



MAY 2018

NOW IN PAPERBACK

The Essex Serpent: A Novel

By Sarah Perry

"If you love mystery, Victorian England, and exploring the tension between science and religion, you will love *The Essex Serpent*. Many contemporary authors manage to evoke for readers that experience of reading Jane Austen or Sir Arthur Conan Doyle for the first time. The real miracle of Sarah Perry is that she manages to do so with a completely fresh voice. With beautiful sentences and characters and landscapes so well-crafted you feel you've been there, *The Essex Serpent* captures the imagination and manages to deliver the sense of wisdom only good literature can."

—Tina Ontiveros, Klindt's Booksellers, The Dalles, OR



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NOW IN PAPERBACK

The Fact of a Body: A Murder and a Memoir

By Alexandria Marzano-Lesnevich

"Alexandria Marzano-Lesnevich didn't set out to investigate the murder of six-year-old Jeremy Guillory in Louisiana; it was the case she happened upon as a young law school intern in 1992. In a fascinating twist, this becomes not only the true story of a heinous crime, but also of the investigation that unlocks the author's memories of her own childhood in which she and her sisters were repeatedly sexually abused by their grandfather. As Marzano-Lesnevich moves backward and forward in time between the young man who killed Jeremy and her own life, the reader is swept along on a current of dismay and awe: dismay that human beings can do these things to each other, and awe that the author could face such demons and move on."

—Anne Holman, The King's English, Salt Lake City, UT



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The Graybar Hotel: Stories

By Curtis Dawkins

"Discard the thought that Curtis Dawkins is serving a life sentence and insert the thought that this is an amazing short-story collection by a debut author. Readers glimpse the emotional lives of the inmates of a Kalamazoo prison, who are cut off from the world and in a place where time moves and sounds different than before. *The Graybar Hotel* reminded me of reading early Denis Johnson, in the way that the writing is so sparse I fell right into the stories and suffered along with the inmates. A captivating read that allowed me a glimpse of the humanity of prison life."

—Jason Kennedy, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI



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The Marriage Pact: A Novel

By Michelle Richmond

"The world has gone wacko lately, and in the fictional world of *The Marriage Pact* a secret group forms that ostensibly seeks to protect the integrity of marriage. With guidelines to follow to keep the worst from happening, it isn't long before newlyweds Alice and Jake find themselves in trouble. One of them breaks a rule and the consequences are, well, scary. A thriller like no other, this book may make you take a second look at your neighbors and ask yourself: how far you would go to keep your marriage intact?"

—Linda Bond, Auntie's Bookstore, Spokane, WA



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The Marsh King's Daughter: A Novel

By Karen Dionne

"After a childhood in the wilds of Northern Michigan, where her rugged, brutal father was the center of her world, Helena has made a new life with a family who doesn't know her past. Now she and her father are hunting each other and Helena must use all the skills he taught her to survive. Fascinating, dark, and disturbing, *The Marsh King's Daughter* is a psychological thriller most compelling in its rich descriptions of the survivalist training of a very tough little girl."

—Patty Mullins, Oblong Books and Music, Millerton, NY



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NOW IN PAPERBACK

Mrs. Fletcher: A Novel

By Tom Perrotta

"With son Brendan off to college at Berkshire State and ex-husband Ted remarried, Eve Fletcher is feeling a bit unfulfilled, despite her sometimes-trying job as the director of a senior center—until she finds a new and decidedly adult pastime. Neither mother nor son knows what to make of their new lives, and all they know about relationships, to say nothing of sex, seems to be up for discussion. What I love about Tom Perrotta's books is how uncomfortable they can make me feel, while at the same time making me laugh hysterically; *Mrs. Fletcher* shows Mr. Perrotta in top form on both counts."

—Daniel Goldin, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI



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NOW IN PAPERBACK

Priestdaddy: A Memoir

By Patricia Lockwood

"A published poet, Lockwood's first memoir is a hilarious and contemplative narrative written with precise, flowing prose that baptizes the reader. Calling it an honest portrayal is a severe understatement, as Lockwood describes a father who converts to Catholicism and becomes a priest due to a little-known loophole that allows him to continue his 'normal' relationship with his wife and three children. Her understanding of what appears, from the exterior, to be bizarre behavior in the guise of religion is a peek under the sheets of a cold embrace. Loved it!"

—Todd Miller, Arcadia Books, Spring Green, WI



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NOW IN PAPERBACK

The Rise and Fall of D.O.D.O.: A Novel

By Neal Stephenson and Nicole Galland

"For someone who approaches such serious scientific and technological subjects, Neal Stephenson can be outrageously funny. Combine that with Nicole Galland's storytelling ability and you have a rollicking roller coaster of a novel. The authors mix together magic, witchcraft, time travel, science, and historical figures, both real and imagined, while delightfully skewering bumbling bureaucrats, pretentious academics, a rigid military, and other bastions of the establishment to produce a work that is both thought-provoking and totally entertaining."

—Bill Cusumano, Square Books, Oxford, MS



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NOW IN PAPERBACK

Sing, Unburied, Sing: A Novel

By Jesmyn Ward

"*Sing, Unburied, Sing* is a dark and gorgeous song of love and heartbreak, haunting and tragic and disorienting in its timelessness. The Deepwater Horizon oil spill anchors Ward's tale to Mississippi today, which is almost indistinguishable from its notorious yesterday, a present and past (ironically) made more alive in the novel by ghosts and where everyone suffers from the cancers of buried sins. On Jojo's 13th birthday, while Mam is dying and Pop struggles to keep everyone safe, Leonie plans a road trip to the prison to pick up Michael, Jojo and baby Kayla's father. It's *The Odyssey* meets the Delta blues meets William Faulkner and Toni Morrison and some ineffable something that is Jesmyn Ward's own magic."

—Sara Hinckley, Hudson Booksellers, Marietta, GA



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NOW IN PAPERBACK

Standard Deviation: A Novel

By Katherine Heiny

"I was a fan of *Single, Carefree, Mellow* so it was a treat to read Katherine Heiny's latest release. *Standard Deviation* wryly delves into the complications and contradictions inherent in good, long-term love and parenting a slightly more challenging child. This is a laugh-out-loud, funny read with brains and heart, and a gentler world to spend time in for anyone who just needs a break."

—Sarah Bumstead, Vroman's Bookstore, Pasadena, CA



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NOW IN PAPERBACK

The Windfall: A Novel

By Diksha Basu

"The Jhas are a fairly normal family in Delhi, but when Mr. Jha sells his company for millions and decides to move himself and his wife to a fancy new neighborhood, he sets in motion changes for not only his wife, but also his son studying in New York and his former and future neighbors—changes that are sometimes good, sometimes bad, and uncomfortable either way. Jam-packed with fun and lovable characters, this novel is both a delicious, gossipy indulgence and a fascinating glimpse into the lives of people very different from one another. Those who loved the drama of *The Nest* will adore this warm, tender, and very funny debut from a fresh new voice."

—Kelly Morton, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Cincinnati, OH



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NOW IN PAPERBACK

Young Jane Young: A Novel

By Gabrielle Zevin

"I've been waiting for a quirky, funny, thoughtful novel to follow in the footsteps of *Where'd You Go, Bernadette*, and behold: I have found it. I loved the vibrant female characters at the heart of this book. Told in four different voices, *Young Jane Young* is the story of Aviva Grossman, a young Congressional intern in South Florida who does the unthinkable: she sleeps with her boss. The book details the repercussions of that decision and examines the abuse of power that occurs in politics and in the day-to-day interactions between members of the opposite sex. Gabrielle Zevin has written something really smart and heartwarming, yet also incredibly timely."

—Annie Jones, The Bookshelf, Thomasville, GA



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