

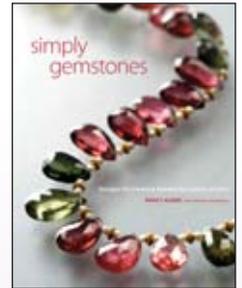
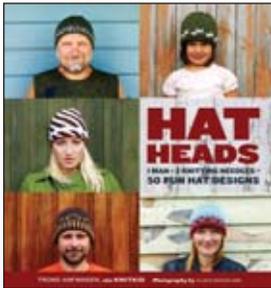
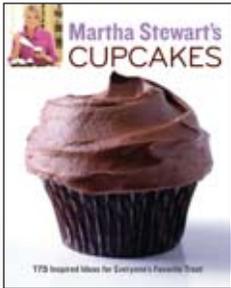
RANDOM Revelations

VOL. 18 • ISSUE 2 • Summer 2009

A NEWSLETTER FOR LIBRARIES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY MARKETING

Clarkson Potter Celebrates its Semicentennial Year!

CONGRATULATIONS on 50 years of beautiful books!



On February 24, 1959, Clarkson Nott Potter, founded his company as a general publisher. It is interesting to note the stability within the imprint: Clarkson Potter from 1959-1977; followed by Jane West and then Carol Southern through the 1980s and now Lauren Shakely, Senior Vice President and Publisher, who has been with the imprint for 21 years. Shakely reports, "The first Clarkson Potter book, published in 1960, was *The Annotated Alice* by Martin Gardner, which like so many bestsellers, sprang from an idea many other publishers had rejected. It became an international bestseller, with more than a half million copies in print, and set the company's dual publishing mission of high quality and commercial success. Despite many changes over the decades, that mission is one we still embrace." She also notes that not just Publishers, but everyone who has held a top position at Potter is homegrown—they have come from within the imprint.

Clarkson Potter has evolved—Crown bought the company in 1963, and Random House bought Crown in 1988—and has come into its own as a specialist in lifestyle books: design and decorating, gardening, gifts, entertaining, and of course, cooking. This past fall, the four biggest print runs of Random House, Inc. were published by Clarkson Potter, all in the category of cooking, all by women known widely by their first names—Giada, Ina, Martha, and Rachael. All four of these cookbooks leaped onto bestseller lists and stayed there. But please be assured there is plenty of room for newcomers. Lauren and her editors are always "more concerned with how a book will fit in the market than the author's platform or lack thereof. The main thing is: is it a good book, does it deserve to be a book?"

But lest you think, oh—just cookbooks, Clarkson Potter also contains these lines: Potter Craft, Potter Style, and Watson-Guptill. As I thumb through the Spring and Summer '09 catalogs eye-catching books in the following categories leap out: Gardening; House and Home; Pets/Dogs; Craft and Hobbies—Embroidery/Knitting /Jewelry/ Paper Crafts/ Sewing; and specialty areas such as Art-Techniques/ Cartooning and Photography. And yes, a plug here for Potter Style which is a collection of outstandingly beautiful note cards, stationary, boxes containing collections of stories to read aloud, small journals, gift tags and labels, etc.—all lovely and fabulous for your library's gift shop, or as incentives for summer reading programs or presents for board/foundation dinners—wherever your imagination leads you.

At the Random House, Inc. booth at both ALA Midwinter and Annual one of the most prominent sections is Lifestyle. This area of the booth is always mobbed and this section is dominated by (no surprise)Clarkson Potter and its imprints! A great deal of care goes into the design of each and every book, and I think Lauren and her group has excelled in perpetuating the mission of Mr. Potter. "We hope that the legacy of these years will be the highest possible—however divergent they may be from the founder's intentions—to serve every reader who wants to learn to live well and to hold a beautiful book in their hands while doing so."

All the very best for the future!

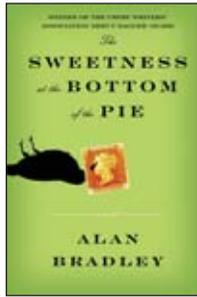
Marcia

Marcia Lane Purcell



THE BOOKS

FIRST FICTION



Alan Bradley

The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie *

A corpse in the cucumber patch, a rare philatelic treasure, a bizarre Victorian chemistry lab, and a revolting recipe for custard pie...these are the ingredients for a most delectable mystery!

978-0-385-34230-8 | \$23.00/NCR | Delacorte | HC | April

978-0-385-66582-7 | \$25.00C | Doubleday Canada



John Pipkin

Woodsburner: A Novel

A novel based on a little-known fact: in April 1844, Henry David Thoreau accidentally set a forest fire that irrevocably altered the history of American culture.

978-0-385-52865-8 | \$24.95/\$28.95C | Doubleday | HC | April



Sarah Rainone

Love Will Tear Us Apart: A Novel

Six childhood friends are reunited at a wedding where secrets are revealed, hearts are broken, and new meaning is given to the phrase “You can’t go home again.”

978-0-307-45066-1 | \$14.00/\$16.50C | Three Rivers Press | TR | April



Robert V. S. Redick

The Red Wolf Conspiracy *

A vividly realized epic fantasy featuring a young deckhand who sails to a hostile empire on a legendary ship—and the deadly conspiracy he discovers aboard.

978-0-345-50883-6 | \$26.00 | Del Rey | HC | April



Santiago Roncagliolo

Red April: A Novel

Mother-haunted, literature-loving, quiet Felix Chacaltana Saldivar is a hapless, by-the-book prosecutor living in Lima. Until he gets caught up in an investigation into a bizarre murder that may be linked to the Shining Path.

978-0-375-42544-8 | \$24.95/\$28.95C | Pantheon | HC | April

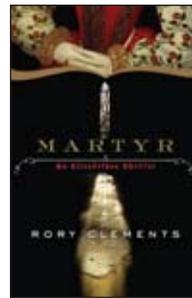


Emily Chenoweth

Hello Goodbye: A Novel

The story of a family’s visit to a plush New Hampshire resort in the shadow of the mother’s fatal illness, *Hello Goodbye* is a gorgeously written examination of family, acceptance, survival, and growing up.

978-1-4000-6517-2 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | Random House | HC | May



Rory Clements

Martyr

Introducing John Shakespeare, master sleuth in the service of Elizabeth I. David Liss meets Michael Gruber (*The Book of Air and Shadows*) in this spine-tingling debut thriller!

978-0-385-34282-7 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | Bantam | HC | May



Nicolas Dickner

Nikolski: A Novel

A sweet and quirky novel that follows three characters as they search for home while clinging to artifacts of their past: a misdirected compass, a book with no cover, and tales of piracy.

978-1-59030-714-4 | \$14.95/\$17.50C | Trumpeter | TR | May

Elizabeth Garner

The Ingenious Edgar Jones: A Novel

The skies are aflame with meteors the night Edgar Jones is born—clearly this is no ordinary boy. However, the prodigy soon turns his back on scholarly pursuits and apprentices himself to a blacksmith, where his ingenuity brings him to the attention of a maverick professor with a plan.

978-0-307-40899-0 | \$24.95/NCR | Crown | HC | May



Charlotte Greig

A Girl’s Guide to Modern European Philosophy *

A delightfully insightful, bittersweet coming-of-age romp, in which love is far from platonic and the mind-body predicament a pressing reality.

978-1-59051-317-0 | \$14.95/\$18.95C | Other Press | TR | May

Kirsten Imani Kasai

Ice Song

Sorykah Minuit is a rare Trader, one who can switch genders without warning. When a wealthy, reclusive madman known as the Collector abducts Sorykah’s infant twins to use in his dreadful experiments, Sorykah and her male alter ego, Soryk, must cross icy wastes and a primeval forest to get them back.

978-0-345-50881-2 | \$14.00/\$16.50C | Del Rey | TR | May

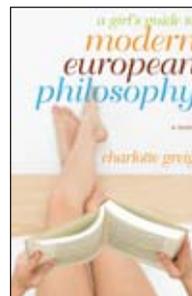
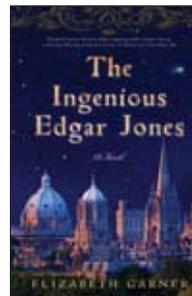
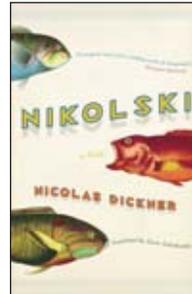


Shahriar Mandanipour

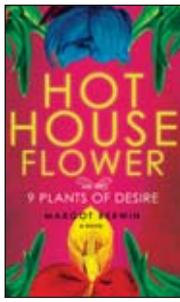
Censoring an Iranian Love Story: A Novel

The author’s fictional alter ego has spent years struggling to publish, having to bend his work to the will of the censor. Now he has written a bewitching love story, set in the present. Will the Ministry issue a publishing permit?

978-0-307-26978-2 | \$25.00/\$29.95C | Knopf | HC | May



* Indicates Books of Special Interest to Young Adults.

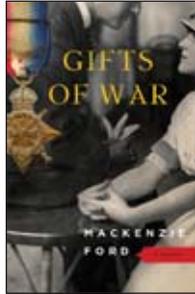


Margot Berwin

Hothouse Flower and the Nine Plants of Desire

Shortly after her divorce, advertising executive Lila Nova purchases her first plant from David Exley, a rugged man who seems to promise a paradise. Plant mythology, shamans, charlatans, scorpions, and handsome Huichols...they're all here in the tale of mystery, adventure, and heat. Julia Roberts will star in the movie!

978-0-307-37784-5 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | Pantheon | HC | June

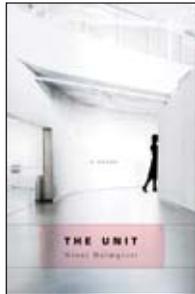


Mackenzie Ford

Gifts of War: A Novel

During the Christmas Truce of 1914, a German gives a British soldier a photo, and they make a pact. Hal, the British soldier, promises to find his enemy's English girlfriend and let her know her fiancé is alive. Things take an unexpected turn when he meets the woman in the photo and falls in love with her himself.

978-0-385-52895-5 | \$24.95/\$28.95C | Nan A. Talese | HC | June

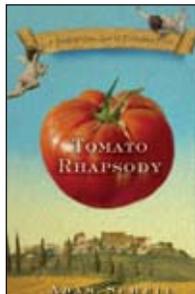


Ninni Holmqvist

The Unit

Following in the footsteps on such dystopian classics as *Brave New World* and *1984*, this is a startling reflection of our present time that asks the question: Are all people of equal worth?

978-1-59051-313-2 | \$14.95/\$18.95C | Other Press | TR | June

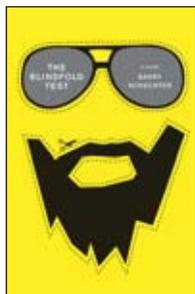


Adam Schell

Tomato Rhapsody: A Novel of Love, Lust, and Forbidden Fruit

In the country market, among the cheese stalls and butchers' blocks, gentle Davido, locks eyes with willful, beautiful Mari of the olive groves and a recipe is born. Love is the main ingredient in this lush, bawdy fable about transcending intolerance.

978-0-385-34333-6 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | Delacorte | HC | June

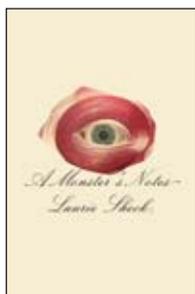


Barry Schechter

The Blindfold Test

After attending an antiwar rally in the 60's, Jeffery Parker has been paying for it ever since. He just doesn't know that. He discovers that he has been the target of a government plot and the obsession of a rogue FBI agent who just won't give up.

978-1-933633-74-9 | \$14.95/\$16.95C | Melville House | TR | June



Laurie R. King

A Monster's Notes

What if Mary Shelley had not invented Frankenstein's monster at all but had met him when she was a girl of eight sitting by her mother's grave? The "monster" narrates this book in the 21st Century and recalls how he was "made" and how Victor Frankenstein abandoned him.

978-0-307-27105-1 | \$28.00/\$33.00C | Knopf | HC | June



Audio Large Print E-book

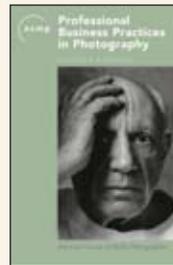
welcome

ALLWORTH PRESS

The Newest Member of
Random House, Inc. Publisher Services

Allworth Press was founded in 1989 by author, attorney, and artists' rights advocate Tad Crawford, who saw the need for a press that would provide practical information to creative professionals, such as artists, photographers, designers, and authors. Today, they continue to expand with books covering more and more creative fields.

<http://www.allworth.com/>



ASMP

ASMP Professional Business Practices in Photography

This classic guide is the ultimate source on key business practices and industry standards from the foremost authority in professional photography.

978-1-58115-497-9 | \$35.00/NCR | Allworth Press | TR

Carl W. Battle

Legal Forms for Everyone

Written by an experienced attorney, this ultimate self-help legal guide comes complete with the most commonly needed legal forms, ready to use, with precise instructions on how to use them.

978-1-58115-451-1 | \$24.95/NCR | Allworth Press | TR



Brian Dougherty

Green Graphic Design

Breaking down the concept of "green design" step-by-step, respected industry leader Brian Dougherty captures the ability of designers to communicate, persuade, and ultimately spread a socially and ecologically responsible message to both consumers and corporations.

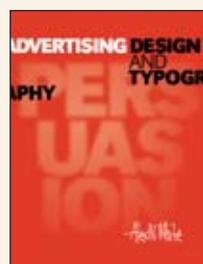
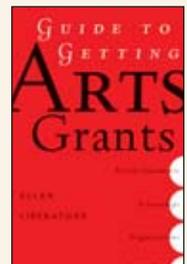
978-1-58115-511-2 | \$24.95/NCR | Allworth Press | TR

Ellen Liberatori

Guide to Getting Arts Grants

This indispensable guide gives emerging and mid-career artists, as well as long-time professionals, the facts and skills they need to get the grants they need and pursue their dreams with confidence.

978-1-58115-456-6 | \$19.95/NCR | Allworth Press | TR

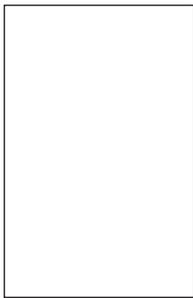


Alex White

Advertising Design & Typography

This comprehensive overview of advertising design strategies helps students and professionals understand how to create ads that cut through the clutter.

978-1-58115-465-8 | \$50.00/NCR | Allworth Press | HC

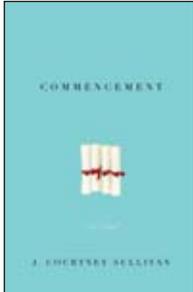


Amanda Smyth

Lime Tree Can't Bear Orange: A Novel

Celia has her fortune told: "Men will want you like they want a glass of rum. One man will love you. But you won't love him. You will destroy his life. The one you love will break your heart in two." A deft exploration of first love and one woman's search for identity.

978-0-307-46064-6 | \$23.00/\$26.95C | Shaye Areheart | HC | June
E



J. Courtney Sullivan

Commencement: A Novel

A tender story of friendship, a witty take on liberal arts colleges, and a fascinating portrait of the first generation of women who have all the choices in the world, but no clear idea about which choices to make.

978-0-307-27074-0 | \$24.00/\$29.95C | Knopf | HC | June
E

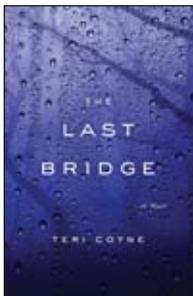


Samantha Wilde

This Little Mommy Stayed Home

This fun and witty debut novel peeks inside the mind of a frazzled first-time mom and the hilarious, messy, sometimes hair-raising thoughts it contains.

978-0-385-34266-7 | \$12.00/\$14.00C | Bantam | TR | June
E



Gaynor Arnold

Girl in a Blue Dress: A Novel...Inspired by the Life and Marriage of Charles Dickens

This novel is based on the troubled marriage of Charles Dickens and is a portrait of a woman deemed to live in the shadow of her husband.

978-0-307-46226-8 | \$25.95/NCR | Crown | HC | July
E



Teri Coyne

The Last Bridge: A Novel

When Alex, a thirty-year-old alcoholic hostess, returns to her small hometown after a ten-year absence to clean up the mess from her mother's suicide, the stunning reasons for her departure unfold, revealing layers of pain, anger, and love.

978-0-345-50731-0 | \$22.00/\$26.00C | Ballantine | HC | July
E



Matthew Dicks

Something Missing: A Novel

First he'll steal your toothbrush, then he'll steal your heart: a tender, quirky, and terminally funny debut novel about an improbably charming thief who becomes a guardian angel to the unwitting victims of his pilfering.

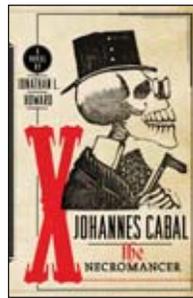
978-0-7679-3088-8 | \$14.00/\$17.99C | Broadway | TR | July
E

James W. Furst

Huge: A Novel *

A hilarious and touching debut that's part well-crafted noir mystery, part coming-of-age story...and part comedy about sex, drugs, football tryouts, and...a stuffed frog.

978-0-307-45249-8 | \$23.95/\$27.95C | Crown | HC | July
E

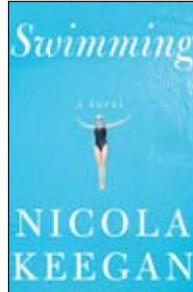


Jonathan L. Howard

Johannes Cabal the Necromancer

Tormented by a dark secret, Johannes sells his soul to the devil. When he later decides he wants his soul back, Satan agrees, pending a wager: he must persuade 100 people, within a year, to sign their souls into eternal damnation. A tongue-in-cheek spin on the classic Faustian tale.

978-0-385-52808-5 | \$24.95/\$28.95C | Doubleday | HC | July
E

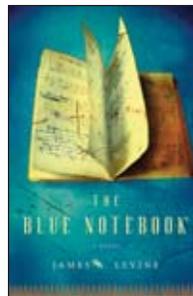


Nicola Keegan

Swimming: A Novel *

World-class swimming isn't all breathing and technique. For Pip, it is a necessity, allowing her to escape an agoraphobic mother, a lost father, a drug-addled sister, and a Catholic education dominated by nuns.

978-0-307-26997-3 | \$24.95/\$28.95C | Knopf | HC | July
E

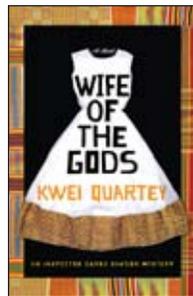


James A. Levine, MD

The Blue Notebook: A Novel

The story of Batuk, a 15-year old girl who is sold into sexual slavery, living in a cage on the streets of Mumbai. Batuk is just one of many, but against the odds, she manages to put pen to paper, writing stories of her life that help her make a certain sense of her daily existence.

978-0-385-52871-9 | \$22.95/\$26.95C | Spiegel & Grau | HC | July
E



Kwei Quartey

Wife of the Gods: A Novel

This captivating debut novel paints a vivid portrait of life in Ghana, from the capital city of Accra to the small village of Ketanu where Detective Inspector Darko Dawson is sent to solve the murder of an accomplished young AIDS worker.

978-1-4000-6759-6 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | Random House | HC | July
E



Naseem Rakha

The Crying Tree: A Novel

Could you forgive the man who murdered your son? A powerful novel about redemption, resilience and the secrets that break one family apart and bring them back together.

978-0-7679-3140-3 | \$22.95/\$26.95C | Broadway | HC | July
E



Tim Thornton

The Alternative Hero: A Novel

You are a failed music journalist in a dead-end job and the best moment of your life happened a long time ago. And now, years later you discover that the lead singer of the Thieving Magpies is your neighbor and might change your life, if only he would give you an exclusive interview!

978-0-307-27109-9 | \$24.95/\$28.95C | Knopf | HC | July
E

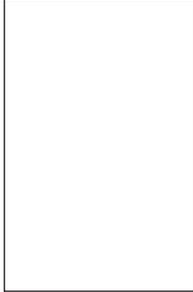


Alex Wellen

Lovesick: A Novel

A boy in love. An angry father-in-law. A girl caught in the middle. And a band of senior citizens fencing prescription drugs on the black market. A hilarious, not-so-typical love story that is perfect for summer. Full of laugh-out-loud moments and great wit.

978-0-307-33795-5 | \$13.95/\$16.95C | Three Rivers Press | TR | July
E

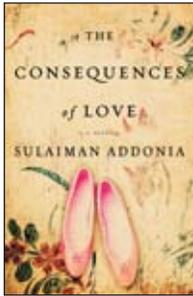


Alia Yunis

The Night Counter: A Novel

Each night, the legendary Scheherazade visits Fatima Abdullah, the fiery matriarch of a sprawling Arab American clan, to learn her family's stories. At age 85, she knows her time is short, but there are many loose ends to tie up.

978-0-307-45362-4 | \$24.00/\$29.95C | Shaye Areheart | HC | July
E

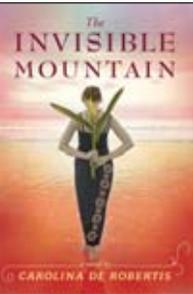


Sulaiman S.M.Y. Addonia

The Consequences of Love: A Novel

This frightening, sensuous debut novel by a young African author tells a story of forbidden love between a young immigrant and a girl hidden behind a veil as they defy the strict Muslim laws of Saudi Arabia in their attempt to be together.

978-1-4000-6799-2 | \$25.00/\$28.95C | Random House | HC | August
E

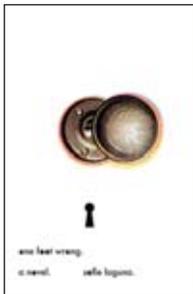


Carolina De Robertis

The Invisible Mountain: A Novel

A gripping and lyrical exploration of the search for love and authenticity, power and redemption in the lives of three women, and a penetrating portrait of Uruguay, shaken in the gales of the twentieth century.

978-0-307-27163-1 | \$24.95 | Knopf | HC | August
978-0-385-66772-2 | \$29.95C | Doubleday Canada | HC | August
E

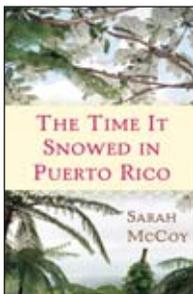


Sofie Laguna

One Foot Wrong

A searing novel of profound beauty and depth that transcends the horror of child abuse through the rhythmic language and bright imagination of its young narrator.

978-1-59051-316-3 | \$12.95/\$15.99C | Other Press | TR | August



Sarah McCoy

The Time It Snowed in Puerto Rico: A Novel *

Verdita Ortiz-Santiago has spent 11 long years in her sleepy Puerto Rican mountain town, and she is desperate for change. A luminous coming-of-age story in the tradition of *The House on Mango Street*.

978-0-307-46007-3 | \$19.95/\$22.95C | Shaye Areheart | HC | August
E

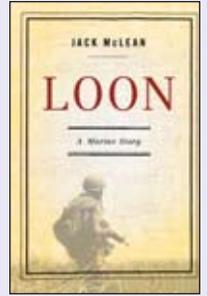
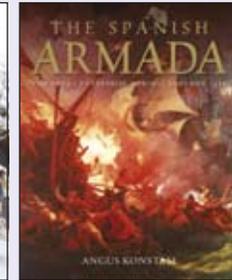
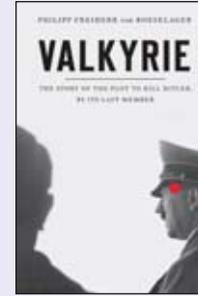
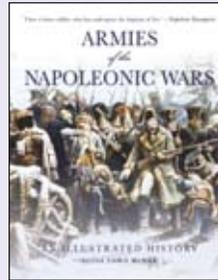
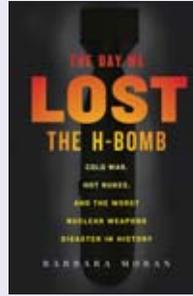
H. M. Naqvi

Home Boy: A Novel

A 20-year-old Pakistani immigrant finds himself in a charged, changed city after 9/11 in this witty, raucous, coming-of-age debut. Sharply observed and very funny, this is a heartbreaking story of an immigrant's romance with America.

978-0-307-40910-2 | \$23.00/\$26.95C | Shaye Areheart | HC | August
E

WAR STORIES



Barbara Moran

The Day We Lost the H-Bomb: Cold War, Hot Nukes, and the Worst Nuclear Weapons Disaster in History

The dramatic and epic account of the U.S. Air Force's loss of four hydrogen bombs over the coast of Spain in 1966.

978-0-89141-904-4 | \$26.00/\$30.00C
Presidio Press | HC | April
E

Philipp Freiherr von Boeselager
with Florence and Jerome Fehrenbach

Valkyrie: The Story of the Plot to Kill Hitler, By Its Last Member

The only firsthand account of the failed German military plot to kill Hitler—told by one of the key conspirators in unvarnished, harrowing testimony.

978-0-307-27075-7 | \$24.95/\$29.95C
Knopf | HC | May

Jack McLean

Loon: A Marine Story

A lyrical memoir of a prep school boy who creates his own path to higher learning: enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps, fighting in Vietnam, and then studying at Harvard.

978-0-345-51015-0 | \$25.00/\$28.95C
Presidio Press | HC | May
E

Editor Chris McNab

Armies of the Napoleonic Wars: An Illustrated History

A fully-illustrated study of the uniforms, equipment and battles of the armies of the Napoleonic Wars. The authors of this new volume go behind the façade of the era to tell readers what it was really like to be a front-line soldier 200 years ago.

978-1-84603-470-1 | \$40.00/\$45.00C
Osprey | HC | June

Angus Konstam

The Spanish Armada: The Great Enterprise Against England 1588

One of the greatest victories in English Naval history, the battle also represented the pinnacle of the career of Sir Frances Drake. A complete look at the military campaign that saw the defeat of the dreaded Spanish Armada.

978-1-84603-496-1 | \$27.50/\$33.00C
Osprey | HC | July

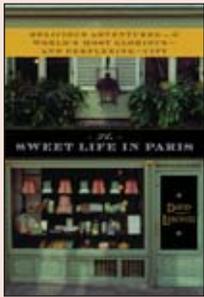
Ken Kotani

Japanese Intelligence in World War II

A "missing history" of the Pacific Theater of WWII. This new analysis, translated for the first time into English, reevaluates Japanese intelligence gathering in the Japanese Army and Navy before and during the war.

978-1-84603-425-1 | \$24.95/\$27.95C
Osprey | HC | August

Travel



Pam Grout

The 100 Best Volunteer Vacations to Enrich Your Life

A handsome and varied collection of vacation ideas on the increasingly popular theme of “voluntourism.”

978-1-4262-0459-3 | \$19.95/\$22.95C
National Geographic | TR | May

E

David Lebovitz

The Sweet Life in Paris: Delicious Adventures in the World's Most Glorious—and Perplexing—City

Acclaimed cookbook author and blogger David Lebovitz chronicles his life in Paris and the Franco-American culture clash he navigates on a daily basis. Includes more than fifty original recipes, for dishes both savory and sweet.

978-0-7679-2888-5 | \$24.95/\$28.95C
Broadway | HC | May

E

Gary McKechnie

USA 101: A Guide to America's Iconic Places, Events, and Festivals

A unique and entertaining travel guide to 101 iconic and quintessentially American destinations, big and small.

978-1-4262-0457-9 | \$18.95/\$22.00C
National Geographic | TR | May

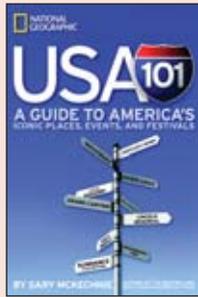
E

Captain Laney T. Rinehart

The Captain's Guide to Wrecks & Reefs

Covering Florida's coasts, the Keys, and the Bahamas, this book guides you to the greatest reefs and sunken ships in the best diving waters in the world.

978-1-57826-272-4 | \$15.00/\$17.00C
Hatherleigh | TR | May



Culture Smart!

Bolivia: Essential Guides to Customs & Culture *

These guides will help you to deal confidently with unfamiliar situations abroad—including dos, don'ts, and taboos.

978-1-8573-3485-2 | \$9.95/\$12.95C
Kuperard | TR | June

Culture Smart!

Bosnia & Herzegovina: Essential Guides to Customs & Culture

978-1-8573-3484-5 | \$9.95/\$12.95C
Kuperard | TR | June

Culture Smart!

Tanzania: Essential Guides to Customs & Culture

978-1-8573-3483-8 | \$9.95/\$12.95C
Kuperard | TR | June

Cecil Kuhne, Editor

Near Death in the Desert: True Stories of Disaster and Survival

Survival against all odds in the harsh barren landscapes of the world's deserts. Adventure writing doesn't get any more suspenseful than this.

978-0-307-27936-1 | \$15.95/\$18.95C
Vintage | TR | July

Fodor's

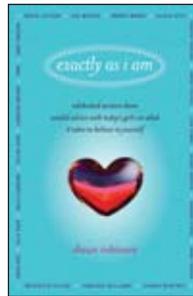
Thailand, 11th Edition

Ancient temples, rolling hillsides, and mouthwatering cuisine—it all shines with new vitality in this *full color* guide to Southeast Asia's most popular tourist destination.

978-1-4000-0829-2 | \$23.99/\$27.99C
Fodor's | TR | July



ADULT BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS: Selections from the List



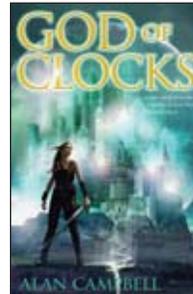
Shaun Robinson

Exactly As I Am: Celebrated Women Share Candid Advice with Today's Girls on What It Takes to Believe in Yourself

An exploration of what it takes to believe in yourself, with poignant personal stories and life advice from venerable women like Oprah Winfrey, Helen Mirren, Eva Mendes, Julianne Moore, Sharon Stone, and many others.

978-0-345-51195-9 | \$20.00/\$23.00C | Ballantine | HC | March

E



Alan Campbell

God of Clocks

The highly acclaimed author of *Scar Night* and *Iron Angel* returns with a new novel of a mythic struggle between man and angel, demon and god—an Armageddon of survival and annihilation that will play out on the fields of time itself.

978-0-553-38418-5 | \$25.00/\$28.95C | Spectra | HC | April

E

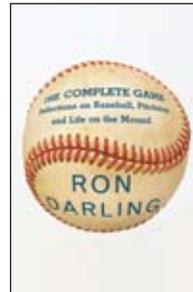


Charlie Styr with Maria Wakem

Click: The Ultimate Photography Guide for Generation Now

The first photography book by teens (Charlie is 16), for teens. *Click* will inspire teens to get into photography. Features more than 150 photos from teens from around the world. Tons of tips and techniques.

978-0-8230-9237-6 | \$18.95/\$22.00C
Amphoto Books (Crown) | TR | April

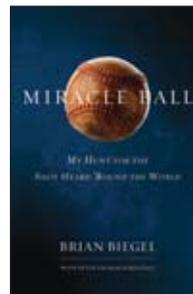


Ron Darling

The Complete Game: Reflections on Baseball, Pitching, and Life on the Mound

For all those baseball fans out there, it doesn't get any better than this exploration of the art, strategy, and psychology of pitching. A glimpse of what it feels like to stand alone on the mound from one of the greats.

978-0-307-26984-3 | \$24.95/\$29.95C | Knopf | HC | April



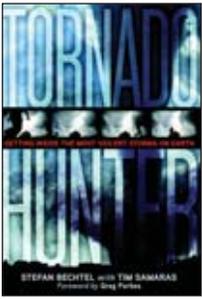
Brian Biegel with Peter Thomas Fornatale

Miracle Ball: My Hunt for the Shot Heard 'Round the World

The captivating, utterly improbable but entirely true story of one man's quest to solve sports' greatest mystery: What happened to the most famous of all home run balls—Bobby Thomson's “shot heard ‘round the world.”?

978-0-307-45268-9 | \$24.95/\$28.95C | Crown | HC | May

E



Stefan Bechtel with Tim Samaras

Tornado Hunter: Getting Inside the Most Violent Storms on Earth

Extreme tornado science...reads like fiction. This riveting adventure story of the first person to photograph the inside of a tornado and survive, with an eyewitness, up-close-and-personal account of the devastating fury of nature's most violent storm.

978-1-4262-0302-2 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | National Geographic | HC | May

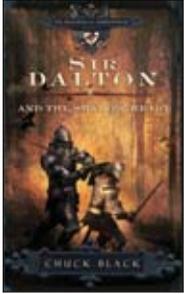
Chuck Black

Sir Dalton and the Shadow Heart

Over the course of a two-year mission, Sir Dalton, a young aspiring Knight of the Prince, is threatened by an increasingly menacing warrior of evil. As Dalton's doubt of the Prince grows, so does his foe. Eventually he comes face to face with a massive Shadow Warrior and must decide if he has enough faith to face his foe and completely believe in the Prince.

978-1-60142-126-5 | \$8.99/\$11.99C | Multnomah | TR | May

E



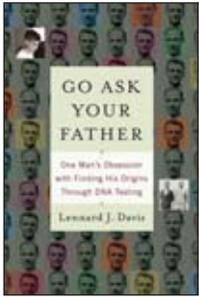
Lennard J. Davis

Go Ask Your Father: One Man's Obsession with Finding His Origins Through DNA Testing

At once a memoir, a real-world detective story, and an inquiry into our genetic make-up, *Go Ask Your Father* is an eye-opening story of one man's search for his origins and the meaning of family.

978-0-553-80551-2 | \$25.00/\$28.95C | Bantam | HC | May

E



Alan Dean Foster

Flinx Transcendent: A Pip & Flinx Adventure

From science fiction icon Alan Dean Foster comes a blazing new Pip & Flinx adventure for fans of the green-eyed redhead with awesome mental powers and his miniature flying dragon. In this dazzling new novel, which will be the last in the series, Foster answers all the questions that his fans have been asking about their favorite hero, as well as saving the universe in the process.

978-0-345-49607-2 | \$26.00/\$30.00C | Del Rey | HC | May

E



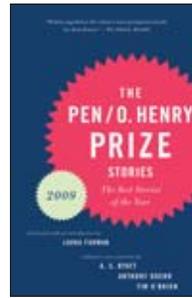
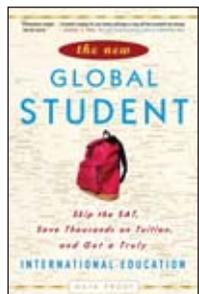
Maya Frost

The New Global Student: Skip the SAT, Save Thousands on Tuition, and Get a Truly International Education

The Frosts sold everything, took their four teenage daughters, and went to live abroad. Here are their affordable, accessible, and stunningly advantageous strategies that any student can use to leap ahead of those on the traditional track. (No college debt!)

978-0-307-45062-3 | \$14.95/\$17.50C | Three Rivers Press | TR | May

E



Laura Furman, Editor

The PEN/O. Henry Prize Stories 2009: The Best Stories of the Year

Selected from the thousands of stories published in literary magazines, these stories cover the globe and feature characters as diverse as their reader's imagination.

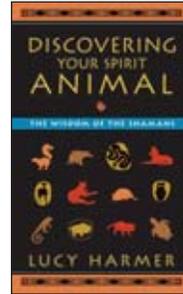
978-0-307-28035-0 | \$14.95/\$17.50C | Anchor | TR | May

Lucy Harmer

Discovering Your Spirit Animal: The Wisdom of the Shamans

Shamanic healer Lucy Harmer, writing in clear, simple language and providing compelling anecdotes, explains what a spirit animal is, describes its purpose, and shows that understanding the "medicine" of one's spirit animal allows one to apply the lessons they convey for personal transformation.

978-1-55643-796-0 | \$12.95/\$15.99C | North Atlantic | TR | May



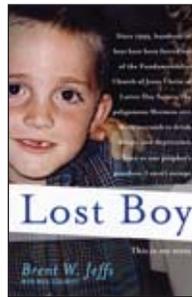
Brent W. Jeffs with Maria Szalavitz

Lost Boy

A true insider's account, *Lost Boy* will show what the FLDS (Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints) is like from the unique perspective of Warren Jeffs's nephew, a man who was raised in the group and witnessed many of the extraordinary events that led to the largest removal of children into foster care in American history.

978-0-7679-3177-9 | \$24.95/\$28.95C | Broadway | HC | May

E



Emma King

The Best-Dressed Knitted Bear: Dozens of Patterns for Teddy Bears, Bear Costumes, and Accessories

For all teens who love knitting and cute projects. Snuggly sweaters...pirate outfits...18 adorable ensembles that take Teddy from a day on the beach to a jungle safari.

978-0-307-45382-2 | \$19.95/\$22.95C | Potter Craft | TR | May



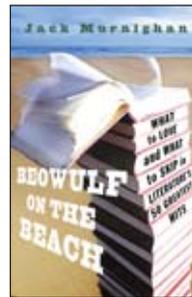
Jack Murnighan

Beowulf on the Beach: What to Love and What to Skip in Literature's 50 Greatest Hits

Worth its weight in gold to any student for obvious reasons. Balancing humor and expertise, Murnighan reveals HOW to read these 50 great books (and what to skip) with great enjoyment!

978-0-307-40957-7 | \$13.95/\$16.95C | Three Rivers Press | TR | May

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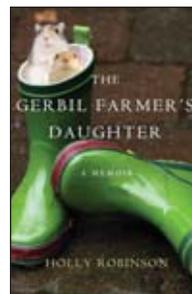
Holly Robinson

The Gerbil Farmer's Daughter: A Memoir

The warm and comic story of the author's dad, a naval officer, who turns to his obsession with gerbils as a second career. His daughter and "employee" tells of his oddly thriving, sometimes exasperating, often humorous venture.

978-0-307-33745-0 | \$23.00/\$26.96C | Harmony | HC | May

E



MANGA & MORE



Haruka Fukushima

Orange Planet 1

It's hard enough being in love when you're 13. It's even harder when you're part of a secret love triangle! Rui's in love for the first time ever—with her dreamy classmate, Kaoru. But Rui's the target of someone else's major secret crush, her own best friend, the adorable boy next door. Then to make matters worse, her hot teaching assistant moves in with her! Which lucky boy will Rui choose? Ages 13 and up.

978-0-345-51338-0 | \$10.99/\$12.99C | Del Rey Manga | TR | April

Yuki Sato

Yokai Doctor 1

Yokai Doctor has a fascinating central premise: our world is full of ghosts, which only the supernaturally gifted can see. Our heroes are two teens with this special gift: an exorcist and a “yokai doctor”—a boy with the power to heal ghosts and monsters! This *X-Files*-style intriguing high concept will set *Yokai Doctor* apart from the average run of manga. Ages 13 and up.

978-0-345-51238-3 | \$10.99/\$12.99C | Del Rey Manga | TR | May

Faust Editors

Faust 2

The second volume of the exciting fiction anthology created for the manga audience, featuring artwork by fan-favorite manga creators.

978-0-345-50357-2 | \$16.95/\$19.95C | Del Rey | TR | June

NISIOISIN

Zaregoto Book 1: The Kubikiri Cycle

When two college students visit an isolated island in the Sea of Japan, their quiet vacation quickly becomes a nightmare. A series of strange events—beginning with a locked-room murder and a mysterious woman called “The Undertaker”—are just the first threads in a web of mystery that soon ensnares them both! An exciting and edgy prose novel series. Ages 16 and up.

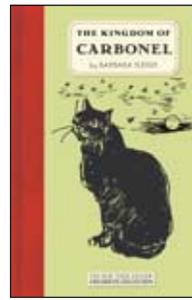
978-0-345-50427-2 | \$9.95/\$11.95C | Del Rey | TR | July

Hosana Tanaka

Ninja Girls 1

The horn growing from Raiz's forehead is proof that he's the lost illegitimate son of the once-mighty Katana family. Now a band of loyal and lovely female ninjas devises a scheme to elevate their newfound master to greatness. But does this shy outcast have what it takes to rule the kingdom and deal with a bevy of beautiful ninja girls? Ages 16 and up.

978-0-345-51242-0 | \$10.99/\$12.99C | Del Rey Manga | TR | July



Barbara Sleigh

The Kingdom of Carbonel

Grisana, a beautiful gray Persian who makes Lady Macbeth look like the kitten who lost its mittens, has plans to take over Cat Country—and Carbonel and his children are all that stand between her and the throne.

978-1-59017-315-2 | \$17.95/NCR | New York Review Books | HC | May

Steve Wulf

The ESPN Mighty Book of Sports Knowledge

A collection of essential sports knowledge—from skills to inside dope to wisdom of the ancients—captured in a mix of lively, humorless text and colorful, informative illustrations, this will become a must for any boy or girl...or any adult with a well-developed inner child.

978-0-345-51177-5 | \$25.00/\$28.95C | Ballantine | HC | May

E



Christie Golden

Star Wars: Fate of the Jedi: Omen

Luke and Ben Skywalker continue on their quest to try to understand just what went wrong with Jacen Solo that caused him to become a Sith. In the meantime, Han, Leia, and Jaina Solo—try to deal with the escalating problem of Jedi Knights seemingly going insane...

978-0-345-50912-3 | \$27.00/\$32.00C | Del Rey | HC | June

H



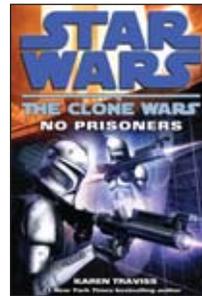
AND ALSO:

Karen Traviss

Star Wars: The Clone Wars: No Prisoners

978-0-345-50899-7 | \$15.00/\$17.50C | Del Rey | TR | May

H



Sherri Haab

Clay So Cute! 25 Polymer Clay Projects for Cool Charms, Itty-Bitty Animals, and Tiny Treasures

For young teens interested in polymer projects that are more sophisticated than “kid stuff”. Mini-cupcake charms, robot key chains, Japanese-style animals and a wide assortment of necklaces, bracelets and earrings are included.

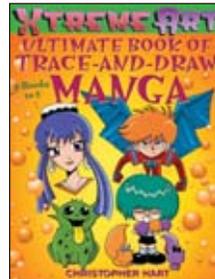
978-0-8230-9899-6 | \$14.95/\$17.50C | Watson-Guption | TR | June

Christopher Hart

Xtreme Art™ Ultimate Book of Trace-and-Draw Manga

Hart is THE expert and offers four easy steps for beginners. How to create adorable “chibi”-style characters and hilarious manga monsters—get those huge shiny eyes just right!

978-0-8230-9806-4 | \$21.95/\$26.00C | Watson-Guption | TR | June



Jackie Kessler and Caitlin Kittredge

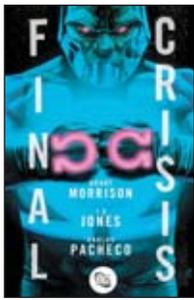
Black and White

From two exciting voices, Jackie Kessler and Caitlin Kittredge, comes a super-hero tale that pits best friends against each other, against themselves, and against a threat to the city both have sworn to make a better place to live.

978-0-553-38631-8 | \$14.00/\$16.50C | Spectra | TR | June

E





Grant Morrison

Final Crisis

The build-up is finally over, and here the revered Grant Morrison presents the twilight of the DC Universe and its pantheon of super heroes.

978-1-4012-2281-9 | \$29.99/\$34.99C | DC Comics | HC | June

Bob Neer

Barack Obama for Beginners

The most concise and reliable short biography available on the 44th President of the United States—from his childhood in Hawaii and Indonesia, to his education at Columbia and Harvard, to his historic campaign for President.

978-1-934389-44-7 | \$12.95/\$15.99C | For Beginners | June

Helen Oyeyemi

White is for Witching: A Novel

Helen Oyeyemi returns with an unputdownable new novel that takes the themes of Mother England and familial destiny and turns them into a gloriously eerie neo-gothic tale about a young woman with an uncertain legacy and a house that won't let her go.

978-0-385-52605-0 | \$24.95/NCR | Nan A. Talese | HC | June

E

Donita K. Paul

The Vanishing Sculptor: A Novel

In a fantasy that inhabits the same world as Paul's *The Dragon Keeper Chronicles*, we discover a country that has little knowledge of Wulder and no acquaintance with Paladin. On a different continent and at a different time, we see Wulder working to draw his creation closer to Himself. Through the story of Tipper, a young emeraldian, the reader sees people discover the beauty of having a God and serving Him.

978-1-4000-7339-9 | \$13.99/\$17.99C | WaterBrook | TR | June

E

Sharon Sakson

Paws & Effect: The Healing Power of Dogs

Seamlessly weaving research and narrative, this wise and poignant volume redefines the age-old bond between man and man's best friend by telling fascinating stories about how dogs can save lives.

978-0-385-52856-6 | \$14.95/\$17.50C | Spiegel & Grau | TR | June

E

The Princeton Review

SAT or ACT? Choosing the Right Exam for You

Schools accept both. Which one is a better fit with YOUR strengths and weaknesses? Knowing which one to take is an important first step in the application process.

978-0-375-42924-8 | \$15.95/\$18.95C | Princeton Review | TR | June



Andrew Bernstein

Ayn Rand for Beginners

Equally loved and hated by her millions of readers, Ayn Rand and her novels and her revolutionary philosophy of Objectivism have acquired a world-wide following. This short, illustrated book sheds much-needed light on her dense words and philosophy.

978-1-934389-37-9 | \$14.99/\$18.95C | For Beginners | July

Chad Johnson with Jason Cole

Ocho Cinco: What Football and Life Have Thrown My Way

Five-time Pro bowl wide receiver Chad Johnson takes a brash, funny look at the NFL from behind his blond mohawk and his gold teeth. Sure to appeal to all sports rebels.

978-0-307-46039-4 | \$24.95/\$28.95C | Crown | HC | July

E

Jaida Jones and Danielle Bennett

Shadow Magic

The metallic dragons of Volstov have laid waste to Ke-Han, and in the aftermath, the future of the two countries finds itself in the hands of four unlikely men. Amidst politics and plotting, the strengths and loyalties of these men will be tested in the crucible of peace—which, in many ways, may prove deadlier than the war they're trying to prevent.

978-0-553-80697-7 | \$23.00/\$26.95C | Spectra | HC | July

E

Laura Resnick

The Purifying Fire: A Magic: The Gathering® Planeswalker Novel

This book begins the story of Chandra Nalaar, the impulsive young fire mage whose exploration of the multiverse and the extent of her own volatile power draws the attention of an ancient faith that sees her as a herald of the apocalypse.

978-0-7869-5298-4 | \$14.95/\$17.50C | Wizards of the Coast | TR | July

Paul Ruditis

G.I. Joe: Mission Dossier

This full color companion to the movie contains intel on all the G.I. Joe team members and their enemies in the shadowy Cobra. The movie opens this summer!

978-1-84856-244-8 | \$14.95/\$18.95C | Titan | TR | July

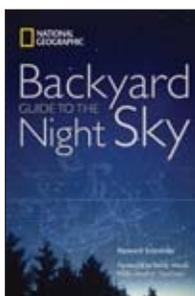
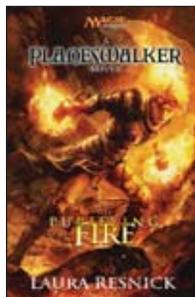
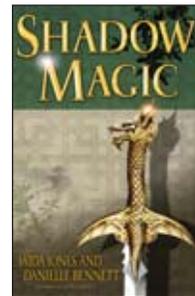
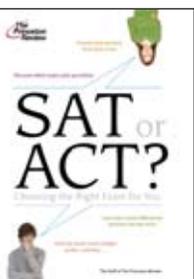
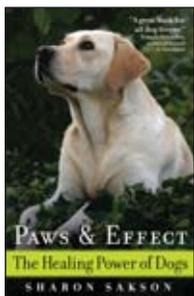
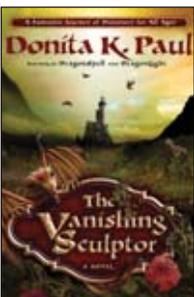
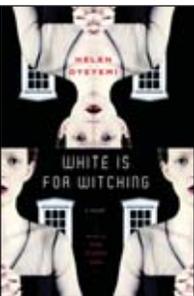
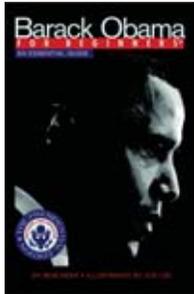
Howard Schneider with Patricia Daniels

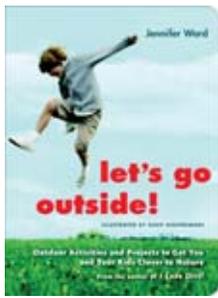
National Geographic Backyard Guide to the Night Sky

This wonderfully illustrated, delightfully approachable book transforms the mysterious twinkling vault of night into a rich, meaningful map of the heavens that any beginning stargazer can enjoy.

978-1-4262-0281-0 | \$21.95/\$26.00C

National Geographic | TR | July





Jennifer Ward

Let's Go Outside! Outdoor Activities and Projects to Get You and Your Kids Closer to Nature

From the author of *I Love Dirt!* comes a new selection of outdoor games, projects, and adventures specifically for families with children ages 8–12.

978-1-59030-698-7 | \$12.95/\$14.95C | Trumpeter | TR | July

Patricia Daniels and Robert Burnham

The New Solar System: Ice Worlds, Moons, and Planets Redefined

As NASA celebrates 50 years, this richly illustrated and reader-friendly book explores the new technologies and discoveries that are showing us an ever more detailed vision of our solar system.

978-1-4262-0462-3 | \$35.00/\$40.00C
National Geographic | HC | August

Roman Dirge

Lenore: Noogies

A massive cult hit, one of the funniest, darkest, cutest, creepiest characters from the world's most celebrated Goth Fabulist.

978-1-84856-270-7 | \$14.95/\$16.95C | Titan | TR | August

Claire Watson Garcia

Painting for the Absolute and Utter Beginner

Two Left Thumbs? This is the book for you! Encourages by gradually enabling beginners to paint a reasonable likeness of an object and give it the appearance of spatial depth.

978-0-8230-9947-4 | \$21.99/\$26.99C
Watson-Guptill | TR | August

Jon Katz

Soul of a Dog: Reflections on the Spirits of the Animals of Bedlam Farm

The *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Dog Year*, *A Good Dog*, and *Dog Days* explores the question of whether animals have souls through stories of his own dogs and farm menagerie.

978-1-4000-6629-2 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | Villard | HC | August

Kyra Kirkwood, Illustrations by David Semple

Move Over, Rover: What to Name Your New Pup When the Ordinary Just Won't Do

People are taking their canine's moniker more seriously than ever before and if you don't have an original thought in your head....Kirkwood to the rescue. And she teaches you how to teach your pup their new name AND how to make delicious doggie treats.

978-0-307-45357-0 | \$13.99/\$17.99C
Clarkson Potter | TR | August

Andrew Peterson

North! Or be Eaten: Wild escapes. A desperate journey. And the ghastly Fangs of Dang.

The continuing tale of brothers Janner and Tink Igiby. Still chased by the Fangs of Dang, the Igibys trek across the Stony Mountains and through the Ice Prairies, encountering wolflike Gray Fangs, the flightless birds of Kimera, and more.

978-1-4000-7387-0 | \$13.99/\$17.99C | WaterBrook | TR | August



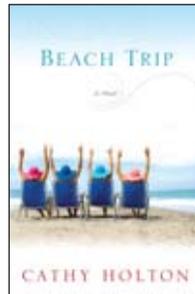
Margaret Weis & Tracy Hickman

Dragons of the Hourglass Mage: The Lost Chronicles, Volume Three

A Dragonlance® Novel. The dramatic conclusion to the Lost Chronicles series!

978-0-7869-4916-8 | \$25.95/\$32.00C
Wizards of the Coast | HC | August

SPOTLIGHT ON: Summer Reading—Hit The Beach!



Cathy Holton

Beach Trip: A Novel

A wonderfully funny and touching story of four women in their 40s, who met and became close friends at a small Southern college for women in the 80s. Now, over twenty years later, the four women, who have not seen each other since their graduation, get together for a week on the Outer Banks of North Carolina to catch up and reminisce about their college days.

978-0-345-50599-6 | \$25.00/\$28.95C | Ballantine | HC | May

Mariko Koike

The Cat in the Coffin

A young female caretaker and a girlfriend are pitted against each other for the affection of a man, his daughter, and her beloved cat. Koike's trademark blend of traditional romance and suspense turns the happy-ending formula of love stories on its head with an added jolt of intrigue and mystery.

978-1-932234-12-1 | \$14.95/\$17.50C | Vertical | TR | June

Nancy Thayer

Summer House: A Novel

When Charlotte Wheelwright starts an organic garden on her grandmother's property, the lives of three Nantucket women grow and flower in delightfully unexpected ways.

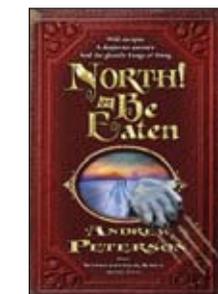
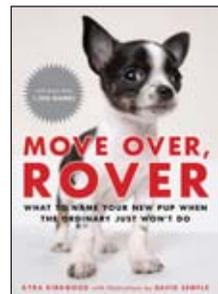
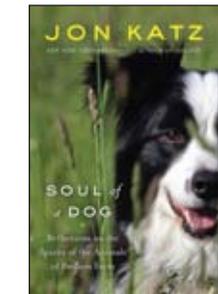
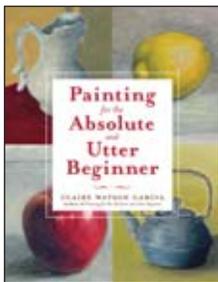
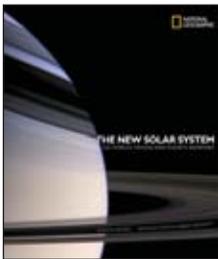
978-0-345-49820-5 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | Ballantine | HC | June

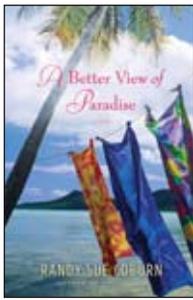
David Wellington

23 Hours: A Vengeful Vampire Tale

A gruesome tale of vampirism and vengeance, made more bearable by being read in the sunlight on the beach. Detective Laura Caxton finds herself in prison for assaulting a convict and now faces not only hardcore criminals, some of whom she helped put away, but also an ancient vampire who is using the prison as her own personal holding pen.

978-0-307-45277-1 | \$13.95/\$16.95C | Three Rivers Press | TR | June





Randy Sue Coburn

A Better View of Paradise: A Novel

Randy Sue Coburn's moving new novel tells the story of a woman's journey towards real love while reconnecting with her dying father on an island paradise.

978-0-345-49036-0 | \$25.00/\$28.95C | Ballantine | HC | July

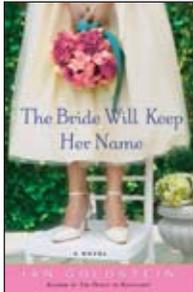


Jan Goldstein

The Bride Will Keep Her Name: A Novel

Masie Mandelbaum is a week away from marrying the man of her dreams, but she receives an email that states: Do you really know the man you're about to marry? So between last-minute dress fittings, pesky future in-laws, and an overbearing mother—the bride and her two best pals must race the clock to the moment of truth.

978-0-307-34592-9 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | Shaye Areheart | HC | July



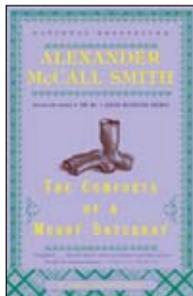
Alexander McCall Smith

Comforts of a Muddy Saturday: An Isabel Dalhousie Novel

The fabulous fifth installment finds Isabel asked to help a doctor who has been disgraced by allegations of scientific fraud. And then there are complications at home with the care of her infant son, Charlie and her housekeeper, Grace. A wonderful combination of spirit, smarts, curiosity, empathy, and unabashed nosiness—that's our Isabel!

978-0-307-38707-3 | \$13.95 | Anchor | TR | July

978-0-307-39700-3 | \$19.95 | Vintage Canada

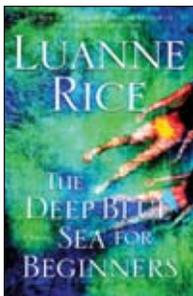


Luanne Rice

The Deep Blue Sea for Beginners

The *New York Times* bestselling author takes readers to the sun-kissed isle of Capri in her irresistible new novel, as one of her most memorable characters from *The Geometry of Sisters* journeys across an ocean to find the mother she longs for.

978-0-553-80514-7 | \$25.00/\$28.95C | Bantam | HC | August



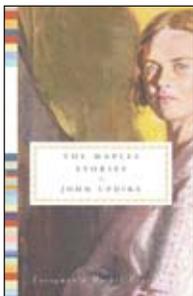
John Updike

The Maples Stories

Collected for the first time, these eighteen classic stories from across Updike's career form a luminous chronicle of the life and time of one marriage in all its rich emotional complexity. Joan and Richard Maple examined from the beginning of their marriage in Greenwich Village, through two decades of raising children, finding happiness, finding heartbreak in infidelity, and finally years later in a new story, "Grandparenting."

978-0-307-27176-1 | \$15.00/\$18.95C

Everyman's Library | HC | August

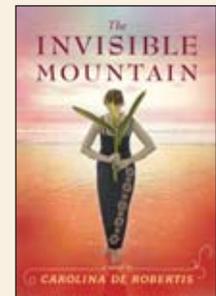
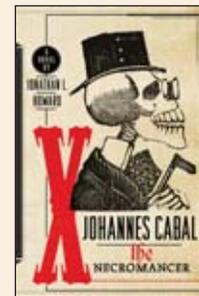
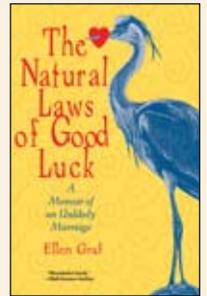


STAFF PICKS

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Marcia's Pick:

Jim Lynch

Border Songs: A Novel

Even though the Advance Reading Copy (ARC) is designed to make you get a jump on the publication of the book itself—to get you to talk about the book—to spread the good word—in general, help to SELL the book—

there are very few ARCs that I can remember that literally start off with four solid pages of praise. This praise is not all in-house either. Most of it comes from bookstore staff across the country and contains phrases like, "a truly wonderful and thoughtful novel," "in a class by itself," "beautifully rendered scenes," "curious, brilliant, often visionary characters," and lest I built it up TOO much, I'll close the quotes with this one: "I savored every chapter, every character, every lovely sentence, every plot twist and turn. It is a superbly crafted novel..." Brandon Vanderkool is the heart and soul of this story. At 6'8" and extremely dyslexic, he doesn't seem a likely choice to take center stage, and he does have a lot of competition from the assortment of characters populating this novel. I won't even attempt to describe the plot. Suffice it to say that there's a lot going on around the U.S./Canadian border in the Pacific Northwest and Brandon is pushed by his father into the very thick of it when he joins the Border Patrol. Also there is a perfect marriage between book and cover. Kudos to the selection of Walton Ford's *Falling Bough* (2008) as the painting which draws you into the book.

978-0-307-27177-4 | \$24.95/NCR | Knopf | HC | June



STAFF PICKS (continued)



Jen's Pick:

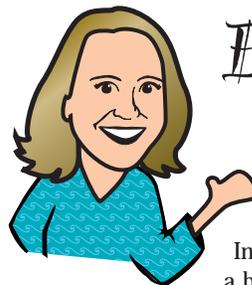
Liz Jensen

The Rapture

The marketing copy calls it *Girl Interrupted* meets *The Dead Zone* and I have to say it is spot on. As the novel opens, 16-year-old Bethany Krall is in a psychiatric hospital for brutally killing her mother and is assigned to Gabrielle Fox, a young therapist recently crippled in a car accident. It seems Bethany's previous therapist left under mysterious circumstances and Gabrielle soon understands why. Still struggling to come to terms with life in a wheelchair, she is easily manipulated by the twisted teen who seems to have an uncanny, even spooky ability to foretell natural disasters and even knows things about Gabrielle's life that she shouldn't know. Gabrielle's skepticism turns to wary belief as Bethany's predictions of earthquakes and hurricanes come eerily true. She enlists the help of a geophysicist and the two attempt to get to the bottom of the mystery just as Bethany shares her most shocking and horrific revelation. Can they convince society that Bethany's warnings should be heeded? Can they save the world before it is too late? This gothic, apocalyptic novel is a mesmerizing read. You won't be disappointed...just scared silly.

978-0-385-52821-4 | \$24.95/NCR | Doubleday | HC | August

E



Erica's Pick:

Ellen Graf

The Natural Laws of Good Luck: A Memoir of an Unlikely Marriage

Marriage today comes in many variations. In my late twenties and a newlywed myself, I'm a bit "traditional." But what if I were divorced, facing middle age, and searching for love? What would a marriage look like to me then? For Ellen Graf, she took a chance and married a Chinese businessman, with a past of his own. He moved from China to her upstate New York farmhouse and so began their "unconventional" marriage. Despite the language barrier, a host of cultural misunderstandings and financial crises, Ellen and Zhong-Hua were able to face these challenges and their new life together with humor, patience, and love. Ellen now eats rock fungus and Zhong-Hua learned how to drive, albeit often following his own rules! At times, *The Natural Laws of Good Luck* can read like the funniest of humor memoirs, but at its heart is a story of acceptance, love and renewal at midlife by taking a brave leap into the unknown. Rather inspiring, really, no matter what "type" of marriage you may have yourself.

978-1-59030-691-8 | \$22.95/\$26.95C | Shambhala/Trumpeter | HC | August



Dave's Pick:

Jonathan L. Howard

Johannes Cabal the Necromancer

"Wait, WHAT are you reading?!" is the reaction I got a few times when I told my friends the title of the book flashing across my e-reader. They would ask me if I was a Satanist or something, and I would answer no, but that sort of thing just got a whole lot cooler. Who knew stealing souls could be such funny business? Well, apparently, the British can make anything funny. In the tradition of *The Gone-Away World*, the wit involved here is subsuming. The book's title character is an unsmiling, perpetually annoyed spigot of hilarious nastiness, and I can't get enough. I want Johannes to be real. A sampling: "I'm not holding a soiree either. You have a problem with sarcasm, don't you? Now do you have anything else fascinating to impart or can I kick your wrinkly little carcass down the embankment as I so dearly wish?" This riotous send-up of the classic Faustian tale is endlessly fascinating, to the point where I kind of want to sign my soul away just to see what would happen.

978-0-385-52808-5 | \$24.95/\$29.95C | Doubleday | HC | July

E



Marie's Pick:

Carolina de Robertis

The Invisible Mountain

When author Carolina de Robertis began writing as a child, her parents begged her to put their family stories on paper. Available in August, the result of family oral tradition and lots of listening and research, is her debut novel. *The Invisible Mountain* is as lush in character, plot and language as the South American landscape in which it is set. More than a narrative of the Firrelli's, a Uruguayan family with Italian roots that run deep within the Venetian canals, de Robertis's novel traces the stories of three generations of women: Pajarita, the baby who went missing only to be discovered in a tree; her daughter, Eva, a rebellious poet who finds love in the most unlikely of places; and Eva's daughter, Salomé, who risks her life hiding weapons for guerilla rebels under her bed. Infused into the societal and political unrest of Eva Perón's Buenos Aires and the gleaming city of Montevideo are the bits of magical realism, sweeping sticks-in-your-mouth prose, and an addictive storyline rich in cultural significance. This striking start will delight fans of Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Isabel Allende who will find themselves fully immersed in the "sharp t's and j's, y's and g's" that tie these women together.

978-0-307-27163-1 | \$24.95/NCR | Knopf | HC | August 2009

E



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