Finding Your Place in the World

The Good Luck of Right Now
From Matthew Quick, the New York Times bestselling author of The Silver Linings Playbook, comes The Good Luck of Right Now ($25.99, Harper, 9780062285539), a funny and tender story about family, friendship, grief, acceptance, and Richard Gere — an entertaining and inspiring tale that will leave you pondering the rhythms of the universe and marveling at the power of kindness and love. For thirty-eight years, Bartholomew Neil has lived with his mother. When she gets sick and dies, he has no idea how to be on his own. His redheaded grief counselor, Wendy, says he needs to find his flock and leave the nest. But how does a man learn how to fly when his whole life has been grounded in his mom, Saturday mass, and the library? Bartholomew thinks he’s found a clue when he discovers a “Free Tibet” letter from Richard Gere hidden in his mother’s underwear drawer. Believing that the actor is meant to help him, Bartholomew awkwardly starts his new life, writing Richard Gere a series of highly intimate letters that reveal one man’s heartbreakingly earnest attempt to assemble a family of his own. Avail. 2/11

Shotgun Lovesongs
Hank, Leland, Kip and Ronny were all born and raised in the same Wisconsin town and are now coming into their own (or not) as husbands and fathers. One of them never left, still farming the family’s land. Others did leave, going farther afield to make good, with varying degrees of success — as a rock star, commodities trader, rodeo stud. Woven into this patchwork is Beth, whose presence among them — both then and now — fuels the kind of passion one comes to expect of lovesongs and rivalries. Desperately wishing to see themselves as the unified tribe they remember, they are instead confronted with how things have changed. Shotgun Lovesongs ($25.99, Thomas Dunne, 9781250039811), by Nickolas Butler, is a remarkable and uncompromising saga that explores the age-old question of whether or not you can ever truly come home again — and the kind of steely faith and love that it requires. Avail. 3/4

The UnAmericans
Molly Antopol’s short stories in The UnAmericans ($24.95, W.W. Norton, 9780393241136) explore the ties that bind families and communities together. An absentee father needles his adult daughter for details about her newly commissioned play when he fears it will cast him in an unflattering light. An actor, imprisoned during the Red Scare for playing up his communist leanings to get a part with a leftist film director, is shamed by his act when he reunites with his precocious young son. An Israeli soldier, forced to defend a settlement filled with American religious families, still pines for a chance to discover the United States for himself. A young Israeli journalist, left unemployed after America’s most recent economic crash, questions her life path when she begins dating a middle-aged widower still in mourning for his wife. And in the book’s final story, a young American and her Israeli husband are forced to reconsider their marriage after the death of her dissident art-collecting grandmother. You’ll long remember this book for its wit, humanity, and heart. Avail. 2/3
Dear Booklover,

As we look ahead to the new year, we wonder about the new voices we’ll meet and the new books that will expand our world, entertain us until the wee hours, be so beautifully written we don’t want to see the story end, and be so worthy of talking about at social gatherings and in our book groups during the months ahead.

With millions of titles already in print and hundreds of thousands more released each year, writing and reading is alive and well. Even though our lives have gotten busier, many of us savor quiet time to read and realize that it’s one important way to maintain balance in our lives. If only one of our most serious dilemmas would be “What do I read next?”

Know that it gives us great pleasure to step in and offer recommendations! Each publishing season, we review catalogs and ARCs (Advance Review Copies) that publishers send so we have a sneak preview of noteworthy new titles. It’s one of the greatest perks in bookselling and we love receiving the manuscripts, most times without final cover art and in need of the last round of editing. After reading the ARC, there’s another round of curiosity and excitement when the final printed book arrives in a shipment. We often marvel at the cover art, paper stock, decorative end papers, and sometimes even the type font, photos, and graphic elements that grace each chapter. There’s so much that goes into acquiring and polishing a great story, creating the packaging, getting the word out in the industry and the media, and finally having it in the store for you to hold and consider as your next read.

Independent booksellers have been essential to the process of discovering and launching new books and even more so, new writers. The American Booksellers Association decided to capitalize on the collective strength of independent booksellers with a program called Indie Next, where booksellers throughout the country share insights on forthcoming books. While we read the ARCs, review catalogs, and talk with our sales reps, we now also have an exchange with a rich collective of people who have devoted their careers to the written word. Publishers are thrilled with the program and those of us working in bookstores appreciate the wide variety of opinions that help us identify those books that are truly worth your precious time to read.

In this issue of our newsletter and in the bookstore, you’ll see why we’re feeling especially good about the start of 2014. Matthew Quick’s Good Luck of Right Now, Nickolas Butler’s Shotgun Lovesongs, and Molly Antopol’s The UnAmericans have all received high praise from indies and are featured on the front page. You’ll find new books by old favorites like Anna Quindlen, Jennifer Chiaverini, and Joyce Carol Oates. Valentine’s Day is around the corner and it’s a perfect time to pick up a novel like A Star for Mrs. Blake by April Smith or help others celebrate love in Drew Barrymore’s photography of hidden hearts in everyday things in Find It In Everything. Make sure to review our short list of memoirs and biographies on page 8. We are reminded of author Brian Doyle’s comment that in our stories we “hold hands against the dark.”

We look forward to introducing you to some great books throughout the year. Thank you for shopping local and choosing to buy your books from us. See you soon at Read Between the Lynes!

Aline
Looking Back in Time

Mrs. Lincoln’s Rival
Just as she did in her last book, *Mrs. Lincoln’s Dressmaker*, Jennifer Chiaverini excels at chronicling the lives of extraordinary yet little known women. Now, in *Mrs. Lincoln’s Rival* ($26.95, Dutton, 9780525954286), she reveals the famous First Lady’s very public social and political contest with Kate Chase Sprague. Mrs. Lincoln and her young rival held much in common but they could never be friends — for the success of one could come only at the expense of the other. History and its colorful characters come alive.

Under the Wide and Starry Sky
In *Loving Frank*, Nancy Horan captured the drama and intensity of the relationship between Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Cheney. Now, she introduces us to the unconventional love affair of Scottish literary giant Robert Louis Stevenson and American divorcee Fanny Van de Grift Osbourne. *Under the Wide and Starry Sky* ($26, Ballantine, 9780345516534) is a beautifully written novel that chronicles a turbulent love affair that will last two decades and span the world, as both find home in one another.

The Golem and the Jinni
Weaving together strands of Yiddish and Middle Eastern literature, historical fiction and magical fable, Helene Wecker brings us a wonderfully imaginative tale, *The Golem and the Jinni* ($15.99, Harper Perennial, 9780062110848). Chava is a golem – a creature made of clay, brought to life by a disgraced rabbi who dabbles in dark Kabbalistic magic. Ahmad is a jinni, a being of fire born in ancient Syria, trapped in an old copper flask, and released in New York City in 1899. These unlikely friends and soul mates with a mystical connection try to fit in with their immigrant neighbors while masking their true selves.

Somerset
When Leila Meacham’s first novel, *Roses*, was first released four years ago, we were captivated by the stories of three generations of Texans. *Somerset* ($26, Grand Central, 9781455547388) is the prequel to *Roses*, though it stands alone as an engrossing story. Slavery, westward expansion, abolition, the Civil War, love, marriage, friendship, tragedy and triumph are abundantly present in this sweeping historical saga.

Women’s Lives

Still Life with Bread Crumbs
Celebrated photographer Rebecca Winter’s career has dwindled to the point where she must flee the city for the middle of nowhere and finds herself in a tree stand with roofer Jim Bates. Anna Quindlen’s deeply moving love story, *Still Life with Bread Crumbs* ($26, Random House, 9781400065752), begins with an imagined gunshot and ends with a new tin roof. In between, Rebecca discovers that what she sees through a camera lens is not all there is to life.

Beautiful Day
A summer wedding stirs up trouble on both sides of the family in Elin Hilderbrand’s latest bestseller, *Beautiful Day* ($16, Back Bay, 9780316099769). Everything should be falling into place for the beautiful event — but in reality, things are falling apart. The couple-to-be is quite happy, but their loved ones find their lives crumbling. In the days leading up to the wedding, love will be questioned, scandals will arise, and hearts will be broken and healed. Hilderbrand takes us on a touching journey into the heart of marriage, what it means to be faithful, and how we choose to honor our commitments.

The Wives of Los Alamos
Women from all over the world moved with their scientist husbands to Los Alamos, New Mexico during WWII, and were forced to adapt to a rugged military town where everything was a secret – including what their husbands were doing at the lab. Tarashea Nesbit’s brilliantly conceived debut novel, *The Wives of Los Alamos* ($25, Bloomsbury, 9781620405031), sheds light on the development and testing of the atomic bomb, how these women coped with a fierce and hostile environment, and how they struggled with the burden of their husbands’ creation.

What would our community be without an independent bookstore? If you find it here, please buy it here!
For the Thrill of It

Ripper
You’ll quickly see why Isabel Allende’s books have sold 57 million copies around the world when you read her latest, Ripper ($28.99, Harper, 9780062291400). This atmospheric, fast-paced mystery involves a brilliant teenage sleuth who must unmask a serial killer in San Francisco. Amanda is addicted to crime novels and Ripper, the online mystery game she plays with her beloved grandfather and friends around the world. When her mother disappears, Amanda must solve the most complex mystery she’s ever faced before it’s too late.

Cell
Imagine a smartphone called iDoc with a new role in medicine — not just another app, but a fully customizable personal physician capable of diagnosing and treating even better than the real thing. During beta tests, patients begin to die. Has iDoc been subverted by hackers? Is the government involved in a cover-up? You’ll find out in Cell ($26.95, Putnam, 9780399166303), by bestselling author and master of the medical thriller, Dr. Robin Cook. A top-notch fusion of groundbreaking medical science and edge-of-your-seat suspense!

Carthage
A young girl goes missing in the wilds of the Adirondacks. But when the community of Carthage begins a frantic search, they discover the unlikeliest of suspects — a decorated Iraq War veteran with close ties to the girl’s family. Joyce Carol Oates examines grief, faith, justice, and the atrocities of war in Carthage ($26.99, Ecco, 9780062208125), a dark and riveting story that explores the human capacity for violence, love, and forgiveness, and asks if it’s ever truly possible to come home again.

The Weight of Blood
All the color and atmosphere of an Ozarks mountain family appear in Laura McHugh’s acclaimed debut, The Weight of Blood ($26, Spiegel & Grau, 9780812995206). Sixteen-year-old Lucy Dane believes that there just might be a connection between her friend Cherri’s murder, and the disappearance of her mother years earlier, and sets out to uncover the mystery. This gripping story explores the meaning of family: the sacrifices we make, the secrets we keep, and the lengths to which we will go to protect the ones we love.

In the Blood
Lana Granger has told so many lies about where she comes from and who she is that the truth is like a cloudy nightmare she can’t quite recall. About to graduate from college and with her trust fund almost tapped out, she takes a job babysitting a troubled boy named Luke. Expelled from schools all over the country, the manipulative young Luke is accustomed to controlling the people in his life. But, in Lana, he may have met his match. Or has Lana met hers? The psychological suspense in In the Blood ($25.99, Touchstone, 9781451691177), by bestselling author Lisa Unger, will have you hooked.

After I’m Gone
Facing a prison term, Felix Brewer vanishes. His wife, Bambi, has no idea where her husband — or his money — might be, but suspects that his mistress Julie might very well know. When Julie disappears ten years to the day after Felix, everyone assumes she’s left to join her old lover — until her remains are discovered in a secluded park. Working a cold case, retired detective “Sandy” Sanchez discovers a tangled web of bitterness, jealousy, resentment, greed, and longing stretching over five decades. No one will ever be the same once Sanchez learns the truth in Laura Lippman’s latest, After I’m Gone ($26.99, Wm. Morrow, 9780062083395).

An Officer and a Spy
Bestselling author Robert Harris brings to life the infamous Dreyfus affair, the French scandal that mesmerized the world at the turn of the twentieth century, in An Officer and a Spy ($27.95, Knopf, 9780385349581). Shortly after Alfred Dreyfus is convicted of treason and sent to prison, Georges Picquart, head of the counterespionage agency that “proved” Dreyfus had passed secrets to the Germans, believes that a spy is still at large in the French military, and that Dreyfus might be innocent. A witch hunt, secret tribunals, out-of-control intelligence agencies, and the fate of a whistle-blower make this a timely read.

The Scar Boys
Much to the delight of his bookselling colleagues, Len Vlahos’s debut coming-of-age novel, The Scar Boys ($17.99, Egmont USA, 9781606844397), is a must-read for anyone looking to find his place in the world. A childhood incident involving bullies and lightning leaves Harry Jones severely scarred and disfigured. His salvation comes from the punk-rock band he joins in high school, The Scar Boys. Through music, Harry learns something about personal power, friendship, first love, and how to fit in the world. How much of Len’s own life is in the story, we’ll never tell!
Through the Eyes of Love

A Star for Mrs. Blake
The United States Congress passed legislation in 1929 to fund travel for mothers of fallen soldiers in World War I to visit their sons’ graves in France. Over the next three years, 6,693 Gold Star Mothers made the trip. In this emotionally charged, brilliantly realized novel, April Smith breathes life into a unique moment in American history, imagining the experience of five of these women. With expert storytelling, memorable characters, and beautiful prose, *A Star for Mrs. Blake* ($24.95, Knopf, 9780307958846) offers us a timeless story, by turns heartwarming and heartbreaking, set against a footnote of history — little known, yet unforgettable.

Love Illuminated
Daniel Jones has possibly read more true love stories than anyone else on earth. Drawing from the 50,000 stories that have crossed his desk at *The New York Times* over the past decade for his “Modern Love” column, Jones explores the main aspects of love in *Love Illuminated* ($25.99, Wm. Morrow, 9780062211163). Enjoy browsing through the stories in this lively, funny and enlightening journey through this universal human experience that scrambles brains and stirs hearts.

My Heart Is Like a Zoo
A board book edition of the award-winning picture book *My Heart is Like a Zoo* ($7.99, Greenwillow, 9780061915123) is perfect for little hands and the very youngest readers, who will learn that a heart can be hopeful, silly, happy, rugged, snappy, or lonely. A heart holds every different feeling, and author-artist Michael Hall captures each one with his bold, graphic artwork. Perfect for celebrating love at Valentine’s Day and throughout the year. Ages 1-3

Scarlet
It turns out there are many things Scarlet doesn’t know about her grandmother, or the grave danger she has lived in her whole life. When Scarlet encounters Wolf, a street fighter who may have information as to her grandmother’s whereabouts, she is loath to trust this stranger, but is inexplicably drawn to him, and he to her. As Scarlet and Wolf unravel one mystery, they encounter another when they meet Cinder. Now, all of them must stay one step ahead of the vicious Lunar Queen Levana. The second book in Marissa Meyer’s “Lunar Chronicles”, *Scarlet* ($9.99, Square Fish, 9781250007216) is completely absorbing. Ages 12+

Cress
Cinder and Captain Thorne are fugitives on the run, now with Scarlet and Wolf in tow. Together, they’re plotting to overthrow Queen Levana and prevent her army from invading Earth. But when a daring rescue of Cress goes awry, the group is splintered. Cress, Scarlet, and Cinder may not have signed up to save the world, but they may be the only hope the world has. Marissa Meyer continues to deliver humor, action, and romance in *Cress* ($18.99, Feiwel & Friends, 9780312642976). Ages 12+

Happy Valentine’s Day!
Friday, February 14th
Let’s Read a Story!

Hi, Koo!
Bestselling author/artist Jon J. Muth (Zen Shorts) takes a fresh and exciting new look at the four seasons in Hi, Koo! ($17.99, Scholastic, 9780545166683). With a featherlight touch and disarming charm, Jon — and his delightful little panda bear, Koo — engage our imaginations with twenty-six haikus that celebrate the four seasons. Ages 4-7.

Baby Bear
Baby Bear is lost and trying to find his way home. As he walks through the forest, he meets other animals who offer wise advice: Trust yourself. Listen to your heart. Keep walking and you will find your way home. As each encounter moves Baby Bear further along in his journey, he gains courage and the comforting feeling that he is loved and never alone. With Baby Bear ($17.99, Balzer & Bray, 9780062241726), award-winning Kadir Nelson offers a sweet bedtime story that is sure to become a favorite. Ages 4-7.

Sophie’s Terrible Twos
On her second birthday, Sophie gets up on the wrong side of the crib and behaves terribly until her grandmother has an inspiration. Favorite author Rosemary Wells captures a terrible morning that will make everyone laugh out loud in Sophie’s Terrible Twos ($16.99, Viking, 9780670785124). Ages 2-5.

Lots of Spots
This cherished collection of lively poems about animal camouflage and adornment from Caldecott Honoree Lois Ehlert is now available as a classic board book. Birds and beasts from all walks of the animal kingdom are gathered in Lots of Spots ($7.99, Little Simon, 9781442489271), beautifully illustrated in Lois’s signature bold and bright collage style. Ages 2-4.

Don’t Play with Your Food
A cranky, hungry monster named Buddy is determined to eat some cute little bunnies, until they prove to be more enjoyable as playmates in Bob Shea’s Buddy and the Bunnies: Don’t Play with Your Food! ($16.99, Disney, 9781423168072). The silly suspense and laugh-out-loud antics keep you rooting for the bunnies in this fun caper. Ages 4-7.

Snoring Beauty
Tucked in his little bed inside the castle walls, Mouse is eager to get a good night’s sleep before his wedding tomorrow. But just as he begins to drift off, he’s awakened by a tremendous roar. Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen’s Snoring Beauty ($17.99, HarperCollins, 9780060874032) is a sweetly hilarious spin on the classic fairy tale “Sleeping Beauty”, written in bouncy rhymed verse perfect for reading aloud. Ages 4-8.

Outside the Box
This laugh-out-loud poetry collaboration from bestselling author Karma Wilson and Caldecott Honor illustrator Diane Goode spotlights life’s whimsical moments, familiar dilemmas, and little disappointments. With illustrations accompanying more than 100 poems, Outside the Box ($17.99, Margaret K. McElderry, 9781416980056) will engage the entire family. Ready just in time for April, National Poetry Month! Ages 7-10.

My Big Fat Zombie Goldfish
After Tom rescues Frankie the goldfish from his big brother Mark’s toxic science experiment by zapping him back to life with a battery, Frankie somehow became a big fat zombie goldfish with dangerous hypnotic powers. Mo O’Hara’s hilarious debut novel, My Big Fat Zombie Goldfish ($12.99, Feiwel & Friends, 9781250029201), is the first in an illustrated chapter book series. Ages 7-10.
The Ghosts of Tupelo Landing
When Miss Lana accidentally buys a haunted inn at the Tupelo Landing town auction, Desperado Detectives — aka Mo LoBeau and her best friend Dale — opens up a paranormal division to reveal the ghost’s identity before the town’s big 250th anniversary bash. Seeking extra credit with an interview for their history assignment, Mo and Dale realize that the Inn isn’t the only haunted place in Tupelo Landing. Award-winning author Sheila Turnage will have you fully absorbed in The Ghosts of Tupelo Landing ($16.99, Kathy Dawson, 9780803736719). Ages 10+

Jinx
In the Urwald, you grow up fast or not at all. Jinx has always feared leaving the path — but then he meets the wizard Simon Magnus. As Jinx’s curiosity about magic grows, he learns to listen to the trees as closely as he does to Simon’s unusual visitors. But in the Urwald, a little healthy fear can be as dangerous as the forest, and soon Jinx must decide which is the greater threat. Begin with book one in Sage Blackwood’s beautifully written new fantasy adventure series: Jinx ($6.99, Katherine Tegen, 9780062129918). Ages 9-12

Five, Six, Seven, Nate!
In the sequel to Better Nate Than Ever, Nate Foster’s Broadway dreams are finally coming true. Armed with a one-way ticket to New York City, small-town theater geek Nate is off to start rehearsals for “E.T.: The Broadway Musical.” But as thrilling as Broadway is, rehearsals are nothing like Nate expects: full of intimidating child stars, cut-throat understudies, and a director who can’t even remember Nate’s name. Tim Federle’s Five, Six, Seven, Nate! ($16.99, S&S, 9781442446939) is full of secret admirers, surprise reunions — and twice the drama of middle school. Ages 9-12

The Secret of Ferrell Savage
Ferrell Savage is finally twelve, and now eligible to compete in The Big Sled Race on Golden Hill — the perfect chance to impress Mary Vittles. When Ferrell finds out that his great, great, great uncle had an encounter with Mary’s great, great grandfather, he begins to understand more about his family. And when he and Mary are threatened with blackmail, Ferrell fears that his family secret may just eat them alive in The Secret of Ferrell Savage ($15.99, Atheneum, 9781442460171) by Jennifer Duddy Gill. Ages 8-12

Fyre
Jenna will soon be Queen and Beetle is now Chief Hermetic Scribe. Septimus, however, must rid the Castle of the Darke Domaine by destroying the Two-Faced Ring. His skills in both Magyk and Physik will be tested, as will his loyalties. Filled with Angie Sage’s characteristic humor and heart, Fyre ($7.99, Katherine Tegen, 9780061242472) is a grand finale to the “Septimus Heap” series — fantasy adventure at its best. Ages 8-12

Knightley and Son
The once highly-in-demand detective Alan Knightley has just woken up after an unexplained incident kept him asleep for four years. While he was out cold, his son, Darkus, took it upon himself to read all his dad’s old cases, and he’s learned “a lot” about the art of detection. The duo finds themselves caught up in a crazy conspiracy, but Alan is still suffering the effects of his coma and tends to fall asleep at the worst possible moments. Find out who solves the mystery in Rohan Gavin’s Knightley and Son ($16.99, Bloomsbury, 9781619631533). Ages 10-12

Half Bad
In modern-day England, witches live alongside humans: White witches, who are good; Black witches, who are evil; and sixteen-year-old Nathan, who is both. Nathan’s father is the world’s most powerful and cruel Black witch, and his mother is dead. While Nathan is hunted from all sides, he must escape before his seventeenth birthday, at which point he will receive three gifts from his father and come into his own as a witch — or else he will die. Sally Green’s Half Bad ($18.99, Viking, 9780670016785) is an engrossing tale of alienation and the indomitable will to survive. Ages 12+

Heavy Hitters
In Mike Lupica’s third book in the “Game Changers” series, Ben and his friends, the Core Four Plus One, are excited to play in their town’s All-Star Baseball league. But in the first game of the season Ben gets hit by a pitch and Justin, the team’s best hitter, is acting really weirdly. When Ben discovers that Justin’s family is struggling, the two discover the real value of friendship in Heavy Hitters ($16.99, Scholastic, 9780545381840). Ages 9-11
**Lives Transformed**

**Glitter and Glue**
When Kelly Corrigan was in high school, her mother neatly summarized the family dynamic as “Your father’s the glitter, but I’m the glue.” This meant nothing to Kelly, who took off after college for Australia to see and do things to “become interesting.” But it didn’t turn out the way she pictured it, and Kelly soon found herself reassessing who you admire and why — and how that changes over time. *Glitter and Glue* ($26, Ballantine, 978 0345532831) is about the difference between travel and life experience, stepping out and stepping up, fathers and mothers.

**Pigs Can’t Swim**
With all that was happening on Helen Peppe’s backwoods Maine farm — ferocious sibling rivalry, rock-bottom poverty, feral male chauvinism, sex in the hayloft — life was out of control, even for the animals. Despite the chaos, in telling her family’s story, Peppe manages deadpan humor, an unerring eye for the absurd, and a touching compassion for her utterly overwhelmed parents in *Pigs Can’t Swim* ($22.99, Da Capo, 978 0306822728).

**Confessions of a Mediocre Widow**
“I spent my 11th wedding anniversary planning my husband’s funeral. If I could just figure out how to make that rhyme, it would be the beginning of a great country song.” Catherine Tidd finds herself widowed with three children under six years old just three weeks after turning thirty-one. Her honest *Confessions of a Mediocre Widow* ($14.99, Sourcebooks, 9781402285226) is a glimpse into the startling, yet sometimes humorous world of a young woman who learns that it is possible to find joy in an unexpected life.

**Mister Owita’s Guide to Gardening**
Carol Wall, a white woman living in a lily-white neighborhood in Middle America, was at a crossroads in her life. One day she notices a dark-skinned African man tending her neighbor’s yard. His name is Giles Owita. Before long Giles is transforming not only Carol’s yard, but her life. But they both hold long-buried secrets that, when revealed, will cement their friendship forever. *Mister Owita’s Guide to Gardening* ($25.95, Amy Einhorn, 9780399157981) is a beautiful true story of two people who had nothing (and ultimately everything) in common.

**Dancing Fish and Ammonites**
Memory and history have been Penelope Lively’s terrain in fiction over a career that has spanned five decades. In *Dancing Fish and Ammonites* ($26.95, Viking, 9780670016556) she traces the arc of her own life, stretching from her early childhood in Cairo and fascination with archaeology — including a potsherd of Egyptian ceramic depicting dancing fish and ammonites found years ago on a Dorset beach — to insights on aging and what life looks like from where she now stands after a full, and mostly well spent, life. Avail. 2/6

**The Death Class**
Why does a college course on death have a three-year waiting list? Through this unorthodox class on death, nurse Norma Bowe helps kids who are barely hanging on to understand not only the value of their own lives, but also the secret of fulfillment: to throw yourself into helping others. Erika Hayasaki’s expert reporting and literary prose in *The Death Class: A True Story about Life* ($25, S&S, 9781451642858) brings Norma’s wisdom out of the classroom, transforming it into an inspiring lesson for all.

**Uprising**
From Africa to Asia to the Americas, women are the key to progress on ending poverty, violence, and conflict. Award-winning humanitarian and journalist Sally Armstrong shows us why empowering women and girls is the way forward, and she introduces us to the leading females who are making change happen, from Nobel Prize winners to little girls suing for justice. *Uprising: A New Age is Dawning for Every Mother’s Daughter* ($26.99, Thomas Dunne, 9781250045287) ties together feminism and our global economy and brings us the voices of the women all over the world whose bravery and strength is changing the world as we know it.

*Let us pick up our books and pens, they are our most powerful weapons.*

— Malala Yousafzai
Lincoln’s Boys
Two of Lincoln’s official secretaries and confidants John Hay and John Nicolay enjoyed more access, witnessed more history, and knew Lincoln better than anyone outside of the President’s immediate family. In Lincoln’s Boys ($29.95, Viking, 9780670025664), Joshua Zeitz draws on letters, diaries, and memoirs to provide a fascinating tale of friendship, politics, war, and the contest over history and remembrance.

Without Mercy
On December 9, 1938, the state of Georgia executed six black men in eighty-one minutes in Tattnall Prison’s electric chair. The executions were a record for the state that still stands today. David Beasley’s Without Mercy ($26.99, St. Martins, 9781250014665) is the story of the stunning injustice of these executions and how they have seared distrust of the legal system into the consciousness of the Deep South, and it is a story that will forever be a testament to the death penalty’s appalling racial inequality that continues to plague our nation.

Operation Paperclip
In the chaos following WWII, some of the greatest spoils of Germany’s resources were the Third Reich’s scientific minds. The U.S. government secretly decided that the value of these former Nazis’ knowledge outweighed their crimes and began a covert operation code-named Paperclip to allow them to work in the U.S. without the public’s knowledge. Annie Jacobsen follows more than a dozen German scientists through their postwar lives and into one of the most complex, nefarious, and jealously guarded government secrets of the 20th century in Operation Paperclip ($30, Little Brown, 9780316221047).

The Baby Boom
P.J. O’Rourke, born at the peak of the Baby Boom, turns his keen eye on himself and his 75 million accomplices in making America what it is today. The Baby Boom: How It Got That Way (And It Wasn’t My Fault) (And I’ll Never Do It Again) ($25, Atlantic Monthly, 9780802121974) is at once a social history, a group memoir of collectively impaired memory, a hilarious attempt to understand his generation’s desire to never grow up and turn society upside down, and a celebration of the mess the Baby Boom has made.

A More Beautiful Question
Critical to learning, innovation, success, even to happiness, the ability to question can unlock new business opportunities and reinvent industries, spark creative insights at many levels, and provide a transformative new outlook on life. In A More Beautiful Question ($26, Bloomsbury, 9781620401453), innovation expert Warren Berger reveals how the ability to ask deep, fundamental, game-changing (beautiful) questions will result in better solutions, fresh possibilities, and greater success in business and life.

Thanks for the Feedback
We know that feedback is essential for healthy relationships and professional development — but we dread it and often dismiss it. In Thanks for the Feedback ($27.95, Viking, 9780670014668), bestselling authors Douglas Stone and Sheila Heen address the tension between wanting to grow and learn, but also wanting to be accepted, opening the path to benefit from observations, suggestions, and coaching at home and at work. Avail. 3/4

Finding the Space to Lead
As the pace of life increases, there is more to juggle at home and work. It’s easy to feel overburdened and fragmented, stretched and disconnected. Janice Marturano, a senior executive with decades of management and leadership experience, presents her mindfulness program others have deemed “transformative” in Finding the Space to Lead ($26, Bloomsbury, 9781620402474). Her insights on new mindfulness offer focus and clarity to each new work day.
The Garden of Life

The Mix & Match Guide to Companion Planting
Years ago, when there were no pesticides and fertilizers, gardeners paired plants to deter pests, prevent disease, enhance flavor, and increase yields. Josie Jeffery grew up with a companion planting chart posted in the family kitchen. Learn the same secrets that will work for you today in The Mix & Match Guide to Companion Planting ($17.99, Ten Speed, 9781607746331).

The Flexitarian Table
More and more of us are changing the way we eat and it’s often the case that vegetarians, vegans, and non-vegetarians are dining together around the family table. Peter Berley, food writer and winner of the James Beard Award, draws from decades of experience as a personal chef and caterer to show us how to prepare “convertible” meals (with and without meat) plus offer recipes for delicious main dishes that ensure no one will miss the meat. Satisfy everyone with The Flexitarian Table ($19.95, HMH, 9780544273900).

The Blood Sugar Solution 10-Day Detox Diet
There are lots of reasons to rethink our routines, especially if your metabolism is off, belly fat seems to be accumulating around your middle, your digestive system creates discomfort, and inflammation is now on your mind. In The Blood Sugar Solution 10-Day Detox Diet ($28, Little Brown, 9780316230025), Dr. Mark Hyman explains how to activate your natural abilities to prevent disease, maintain an ideal weight, and simply feel your best.

How to Show & Sell Your Crafts
Your talent may have started out simply, but if it’s time to think more seriously about the next steps for selling your creations, look to Torie Jayne and How to Show & Sell Your Crafts: How to Build Your Craft Business at Home, Online, and in the Marketplace ($22.99, Griffin, 9781250044723). You’ll find advice for building and growing your brand, creating a memorable blog or website, improving your product photos, and ways to optimize your workspace to improve your creativity and profitability. Indie art and craft items are more popular than ever and here you’ll find the tools to make your mark.

Emily Post’s Wedding Etiquette
As family life grows more complex, today’s weddings are more complicated than ever. If you’re struggling with the invitation list, who to choose as your officiant, how to word and address invitations, and how to handle awkward and delicate family situations, look to the sixth edition of the classic guide to weddings, Emily Post’s Wedding Etiquette ($29.99, Wm. Morrow, 9780062326102). Push stress aside as you consult the most trusted resource so that you and your guests can enjoy the wedding.

Rustic Chic Wedding
If a vintage-inspired, timeless wedding with a hint of DIY for a personal touch resonates with the bride and groom’s vision of their special day, Morgann Hill offers an indispensable guide with Rustic Chic Wedding: 55 Projects for Crafting Your Own Wedding Style ($18, Running Press, 9780762448838). Combine classic style with the personal touch that will express your love story — and create a most memorable celebration.

Your Life Calling
Reaching fifty can mean a fresh new chapter in life, where you’re more vital now than ten years ago and ready to do more. Jane Pauley, one of America’s most beloved and trusted broadcast journalists, gives voice to the opportunities offering insight from the fascinating people she has met during her career with the “Today” show. What are you supposed to do with the rest of your life? Look to Your Life Calling: Reimagining the Rest of Your Life ($26, S&S, 9781476733760).

At midlife, I think a woman has more in common with her teenage children than anybody else. We all are kind of uncertain. We realize for the first time in either our lives or decades that we’re in charge now.

— Jane Pauley
The Whistling Season by Ivan Doig

“Can’t cook but doesn’t bite.” So begins the newspaper ad offering the services of an “A-1 housekeeper, sound morals, exceptional disposition” that draws the attention of widower Oliver Milliron in the fall of 1909. That unforgettable season deposits the ever-whistling Rose Llewellyn and her font-of-knowledge brother, Morris Morgan, in Marias Coulee along with a stampede of homesteaders drawn by the promise of the Big Ditch, a gargantuan irrigation project intended to make the Montana prairie bloom. When the schoolmarm runs off with an itinerant preacher, Morris is pressed into service, setting the stage for the “several kinds of education” in Ivan Doig’s The Whistling Season ($14.95, Harvest, 9780156031646).

Philosophy Made Simple by Robert Hellenge

Rudy Harrington is ready for a new life. His daughters are grown, his wife has died, and the idea of running an avocado grove in Texas suddenly seems infinitely more appealing than staying in his rambling Midwestern house. Rudy heads off for a part of the world where he knows scarcely a soul. But he has a guide: a slender book called Philosophy Made Simple, each chapter highlighting the ideas of a different philosopher. No amount of Plato, Schopenhauer, or Sartre, however, can prepare Rudy for the surprises that emerge as he arranges for his daughter’s Hindu wedding and gets to know Norma Jean—an elephant with a talent for painting. In Robert Hellenge’s Philosophy Made Simple ($13.99, Back Bay, 978031613545) is an unforgettable novel about one man’s search for meaning.

The Monuments Men by Robert M Edsel

At the same time Adolf Hitler was attempting to take over the western world, his armies were methodically seeking and hoarding the finest art treasures in Europe. In a race against time, behind enemy lines, often unarmed, a special force of American and British museum directors, curators, art historians, and others, called the Monuments Men, risked their lives scouring Europe to prevent the destruction of thousands of years of culture. In The Monuments Men ($16.99, Center Street, 9781599951508), Edsel focuses on the eleven-month period between D-Day and VE Day and the mission to save the world’s great art from the Nazis.

A Tale for the Time Being by Ruth Ozeki

In Tokyo, sixteen-year-old Nao has decided there’s only one escape from her aching loneliness and her classmates’ bullying. But before she ends it all, Nao first plans to document the life of her great grandmother, a Buddhist nun who’s lived more than a century. A diary is Nao’s only solace—and will touch lives in ways she can scarcely imagine. Across the Pacific, we meet Ruth, a novelist living on a remote island who discovers a collection of artifacts washed ashore in a Hello Kitty lunchbox—possibly debris from the devastating 2011 tsunami. As the mystery of its contents unfolds, Ruth is pulled into the past, into Nao’s drama and her unknown fate, and forward into her own future. Full of Ozeki’s signature humor and deeply engaged with the relationship between writer and reader, past and present, fact and fiction, quantum physics, history, and myth, A Tale for the Time Being ($16, Penguin Books, 9780143124870) is a brilliantly inventive, beguiling story of our shared humanity and the search for home.

The Invisible Woman by Claire Tomalin

When Charles Dickens and Nelly Ternan met in 1857, she was 18: a professional actress performing in his production of “The Frozen Deep.” He was 45: a literary legend, a national treasure, married to ten children. This meeting sparked a love affair that lasted over a decade, destroying Dickens’s marriage and ending with Nelly’s near-disappearance from the public record. In Claire Tomalin rescues Nelly from obscurity, not only returning the neglected actress to her rightful place in history, but also giving us a compelling and truthful account of the great Victorian novelist. Through Dickens’s diaries, correspondence, address books, and photographs, Tomalin is able to reconstruct the relationship between Charles and Nelly, bringing it to vivid life.

A Well-Tempered Heart

Though Julia Win is a successful Manhattan lawyer, her private life has left her lost and exhausted. She begins to hear a stranger’s voice in her head, asking her questions that Julia had been trying to avoid since leaving Burma, her father’s homeland, ten years earlier. Jan-Philipp Sendker explores the passionate terrain of the human heart in A Well-Tempered Heart ($15.95, Other Press, 97815903516409), the sequel to his bestselling The Art of Hearing Heartbeats.

Under the Jeweled Sky

Born in the sixties to an Indian mother and an English jazz musician father, Alison McQueen can write about love in India with authority. In Under the Jeweled Sky ($14.99, Sourcebooks, 9781402288760), we meet Sophie, disenchanted with both the man and the country she had fallen in love with ten years earlier. McQueen gives us a tender story of love, loss of innocence, and the aftermath of a terrible decision no one knew how to avoid.

The Imposter Bride

Lily arrives in Montreal in the wake of WWII, expecting to be Sol Kramer’s mail-order bride. When Sol backs out, his brother Nathan decides to marry Lily out of pity. Her attempt to live out her life as Lily Kramer shatters when she disappears, leaving a new husband and a baby daughter with only a diary, a large uncut diamond — and a need to find the truth. The Imposter Bride ($15.99, Griffin, 9781250043078), by Nancy Richler, is an unforgettable quest for identity and testament to the power of family and memory.

Flora

A fiercely imaginative child, ten-year-old Helen is desperate to keep her house intact with all its ghosts and stories after losing her mother and grandmother seven years earlier. Now, as WWII draws to an end, her mother’s 22-year-old cousin Flora is determined to do her best for Helen while her father is off doing secret work at Oak Ridge. Gail Godwin tells a story of love, regret, and the things we can’t undo in Flora ($16, Bloomsbury, 978-1620401224).
Meet Annie Hansen
Give Me Chocolate
Saturday, February 8, 1-3 pm
In the quaint river town of Geneva, Illinois, Kelly Clark comes home to re-start her life after a horrific divorce. She settles into the apartment above Chocolate Love, her sister's specialty dessert shop in the Historic District of Geneva. Things start to look up when she re-connects with an old flame, Jack. Yet just when it looks like she is getting her life on track, she stumbles over a dead body in the kitchen of Chocolate Love. Has her violent past followed her home to Geneva?

Join us to meet Annie Hansen, creator of the award-winning author of the Kelly Clark Mystery Series, and enjoy learning about how life unfolds for Kelly in Give Me Chocolate ($14.95, Weaving Dreams, 9781937148225).

Meet M.E. May
Ensconced
Saturday, March 8, 1 pm
Missing Person Detective and loving family man, Tyrone Mayhew, faces one of the toughest cases of his career. When he initially investigated this cold Missing Person case ten years ago, the mother of three young boys disappeared without a trace. When Wendy Matherson's car is discovered in a newly opened section of a reservoir by a pair of fishermen, the case is reopened.

Tyrone soon finds the victim's husband and two eldest sons less than cooperative. The youngest son, however, is more than willing to help. Unfortunately, it appears that his memories are so deeply ensconced in his subconscious that he cannot remember the facts.

The deeper the detectives dig into the old case files, the more errors they find. Tyrone begins to doubt himself and his previous partner who is now retired and living in Ohio. As Tyrone hunts for clues, he receives several warnings from an anonymous person who wishes for him to stop the investigation — the last warning placing his entire family in mortal danger.

Will Wendy's youngest son remember what really happened the night she disappeared? What secrets are Wendy's husband and eldest sons hiding? Will this case finally reach resolution or will it tear Tyrone's happy life completely apart?

Come meet Michelle May and learn about the fascinating story of the cold case that has haunted Detective Mayhew for ten years in Ensconced.

Meet Joelle Carbonneau
Independent Study
Tuesday, February 11, 7 pm
In Carbonneau’s series debut The Testing, sixteen-year-old Cia Vale was chosen by the United Commonwealth government as one of the best and brightest graduates of all the colonies... a promising leader in the effort to revitalize postwar civilization. In Independent Study ($17.99, HMH for Young Readers, 9780547959207), Cia is a freshman at the University in Tosu City with her hometown sweetheart, Tomas — and though the government has tried to erase her memory of the brutal horrors of The Testing, Cia remembers. Her attempts to expose the ugly truth behind the government’s murderous programs put her — and her loved ones — in a world of danger. But the future of the Commonwealth depends on her. Ignorance is bliss, but are Cia’s so-called friends trusted allies or traitors in this survival story? Recommended for readers ages 13 and up.

Meet Patricia Murphy
Horse Club
Saturday, February 22, 11 am
Holy horses, horse lovers! Join award-winning children's author, Patricia J. Murphy, for BTL's first-ever HORSE-A-PALOOZA. Listen to her read from her latest early chapter book and learn how to draw your dream horse — and much more.

Emma adores horses as much as she idolizes her older sister, Amanda. She dreams about riding a cinnamon-colored horse in a show alongside her one day. Emma’s wish looks like it’s about to come true — but it’s not such a smooth ride. Join Emma and Amanda at Paddock Promises’ camp in Horse Club ($16.99, DK, 9781465418111).

With rich, descriptive vocabulary, and interactive elements including diaries, recipes, poetry, character profiles, diagrams, and articles to support the stories, “DK Adventures” focus on engaging, action-packed topics that will develop comprehension skills and continue to build a child's love of reading. Recommended for readers ages 8 to 11.

Meet Dan Campana & Rob Carroll
Wrigley Field: 100 Stories for 100 Years
Saturday, March 29, 1 pm
It's almost baseball season and we're thrilled to have Dan and Rob return to Woodstock to share their stories of all things Wrigley and Cubs!

Charge through the turnstiles of this collection of personal stories about baseball's greatest ballpark and the sacred space it occupies in the hearts of Cubs fans and the soul of Wrigleyville. With contributors like Bob Costas, Rick Sutcliffe and Steve Stone, the stories salute the legacy that has made Wrigley such an unforgettable part of baseball and Chicago for the last century. These one hundred stories reflect the variety of millions of Cubs fans around the world, from those whose relationship with the Friendly Confines has lasted a lifetime to those who are taking their seats up close to the ivy for the very first time.

For the latest event details, visit: ReadBetweenTheLynes.com