cara and her family are subject to accidents, injuries, even death. Family curse or coincidence, no one really knows—or cares to investigate. Cara, dealing with all the typical high school issues, gets swept up in the disappearance of her classmate, Elsie. And to tempt the fates she and her siblings are going to throw the most outrageous Halloween party ever. Mystery, infused with magical realism and self-realization tinged with a

touch of romance, and set in Ireland, this book has a moody, dark feel to it, peppered with moments of color and light. Fowley-Doyle turns this October tale into the must-read book of the fall! I couldn't put it down. – Penguin, \$17.99 (14 and up)

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



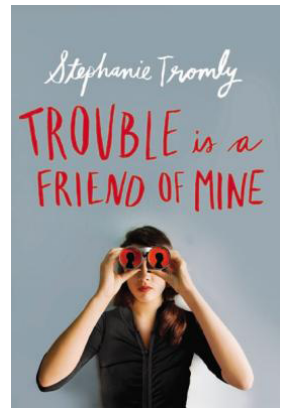
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### **Trouble is a Friend of Mine,** Stephanie Tromley

Zoe's life has changed because of her parent's divorce: then Digby shows up on her front porch and she knows he is trouble. But Zoe cannot seem to say no to him, and when she realizes that his family situation is worse than hers, well, the mystery gets personal. Tromley (debut author!) has written a mystery/adventure with quirky characters who do not like each other; it feels like the opposite of romance but still they are clicking in some weird ways. This is what a YA book should be—smart, funny and surprising, a terrific read! Penguin, \$17.99 (13 and up)



### INKSLINGER'S INKSLINGERS

Anne Brillinger  
Betsy Burton  
Aaron Cance  
Ann Cannon  
Hilary Dudley  
Vivian Evans  
Patrick Fleming  
Sue Fleming  
Rachel Haisley  
Becky Hall  
Deon Hilger

Barbara Hoagland  
Anne Holman  
Wendy Foster Leigh  
Paula Longhurst  
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DawnAnn Owens  
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