



OCTOBER 2019 NOW IN PAPERBACK

All You Can Ever Know: A Memoir

By Nicole Chung

“Nicole Chung’s memoir is a moving account of a young woman’s gradually evolving understanding of her family and of herself as she uncovers the truth about the circumstances behind her adoption. Refusing the false dichotomy of adoption as inherently positive or negative, she reminds us that adoption is a fact and that it’s always complicated. Though the transracial adoption of Asian Americans into white families and communities is common, few books have been written from the perspective of the adoptee. Readers approaching this book with an open heart will find much to nourish them here.”

—Karen Maeda Allman, The Elliott Bay Book Company, Seattle, WA



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The Dakota Winters: A Novel

By Tom Barbash

“Barbash delivers a sweeping family saga that transports readers to the New York City of the late ’70s and early ’80s, to Central Park, The Village, the restaurant and club scenes, from The Beatles to The Flying Lizards to your average dysfunctional family living at the Dakota—the Winters. The story follows two conflicting arcs: that of fading father and late-night host Buddy Winter and that of his emerging 23-year-old son Anton. You’ll want to savor every sentence of this powerful chronicle of the times!”

—Bill Reilly, the river’s end bookstore, Oswego, NY



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Heirs of the Founders: Henry Clay, John Calhoun and Daniel Webster, the Second Generation of American Giants

By H.W. Brands

“Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and John Calhoun dominated Congress from the War of 1812 through the years before the Civil War. They were respectful but wary of each other: fighting over international relations, the Federal Bank, annexation of Texas, and Indian policy, while each tried—and failed—to be elected president. By the end, their relationship fractured, as did the country, when they failed to reconcile the ideal of a democratic republic with the peculiar institution of slavery.”

—Mike Hare, Northshire Bookstore, Saratoga Springs, NY



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A Key to Treehouse Living: A Novel

By Elliot Reed

“Brilliant in form and content, this is a coming-of-age story that uses the format of an alphabetical index to illustrate the way that our adolescent and young adult minds try to make sense of the world: we categorize and define, put feelings and inanimate objects on equal footing, and do our best to make sense of the chaos around us the way textbooks and encyclopedias have taught. References from one entry to another mimic the links between our memories that seem to make our lives a continuum rather than a series of isolated incidents. This is a book that drives you to connect the dots yourself, because, really, that’s half the fun, isn’t it?”

—Christian Brandt, The Book Table, Oak Park, IL



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The Library Book

By Susan Orlean

“There is no one better at investigating the fascinating stories hiding in plain sight than Susan Orlean. The vivid descriptions of the mysterious fire that engulfed the Los Angeles Central Library in 1986 are burnished by the meticulous research she did on the history of libraries and on the shocking event that resulted in the destruction and damage of over one million books. From memories of the blissful hours spent in the library of her youth to the historical significance of these repositories of our past, Orlean has crafted a love letter to the importance of the written word and those who devote their lives to its preservation.”

—Luisa Smith, Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA



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Marilla of Green Gables: A Novel

By Sarah McCoy

“Many of us who grew up with *Anne of Green Gables* always wondered why neither Marilla or her brother, Matthew, married; we were also very curious as to what secret Marilla held in her heart regarding John Blythe. Now, Sarah McCoy answers these questions for us in her new book, *Marilla of Green Gables*. She begins the story when Marilla is only 13 and continues until just before Anne comes to Green Gables. This book is wonderfully and imaginatively written, a rendering that Lucy Maud Montgomery herself would approve of. A must-read for all those who love Anne of Green Gables.”

—Pat Trotter, Bookends on Main, Menomonie, WI



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Melmoth: A Novel

By Sarah Perry

“*Melmoth* is evocative and atmospheric, the perfect book for a chilly night and the turning of the seasons. Through diaries, letters, and narration, we are introduced to the legendary Melmoth, who is cursed to wander the world alone and watch humans destroy themselves over and over. This quintessential gothic tale is set against the vivid backdrop of winter in Prague and populated by fully realized supporting characters and a protagonist with a hell of a secret. Melmoth, eternal witness to humanity at both its most banal and its most depraved, will haunt me.”

—Chelsea Bauer, Union Avenue Books, Knoxville, TN



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One Person, No Vote: How Voter Suppression Is Destroying Our Democracy

By Carol Anderson

“Far from an isolated event, the 2016 election was the culmination of generations of efforts to prevent communities of color from taking part in elections and having the full weight of their votes counted. *One Person, No Vote* comes at a time when we need every piece of knowledge available to turn the tide of voter suppression and reclaim our democracy. Through exhaustive research deconstructing and explaining decades of policy, Carol Anderson provides a clear look at how laws were bent through the slow degradation of democracy and how circumstances can be righted once more.”

—Amanda Ibarra, Flyleaf Books, Chapel Hill, NC



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A Spark of Light: A Novel

By Jodi Picoult

"Once again, Jodi Picoult tackles a highly charged social issue head on with compassion and insight. The characters in *A Spark of Light* offer readers insight into the varied and complex issues surrounding the pro-choice/pro-life debate. I finished this novel with a greater understanding of how a person could hold beliefs different from my own. I hope this book becomes required reading for high schools across the country as well as a reading group favorite!"

—Andrea Avantaggio, Maria's Bookshop, Durango, CO



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Sugar Run: A Novel

By Mesha Maren

"This is the gritty Southern novel I've always wanted. Maren deftly navigates between two periods in time, telling interconnected, muddled love stories and mixing in stunning images of the West Virginia landscape her characters inhabit. She uses the presence of fracking on the family farm as a multifaceted metaphor, demonstrating how easily we fall prey to the type of immediate relief that will eventually destroy and poison us from within. Dark, yes, but so well-developed, timely, and shocking in its delivery that I absolutely could not put this book down."

—Maggie Fixler, Carmichael's Bookstore, Louisville, KY



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There Will Be No Miracles Here: A Memoir

By Casey Gerald

"Casey Gerald's *There Will Be No Miracles Here* might very well—and rightfully so—come to be considered one of the great memoirs of African American experience in America. Gerald recounts his childhood and life beginning with his early years in Dallas, which were rife with family drama, religious questioning, and grappling with his sexuality, through his football career at Yale. In his meditative, lyrical, and ruminative tone, Gerald questions American identity, myth, and success. His conversational and conspiratorial style is undergirded by a proficient, experimental, and stylish set of literary techniques."

—Margaret Grace Myers, Books Are Magic, Brooklyn, NY



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The Winter of the Witch: A Novel

By Katherine Arden

"*The Winter of the Witch* takes place immediately after the events in *The Girl in the Tower*. The world of the old gods is fading, and a new religion is claiming the hearts of Vasya's people. Rus is on the brink of war, and Vasya, it seems, is up against the whole world. With the help of new allies, Vasya is determined to save all that she holds dear even if it means sacrificing everything. 'Petrichor,' the word used to describe that sweet, earthy smell after it rains, is how I would describe the Winternight Trilogy. Arden's storytelling encompasses all your senses, so grab a hot mug of your favorite drink and settle in for Vasya's adventures in *The Winter of the Witch*."

—Jen Steele, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI



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