



Ape House

A Novel, by Sara Gruen

"In her new novel, *Water for Elephants* author Sara Gruen once again examines the relationship—both emotional and biological—between man and animal. This time, focusing on highly intelligent bonobo apes, she infuses the story with an unexpected level of humor, mystery and a foray into popular culture. What the reader can be assured of is yet another thoroughly engaging story, brimming with deftly drawn characters and compelling storylines. A delight!"

—Sue Beale, Nicola's Books, Ann Arbor, MI



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Eaarth

Making a Life on a Tough New Planet, by Bill McKibben

"McKibben has written his most important book about humankind's most pressing issue: global climate change and what it means. This book is a wakeup call about the 'tough new planet' we've created with our profligate behavior over the past 200 years. Read this book and recommend it widely. Hopefully you and your neighbors will get to work on solutions."

—Gary Colliver, Windows on the World-Books & Art, Mariposa, CA



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The Hand That First Held Mine

A Novel, by Maggie O'Farrell

"Alternating chapters tell the story of 2 women in London in 2 very different times: Lexie, the journalist in post war London, and Elina, a new mother struggling with baby & boyfriend in present times. The portraits of these women are dazzling in their understanding, but the way they come together is even more so."

—Jude Sales, Readers' Books, Sonoma, CA



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Hellhound on His Trail

The Electrifying Account of the Largest Manhunt in American History, by Hampton Sides

"This fast-paced narrative tells the story of Eric Galt, otherwise known as James Earl Ray, the assassin of Martin Luther King, Jr. A forgettable man obsessed with becoming someone, Ray weasels through society with ease, taking down the most memorable man of the Civil Rights movement. Fascinating and full of descriptive detail, this is a sad portrayal of the mighty taken down by the meek."

—Kristin Bates, McLean & Eakin Booksellers, Petoskey, MI



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I Thought You Were Dead

A Love Story, by Pete Nelson

"Dante may have had his Beatrice, but Paul Gustavson has Stella, a venerable pooch who is his guiding light for matters of the mind and heart. Their ongoing dialogue is smart, sweet, and poignant, and together they take on their fears of thunderstorms and seedy bars (hers) and normal, loving relationships without the buffer of alcohol (his), each bringing out the best in each other. This book is clever, heartwarming, and engaging."

—Emily Crowe, Odyssey Bookshop, South Hadley, MA

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The Mapping of Love and Death

A Maisie Dobbs Novel, by Jacqueline Winspear

"To open a new Maisie Dobbs is like checking in with an old friend. In Mapping of Love and Death, Maisie has been asked to discover what really happened to cartographer Michael listed missing in the trenches in France. 17 years later his remains are uncovered. As Maisie digs for answers, she discovers that Michael was murdered. The closer she gets to answers for Michael's family she must also deal with personal issues that will change her life once again. As the last page is turned, I can't wait to read the next installment in Maisie's adventure."

—Sue Richardson, Maine Coast Book Shop, Inc., Damariscotta, ME

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A Mountain of Crumbs

A Memoir, by Elena Gorokhova

"Elena Gorokhova's *A Mountain of Crumbs* offers a view of the locked-in nature of daily life in 1960s Leningrad, beginning even in nursery school. Gorokhova's precise language and her word photos are impressive. I loved this book."

—Carla Cohen, Politics & Prose Books & Coffee, Washington, DC

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My Name is Mary Sutter

A Novel, by Robin Oliveira

"On the eve of the Civil War, Albany midwife Mary Sutter desperately wants to be a surgeon. When Dorteia Dix puts out a call for nurses, Mary leaves her family and her practice behind and rushes to Washington. Told from the view of nurses, families, and politicians, this novel is an enthralling, exquisitely crafted debut. It is a story for lovers of historical fiction as well as anyone who believes in the power of the human spirit."

—Erin Kurup, Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza, Albany, NY

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Russian Winter

A Novel, by Daphne Kalotay

"History and romance are two of my favorite topics, so I was in literary heaven when I picked up Daphne Kalotay's brilliant debut. Her portrayal of ballerina Nina Revskaya is pitch-perfect, and the unexpected twists of memory and the questioning of life's truths make this an unforgettable read. *Russian Winter* has found a home on my 'favorites' shelf!"

—Lianna Nielsen, The Bookworm of Edwards, Edwards, CO



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Seven Year Switch

A Novel, by Claire Cook

"When you finish this delightful story you will want to grab your girlfriends, let your hair down, and call for a margarita! They say every seven years you reinvent yourself, and Jill Murray is ready to do just that. But first she must juggle two jobs, her 10-year-old daughter, an ex-husband, and an intriguing bike-riding entrepreneur. Get ready to laugh from the first page to the last."

—Karin Beyer, Saturn Booksellers, Gaylord, MI



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The Solitude of Prime Numbers

A Novel, by Paolo Giordano

"Childhood traumas have shattered Alice and Mattia physically and psychologically. A friendship that begins in high school provides for each an anchor to a world too frightening to navigate alone. In this singular and striking debut, Giordano explores the ability of the human spirit to endure and to heal. Once you pick this up, you won't want to put it down."

—Jennie Turner-Collins, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Cincinnati, OH



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A Visit from the Goon Squad

by Jennifer Egan

"In her latest work, Egan presents a number of the kind of idiosyncrasies we tend to avoid, only in this collection of expertly layered stories, the flawed characters enrapture and entwine themselves in the reader's imagination. Egan's novel is a fresh form, the function of which merely hints at our own human imperfections and allows readers to forgive not just the characters in this collection, but themselves as well."

—Brette Weinkle, Greenlight Bookstore, Brooklyn, NY



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