



JUNE 2017

NOW IN PAPERBACK

The After Party: A Novel

By Anton DiSclafani

"The real star of *The After Party* is the novel's setting: 1950s Texas, where wealthy housewives and Junior League debutantes rule the social landscape. At the center is Joan Fortier, an unconventional bachelorette who is not content to sit on the sidelines—or to stay in Houston. Joan's attitude causes conflict with her childhood best friend, CeCe Buchanan, and their relationship falters, exposing insecurities in both women. Fans of DiSclafani's first novel, *The Yonahlossee Riding Camp for Girls*, will not be disappointed by this well-written, engaging new work."

—Annie B. Jones, The Bookshelf, Thomasville, GA



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Another Brooklyn: A Novel

By Jacqueline Woodson

"National Book Award-winning author Jacqueline Woodson has crafted a beautiful, heart-wrenching novel of a young girl's coming-of-age in Brooklyn. Effortlessly weaving poetic prose, Woodson tells the story of the relationships young women form, their yearning to belong, and the bonds that are created – and broken. Brooklyn itself is a vivid character in this tale—a place at first harsh, but one that becomes home and plays a role in each character's future. Woodson is one of the most skilled storytellers of our day, and I continue to love and devour each masterpiece she creates!"

—Nicole Yasinsky, The Booksellers at Laurelwood, Memphis, TN



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Before the Fall: A Novel

By Noah Hawley

"When a private plane plunges into the ocean off Martha's Vineyard, the media and the government want answers. The two survivors—a middle-aged artist along for the ride and the 4-year-old son of a prominent and powerful family – have little to say. *Before the Fall* takes the reader on a thrilling ride through the past lives of the other passengers and the aftermath of the crash. As the deepest secrets of the wealthy and those who surround them surface, no one is safe. A brilliant and relentless thriller."

—Geoffrey Jennings, Rainy Day Books, Fairway, KS



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Hero of the Empire

By Candice Millard

"No one was more certain that he was destined for greatness than Winston Churchill and he let nothing deter or discourage him from achieving that goal. The young Churchill saw his path to prominence and power through fearless exploits in the British Army and as a war correspondent. England's brutal war with the Boer rebels in southern Africa would prove to be his crucible. Millard's exciting chronicle of Churchill's experiences there, both daring and humbling, is a fitting tribute to a man whose early dreams of glory proved to be a self-fulfilling prophesy."

—Alden Graves, Northshire Bookstore, Manchester Center, VT



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A House Without Windows: A Novel

By Nadia Hashimi

“Hashimi sets her layered and suspenseful novel at the crossroads of tradition and modernity in present-day Afghanistan. Her nuanced and well-paced tale tells the story of Zeba, who is accused of murdering her husband. In the Chil Mahtab prison, where Zeba awaits her trial and sentencing, she comes to know a colorful cast of female inmates, many of whom are ordinary women who have been snared in various traps of family honor and have been cast away by their families and by society. This is a compassionately written and moving page-turner.”

—Marya Johnston, Out West Books, Grand Junction, CO



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Lily and the Octopus: A Novel

By Steven Rowley

“*Lily and the Octopus* is a profound book about all the important things in life—love, how to let go, how important it is to live in the moment, and how one big love can lead to another. And Lily, dear Lily, is at the center—a smart, movie-loving dog who would never pass up the chance at some good ice cream, tofurkey dinner, or beaming her unconditional love at her human companion, Ted. Told with humor, compassion, and a quirky sense of life’s possibilities, *Lily and the Octopus* will hold you by the heart long after the final page is turned.”

—Pam Cady, University Book Store, Seattle, WA



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Mercury: A Novel

By Margot Livesey

“This riveting psychological novel delves into the lives of Donald and Vivian, a married couple whose stability is threatened and ultimately undermined when Vivian, whose former life as an aspiring equestrian was cut short, meets Mercury, a magnificent horse with a tragic history. What unfolds may seem like destiny to Vivian, but to Donald, a staid and deliberate ophthalmologist still mourning the death of his beloved father, it tests everything he’s ever known, including his faculty for navigating the world. A truly remarkable study of human nature and the blindspots that hinder us all.”

—Mary Cotton, Newtonville Books, Newton Centre, MA



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Modern Lovers: A Novel

By Emma Straub

“Set in trendy Brooklyn, Straub’s latest novel follows the lives of former bandmates Zoe, Elizabeth, and Andrew and their teenage children, Ruby and Harry. When Ruby and Harry begin a relationship, their parents are forced to face and reveal long-buried tensions and secrets. Straub’s spot-on depictions of middle-age suburban life and teenage angst are alternatively searing and hilarious. This book is the ultimate literary beach read!”

—Angela Spring, Politics and Prose Bookstore, Washington, DC



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The Muse: A Novel

By Jessie Burton

“Burton’s follow-up to *The Miniaturist* also takes place in the art world, but this time the settings alternate between London in the 1960s and pre-Civil War Spain in the 1930s. In 1967, a long-lost work by a dead Spanish painter turns up in London. Is it really an original Isaac Robles? Or is there a more complicated story behind the intriguing painting? A fun read with interesting meditations on the purpose and making of art.”

—Susan Taylor, Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza, Albany, NY



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My Last Continent: A Novel

By Midge Raymond

“Suspense and love intertwine against the starkly beautiful backdrop of Antarctica in this wonderful debut. Deb is a researcher devoting her life to the magnificent penguins that populate this remote corner of the world, where the ice-choked waters set the stage for the tragic collision of a supersized cruise liner and mountainous iceberg. When Deb discovers the man she loves is aboard the doomed ship, the poles of her world shift, as she must now focus on rescuing the one person who has saved her from her self-inflicted solitude. Raymond does a masterful job building the tension while the dramas of both the past and present unfold.”

—Luisa Smith, Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA



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The View From the Cheap Seats: Selected Nonfiction

By Neil Gaiman

“I must be one of the few people to love Neil Gaiman most for his nonfiction. Over the years, I’ve scoured the shelves and online for his speeches, his introductions, his forewords, even his tweets and blog posts, so this book is a thing of wonder. Filled to bursting with his humor, wisdom, and hope, all articulated in the thoughtful, generous prose we know and love, *The View From the Cheap Seats* will keep you company, give you solace, and help you think deeper, smile harder, and breathe easier.”

—Serena Longo, Harvard Book Store, Cambridge, MA



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Wintering: A Novel

By Peter Geye

“It is tempting to inhale *Wintering* in a great rush because it is such a suspenseful, wild, and dangerous survival story. That would be a mistake. Geye magically conveys the starkness, beauty, and despair of the northern Minnesota borderlands in prose that deserves to be savored. He gives us characters with deep, complex interior lives, who struggle with secrets, love, and damaged relationships. A powerful father-son story and a landscape revealed in breathtaking detail make this a novel to read with care and wonder.”

—Tripp Ryder, Content Bookstore, Northfield, MN



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