



THE OCTAVIAN

Octavia Books' bi-monthly newsletter for booklovers

August/September 2010



OCTAVIA BOOKS

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Let Us Entertain You

Star Island

No one can entertain you quite like Carl Hiaasen, with such madcap adventures and eccentric characters. He's at it again with *Star Island* (\$26.95, Knopf, 978-0-307-27258-4), a hilarious spin on life in the celebrity fast lane. You'll meet Cherry Pye, a pop star who needs an undercover stunt double for public appearances when she is too wasted on drugs and alcohol to be seen. Ann, mistaken for Cherry, is kidnapped from a South Beach hotel by obsessed paparazzo Bang Abbott. Cherry's handlers – quite the collection of misfits themselves – must find a way to rescue Ann while keeping her existence a secret from Cherry's public – and from Cherry herself. All will be revealed, in vintage Hiaasen style.



The Tower, the Zoo, and the Tortoise

Balthazar Jones is a Beefeater who has lived in the Tower of London with his loving wife, Hebe, and his 120-year-old pet tortoise for the past eight years. It's no easy job living and working in a tourist attraction where a number of eccentric characters call the Tower's maze of ancient buildings and spiral staircases home. When Balthazar is tasked with setting up an elaborate menagerie within the Tower walls to house the many exotic animals gifted to the Queen, life gets all the more interesting. Hebe decides to leave him and his beloved tortoise "runs" away. The charm and whimsy of Julia Stuart's *The Tower, the Zoo, and the Tortoise* (\$24.95, Doubleday, 978-0-385-53328-7) calls to mind the delightful novels of Alexander McCall Smith and the beauty of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*. The irresistible characters in this novel will stay with you long after you turn the stunning last page. Avail. 8/10

Dancing Backwards

Violet Hetherington has taken the rash step of joining a transatlantic cruise to New York to visit Edwin, an old friend. As she makes the six-day crossing, she relives the traumatic events that led to her losing Edwin's friendship and abandoning her career as a poet for the safety of marriage and domesticity. Despite her natural reserve, she meets a rich variety of passengers traveling with her, who affect her understanding of her own past. Most significant, she meets Dino, the dancing host, whose motives in befriending Vi are shady but who teaches her to ballroom dance and inadvertently helps her to recover from her past. Moving between the late sixties and the present day, *Dancing Backwards* (\$25, FSG, 978-0-374-22316-8) is written with the lightness of touch and psychological insight that characterize Salley Vickers's acclaimed work. This bittersweet novel is subtle, poignant, and wonderfully entertaining.

"If you enjoy the work of Marilynne Robinson, Penelope Fitzgerald, James Salter or Anita Brookner, you should be reading Vickers."

— Michael Dirda, *The Washington Post Book World*

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OCTAVIA BOOKS



DOING OUR PART TO KEEP AMERICA INTERESTING



Dear Local Booklover,



Just walking inside Octavia Books has become a welcome escape, given the craziness of the world around us. It feels really refreshing to be surrounded by all the books that remind us of the fullness of life.

While most news stories this summer have been intense, for balance we escape into a great novel, share a fun storybook

with little ones, or find an inspiring memoir that reminds us of life's possibilities.

The lesson of the moment seems to be that we simply need to be mindful of all that we are letting into our heads. With intrusive pop-up window ads on the computer, the deluge of email, and the beeping and buzzing of gadgets all around us, there are times that we must limit the distractions for our own peace of mind.

Earlier this summer, *The New York Times* ran an article by Matt Richtel, who suggests that we are paying a steep mental price for the prominent role we've allowed technology to play in our lives. If our brains are being rewired by technology so that Attention Deficit Disorder has now become so commonplace, perhaps it's time for us to take a good, hard look at our priorities — and create a healthier balance in our daily lives.

Like physical exercise for our bodies, we're learning that our brains need exercise as well, and periods of rest even more so. A friend recently confessed to catching herself skimming a beautifully written novel — and stopped to realize that zipping through a work like this isn't what the gift of reading is all about. If you've previously thought that your quiet time for reading was a luxury, it now seems like a necessity for overall health.

At Octavia Books, we're increasingly mindful of making conscious choices ... using technology as we must, but not letting it devour all of our time and attention. There's a growing need to guard that quiet space.

If summer (and the whole year) feels like it's rushing right by, we invite you to stop by Octavia Books real soon. Enter an oasis just for readers. You'll discover the fullness of life reflected on our display tables and bookshelves. Here, you can pick what you want to feed your brain right now — what your body and your spirit need at this very moment.

We hope you'll savor the last days of summer. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Judith A. Rafetto *Thomas P. Soumbwa*

INDIE
BOUND

MAY WE RECOMMEND...

At Octavia Books, we love talking about great books with customers. Here are some of our new staff favorites.



Alden Eagle recommends:

You Never Give Me Your Money:

The Beatles After the Breakup

Written by Peter Doggett, *You Never Give Me Your Money* (\$24.99, Harper, 978-0-0617-7446-1) is an illuminating account of the Beatles' turbulent years leading to their split and the different paths John, Paul, George, and Ringo followed after leaving the biggest rock band in the world. Doggett gives us a portrait of four friends pushed apart by their youthful inability to handle their own success. While certain anecdotes can be disheartening — like the stories of Lennon's addiction-fueled depression — Doggett's book is overall an enjoyable read covering lesser-known aspects of the Beatles' history.



James Wilson recommends:

For the Win

In the near future, massive role playing games have created an economy bigger than some "real" countries. Players mine gold and gather objects to be resold, but what happens when they want to organize into unions for fair wages and better working conditions? The implications are global — and so are the protagonists in this sweeping novel about Economy writ large. Cory Doctorow does a good job of explaining some complex economic issues that play an integral role in *For the Win* (\$17.99, Tor, 978-0-7653-2216-6).

Sponsored by Octavia Books!

The Sound of Books

Every Wednesday at 7:35 am



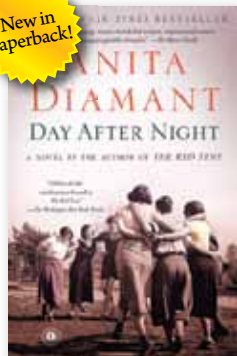
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Stories to Touch Your Soul

New in Paperback!



Day After Night

Just as she gave voice to the silent women of the Old Testament in *The Red Tent*, Anita Diamant creates a cast of breathtakingly vivid characters – four young women who escaped to Israel from Nazi Europe – in this intensely dramatic novel. *Day After Night* (\$15, Scribner, 978-0-743-29985-5) is based on the extraordinary true story of the October 1945 rescue of more than two hundred prisoners from an internment camp for “illegal” immigrants run by the British military. Avail. 8/10

What is Left the Daughter

In a letter to his grown daughter, from whom he has been forever estranged, Wyatt Hillyer attempts to explain the events of twenty years earlier during WWII. Suddenly orphaned at seventeen when his parents commit suicide, Wyatt goes to live with relatives, and promptly falls for his adoptive cousin Tilda. When Tilda's new love, a German student, is murdered, Wyatt offers solace and fathers Tilda's baby. In *What is Left the Daughter* (\$25, HMH, 978-0-618-73543-3), Howard Norman recognizes the mysteries of human character in wartime.



Elegies for the Brokenhearted

Who are the people you'll never forget? For Mary Murphy, there are five, as she tells us the story of her life in five quirky elegies. From a series of miserable jobs to her “reborn” mother's deathbed, Mary finds hope in the most surprising places. *Elegies for the Brokenhearted* (\$23.95, W.W. Norton, 978-0-393-06140-6) is Christie Hodgen's unconventional and moving story about identity, belonging, and family.

Of Bees and Mist

Erick Setiawan's engrossing fable, *Of Bees and Mist* (\$15, Simon & Schuster, 978-1-416-59625-7), chronicles three generations of women under one family tree over a period of thirty years – their galvanic love and passion, their shifting alliances, their superstitions and complex domestic politics – and places them in a mythical town where spirits and spells, witchcraft and demons, and prophets and clairvoyance are an everyday reality.

New in Paperback!

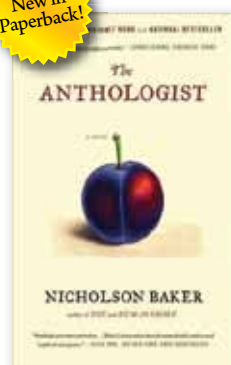


This Must Be the Place

Mona Jones and her daughter, Oneida, are two loners and self-declared outcasts who have formed a perfectly insular family unit. But their quiet life is upended when Arthur Rook, devastated by the death of his wife, shows up carrying a shoe box containing his wife's mementos and keepsakes, including a postcard from sixteen years ago, addressed to Mona but never sent. *This Must Be the Place* (\$25, Henry Holt, 978-0-805-09230-1) by Kate Racculia is a heartbreakingly real novel about lost souls finding one another.



New in Paperback!



The Anthologist

Paul Chowder is a once-in-a-while-published kind of poet who is writing the introduction to a new anthology of poetry. He's having a hard time getting started, because his career is floundering, his girlfriend recently left him, and he's thinking about the great poets throughout history who have suffered far worse. Nicholson Baker's *The Anthologist* (\$15, Simon & Schuster, 978-1-416-57245-9) is a tenderly romantic story that makes us realize the importance of poetry to our lives.

The Doctor and the Diva

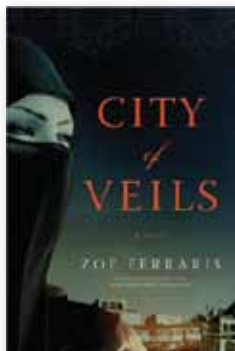
Set in 1903, Adrienne McDonnell's debut novel, *The Doctor and the Diva* (\$26.95, Viking, 978-0-670-02188-8) is a tale of passionate love affairs, dangerous decisions, and a woman's irreconcilable desires as she is forced to choose between the child she has always longed for and the opera career she cannot live without. Inspired by the author's family history, the novel is sensual, sexy, and heart-stopping in its bittersweet beauty.



READ GLOBALLY
SHOP LOCALLY

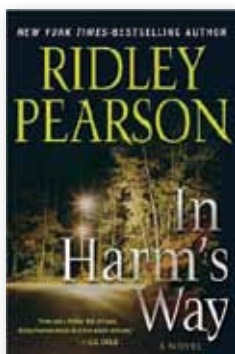
INDIE
BOUND

Chills and Thrills



City of Veils

When the body of a brutally beaten woman is found on the beach in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Detective Osama Ibrahim dreads investigating another unsolvable murder – all too common in a city where the veils of conservative Islam keep women as anonymous in life as the victim is in death. *City of Veils* (\$24.99, Little, Brown, 978-0-316-07427-8), by Zoe Ferraris, combines a suspenseful and tightly woven mystery with an intimate and nuanced portrait of women's lives in the Middle East. Avail. 8/9



In Harm's Way

Ridley Pearson has written a number of edge-of-your-seat thrillers, and now returns with another Walt Fleming novel, *In Harm's Way* (\$25.95, Putnam, 978-0-399-15654-0). Fleming's budding relationship with photographer Fiona Kenshaw hits a rough patch after Fiona is involved in a heroic river rescue and she attempts to duck the press. Then Walt gets a phone call about a recent murder that may have a Sun Valley connection. He senses a link – but can he pull the pieces together in time?



The Vanishing of Katharina Linden

Not since *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* has a book arrived in America from Europe with such critical praise and popularity. *The Vanishing of Katharina Linden* (\$24, Delacorte, 978-0-385-34417-3), an unforgettable debut by Helen Grant, is the story of ten-year-old Pia's big heart and even bigger imagination, and of a world full of mystery, good, and evil – a stunningly suspenseful coming-of-age novel. Avail. 8/10



Bad Things Happen

David Loogan is hoping to escape a violent past by living a quiet life in Ann Arbor. When he's hired at a mystery magazine, whose publisher soon turns up dead, it's up to Elizabeth, the most talented detective at the AAPD, to solve both the murder and the mystery of Loogan himself. *Bad Things Happen* (\$15, Berkley, 978-0-425-23440-2), by Harry Dolan, is witty, suspenseful, and endless fun.

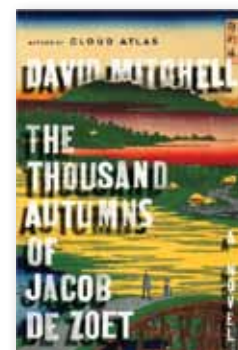
The News Where You Are

Frank Allcroft, a television news anchor with a famously corny on-screen persona, is on the verge of a mid-life crisis and is haunted by the loss of his predecessor and friend Phil. As Frank uncovers the shocking truth behind Phil's death, it is his beloved young daughter, Mo, who points him toward the future. *The News Where You Are* (\$15, Holt McDougal, 978-0-805-09180-9) is a literary thriller from Catherine O'Flynn that explores what we do and don't leave behind.



The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet

Jacob is a young Dutchman who comes to the Japanese Empire's single port in 1799, to earn enough to win the hand of his wealthy fiancée back in Holland. But his intentions are eclipsed after a chance encounter with the daughter of a Samurai doctor. Jacob finds his vision clouded, one rash promise made and then fatefully broken. *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet* (\$26, Random House, 978-1-400-06545-5), by David Mitchell, is a genre-bending historical novel with plenty of mystery and intrigue mixed in.



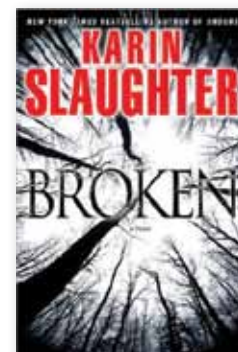
Still Missing

Chevy Stevens's debut novel, *Still Missing* (\$24.99, St. Martin's Press, 978-0-312-59567-8), is a psychological thriller that has already garnered some rave reviews. Through sessions with her psychiatrist, thirty-two year old Annie, a realtor abducted by a psychopath from an open house, recounts the year she was held captive in a remote mountain cabin. Interwoven is a second narrative about the events following her escape, and the struggle to put the pieces of her shattered life back together.

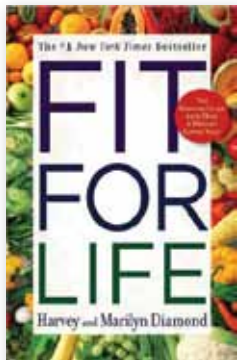


Broken

Karin Slaughter's internationally bestselling novels are as notable for their vivid portraits of lives shadowed by loss and heartbreak as they are for their dramatic criminal investigations. *Broken* (\$26, Delacorte, 978-0-385-34197-4), her latest offering, features Special Agent Will Trent, who finds a police department determined to protect its own and far too many unanswered questions about a prisoner's death. As he investigates, Trent unleashes a case filled with explosive secrets – and encounters a thin blue line that could be murderous if crossed.



Be Well

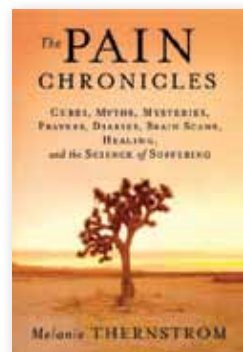
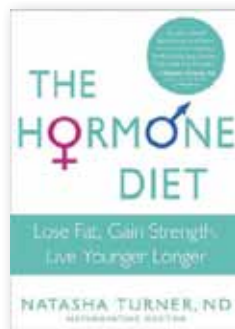


Fit For Life

It's the program that shatters all the myths: *Fit For Life* (\$14.99, Wellness Central, 978-0-446-55364-3) is the international bestseller that explains how to change both your figure and your life by proving it's not only what you eat, but also when and how. You'll learn to eat all kinds of foods and discover insights on how to combine the right foods that work with your natural body cycles. A 4-week meal plan, menus, shopping tips, and exercises will get you empowered for positive, lasting changes in how you eat and how you feel. Avail. 8/16

The Hormone Diet

When your hormones are out of whack, your life can be frustrated with sleeplessness, cravings, mood swings, fatigue, and an inability to lose weight. Drawing from her own struggles with hormone imbalance, naturopathic doctor Natasha Turner shares her three-step program for men and women of all ages in *The Hormone Diet* (\$24.99, Rodale, 978-1-605-29402-5). This easy-to-follow approach to total wellness will teach you to read the powerful chemical messages in your body, identify which hormones are out of balance, and make the changes that will help you feel better.



The Pain Chronicles

Pain is more widespread, misdiagnosed, and under-treated than any major disease. Inspired by her personal struggle with chronic pain, Melanie Thernstrom weaves together our understanding of pain from science, history, religion, philosophy, anthropology, literature, and art in her deeply humane work, *The Pain Chronicles* (\$27, FSG, 978-0-865-47681-3). Her work is filled with helpful information, wisdom – and hope that we are not as helpless as we may fear.

Born Round

Frank Bruni was born round – round as in stout, chubby, and always hungry. When named the restaurant critic for the *New York Times* in 2004, he knew he would be performing one of the most watched tasks in the epicurean universe. *Born Round: A Story of Family, Food and a Ferocious Appetite* (\$16, Penguin, 978-0-143-11767-4), Bruni's heartbreaking and hilarious story of his lifelong love-hate affair with food, will speak to everyone who's struggled to learn to love food just enough.

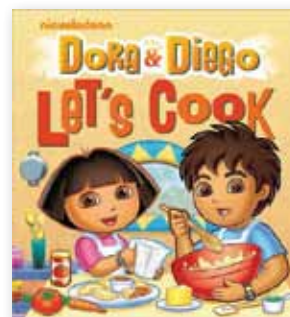
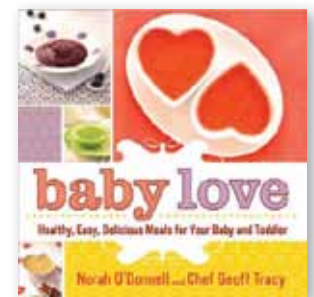


Raising Confident Readers

We all know the importance of reading aloud to our children, but beyond that, how do kids really learn to read? In *Raising Confident Readers* (\$14.95, Da Capo, 978-0-738-21397-2), Dr. J. Richard Gentry describes how to teach reading before your child enters kindergarten and how to make progress once your child is in school. With programs and activities that make reading fun, this is an essential resource for every parent who wants their child to be a lifelong learner.

Baby Love

Say good-bye to bland, processed food you feed your little one and say hello to fresh and tasty. Even those who aren't keen on cooking can make nutritious and cost-effective baby food all year long with a little coaching from Norah O'Donnell and Chef Geoff Tracy in *Baby Love: Healthy, Easy, Delicious Meals for Your Baby and Toddler* (\$19.99, St. Martin's Griffin, 978-0-312-62192-6). Making fresh baby food is actually pretty simple and you can easily make a week's worth of meals in less than one hour. Choose from more than sixty gourmet-inspired recipes.



Dora & Diego Let's Cook

Join Dora, Diego, and their friends as they introduce your child to the wonderful world of cooking in *Dora & Diego Let's Cook* (\$16.95, John Wiley & Sons, 978-0-470-63942-9). Your little ones will love to measure, wash, stir, and shape ingredients while you prepare tasty, healthy, kid-friendly meals. Have fun while teaching them about nutrition, safety, and how to cook scrumptious recipes for breakfast, lunch, dinner, or just a snack.

*"So please, oh PLEASE, we beg, we pray,
Go throw your TV set away,
And in its place you can install,
A lovely bookshelf on the wall."*



*– Roald Dahl
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

Read & Explore



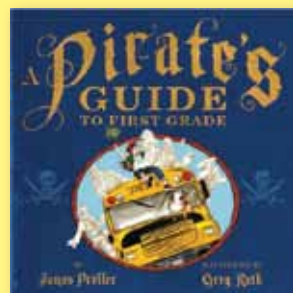
Kindergarten Diary

Starting kindergarten can be a little scary. But Annalina shows us there are lots of new and exciting things to look forward to – meeting your teacher, playing on the monkey bars, feeding the pet tortoise, and making new friends. Experience the ups and downs of the first days

of kindergarten through Annalina's very own diary (as told to Antoinette Portis) in *Kindergarten Diary* (\$12.99, HarperCollins, 978-0-061-45691-6) and discover why the kids in room 2K are just fine! Ages 4-6

A Pirate's Guide to First Grade

Arrrgh! It's the first day of first grade, so it's all hands on deck for a young pirate and his crew. How much trouble can they get into? What will they do at recess? And, most important, what treasure awaits them at school? To find out, join a boy and his band of pirates in *A Pirate's Guide to First Grade* (\$16.99, Feiweil & Friends, 978-0-312-36928-6) by James Preller. Ages 4-8



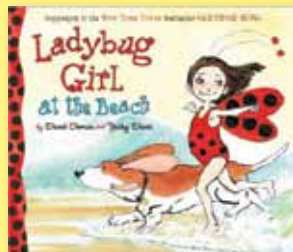
Children Make Terrible Pets

When Lucy, a young bear, discovers a boy in the woods, she's absolutely delighted. She brings him home and begs her mom to let her keep him, even though her mom warns, "Children make terrible pets." But mom relents, and Lucy gets to name her new pet Squeakers. Through a series of hilarious and surprising scenes, readers can join Lucy and Squeakers on their day of fun and decide for themselves in *Children Make Terrible Pets* (\$16.99,

Little Brown, 978-0-316-01548-6), a funny twist on a first-pet story by Peter Brown. Ages 4-8. Avail. 9/7

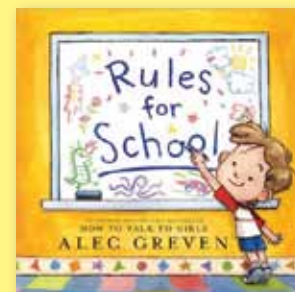
Ladybug Girl at the Beach

Lulu loves the beach. Well, she's never been there before, but she knows she will love it. And then she sees the ocean and it is big and loud and rough. That's okay – Lulu wanted to build sand castles and fly her kite with Bingo anyway. But while they are building their sand castle, the sneaky ocean comes in and tries to steal Lulu's favorite pail. Lulu conquers her fear of the ocean when she remembers that Ladybug Girl can do anything in *Ladybug Girl at the Beach* (\$16.99, Dial, 978-0-803-73416-6), a gorgeously illustrated book by Jacky Davis in this popular series by David Soman. Ages 4-8



Rules for School

It's time for school. What does that mean? Lucky for you, Alec Greven has just turned eleven, and he's seen it all. Alec passes down his sixth-grade wisdom and gives advice that will help every student who's just starting out or got off on the wrong foot. Alec will help you know where to sit on the bus, learn how to find your way around the halls, and what to do to make sure you stay on your teacher's good side in *Rules for School* (\$9.99, Collins, 978-0-061-95170-1). Ages 4-8



How Rocket Learned to Read

An irresistible fuzzy black and white pup named Rocket is minding his own business one morning when he overhears a story being read aloud by a little yellow bird and gets hooked in. Before she leaves for the winter, the little yellow bird teaches Rocket the alphabet and helps him sound out words. Soon, Rocket is reading all by himself. *How Rocket Learned to Read* (\$17.99, Schwartz & Wade, 978-0-375-85899-

4), written and illustrated by Tad Hills, is a charming learning-to-read adventure. Ages 4-8

Don't Call Me Pruneface!

Paul is a good boy. Everybody says so. But his new neighbor is enough to try anyone's patience. She walks her cat on a leash, calls Paul and his dog mean names, and makes a general nuisance of herself. Will the mild-mannered Paul survive the first week next door to Prudence? Debut picture book author Janet Reed Ahearn and illustrator Drazen Kozjan use humor and style to show how to confront one's peers and learn to get along in *Don't Call Me Pruneface!* (\$16.99, Hyperion, 978-1-423-11918-0). Ages 4-8. Avail. 8/3



Lost Boy

People around the world know the story of Peter Pan, the boy who would not grow up, but not many know the story of his creator, J. M. Barrie. Barrie's childhood was marked by sorrow, but also held great adventure. His adult life and relationship with the Davies family brought about a second childhood that helped him to create his lasting triumph. Masterfully illustrated by Steve Adams and using Barrie's own words, Jane Yolen tells the story of the author and the boys who changed his life in *Lost Boy: The Story of the Man Who Created Peter Pan* (\$17.99, Dutton, 978-0-525-47886-7). Ages 6-10. Avail. 8/5



Great Escapes



The Adventures of Nanny Piggins

When stingy Mr. Green planted a “Nanny Wanted” sign on his front lawn for his three children, he had no idea his ad would be answered by a pig – a fabulously sassy, impeccably dressed pig with an insatiable urge to eat chocolate, a high-flying spirit, and an unending sense of fun. *The Adventures of Nanny Piggins* (\$15.99, Little Brown, 978-0-316-06819-2) is a wildly funny debut novel by comedian and children’s TV writer R.A. Spratt. Ages 8-12. Avail. 8/16



Mockingjay

Against all odds, Katniss Everdeen has survived the Hunger Games twice, but she’s still not safe. The Capitol is angry and wants revenge. Who do they think should pay for the unrest? Katniss. And no one else is safe either...not Katniss’s family, her friends, nor the people of District 12. Powerful and haunting, *Mockingjay* (\$17.99, Scholastic, 978-0-439-02351-1) is the thrilling final installment of Suzanne Collins’s groundbreaking *Hunger Games* trilogy. Ages 12+. Avail. 8/24

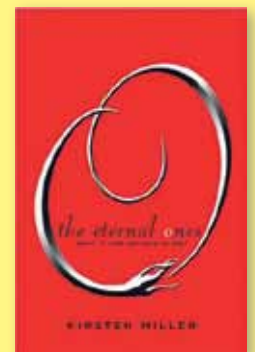
Jack Blank and the Imagine Nation

A lifelong love of comic books inspired Matt Myklusch to write *Jack Blank and the Imagine Nation* (\$16.99, Aladdin, 978-1-416-99561-6), a knock-out epic story with action, humor, adventure, heroes, villains, and superpowers. Dive into this action-packed story filled with fantasy and magic – and get the flashlight ready for into-the-night reading! This is the first release of the trilogy. Ages 8-12. Avail. 8/3



The Eternal Ones

Haven Moore can’t control her visions of a past with a boy called Ethan and a life in New York that ended in fiery tragedy. Dressmaking keeps her sane, since she lives with her widowed and heartbroken mother in her tyrannical grandmother’s house in a tiny town in Tennessee. Then an impossible group of coincidences conspire to force her to flee to New York, to discover who she is, and who she was in *The Eternal Ones* (\$17.99, Razorbill, 978-1-595-14308-2), an amazing metaphysical and mythical novel by Kirsten Miller. Ages 12+. Avail. 8/10



Ninth Ward

Twelve-year-old Lanesha lives in a tight-knit community in New Orleans’s Ninth Ward. Mama Ya-Ya, her fiercely loving caretaker, is wise in the ways of the world and able to predict the future. So when Mama Ya-Ya’s visions show a powerful hurricane approaching, it’s up to Lanesha to call upon the hope and strength Mama Ya-Ya has given her to help them both survive the storm. *Ninth Ward* (\$15.99, Little Brown, 978-0-316-04307-6) is about transformation and a celebration of resilience, friendship, and family by Jewell Parker Rhodes. Ages 10-12. Avail. 8/16

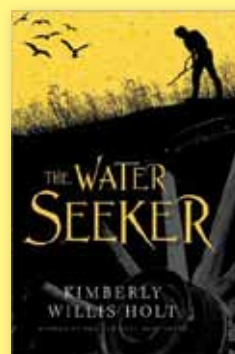


Sleepless

Eron DeMarchelle is a Sandman, once a human, now a supernatural being whose purpose is to seduce his human charges to sleep. Though he can communicate through dreams, he isn’t encouraged to do so. But he can’t deny that he feels something for Julia, a lonely girl with fiery red hair and sad dreams. Will he risk everything for a chance to be with the girl he loves? *Sleepless* (\$16.99, Delacorte, 978-0-385-73848-4), Cynthia Balog’s follow-up to *Fairy Tale*, is filled with wit, supernatural delights, and star-crossed romance. Ages 14+

The Water Seeker

Amos Kincaid is the son of a dowser – a person gifted in knowing how to “find” water deep in the ground. As a young person Amos doesn’t reveal his gift to others, but learns about life’s harsh realities, especially the pain in losing loved ones along the Oregon Trail. *The Water Seeker* (\$16.99, Henry Holt, 978-0-805-08020-9) by National Book Award winner Kimberly Willis Holt is an epic novel about the westward expansion and one man’s destiny as he searches for love and family. Ages 10-14



Siren

Seventeen-year-old Vanessa Sands is afraid of everything, but her fearless older sister Justine has always been there to coach her through every challenge. That is until Justine goes cliff diving one night and her lifeless body washes up on shore the next day. Vanessa can’t help feeling that her sister’s death was more than an accident. She vows to find answers just as yet another body washes ashore. Tricia Rayburn’s *Siren* (\$17.99, Egmont USA, 978-1-606-84074-0) is part mystery, part romance and a perfect supernatural thriller. Ages 14+



Finding Our Place

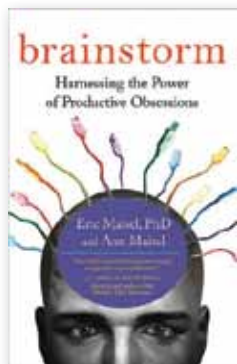
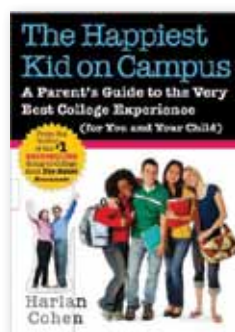


How to Survive your Freshman Year

What better way to know what to expect – and how best to prepare for life at college – than to take advice from peers? Hundreds of other students who have survived their first year of college offer insights on every aspect of college life, including what to take to the dorm, living with roommates, using Facebook and other social media networks, choosing classes, studying, finances, and much more in *How to Survive Your Freshman Year* (\$15.95, Hundreds of Heads, 978-1-9335-1231-0). Also included is expert input from college advisors and officers.

The Happiest Kid on Campus

If you're sending a child off to school, no doubt you have some concerns. Harlan Cohen, America's most trusted college life expert, coaches you through the process as he delivers the best facts, stats, tips, stores, and advice in *The Happiest Kid on Campus* (\$14.99, Sourcebooks, 978-1-402-23942-7). You'll have a better understanding of everything from paying the bills, calling, what to expect during the first few months, grades, safety and more in this witty, wise, and valuable guide.

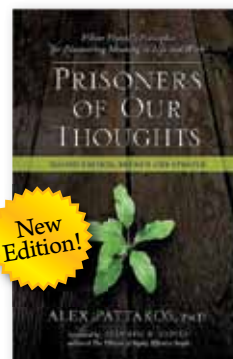
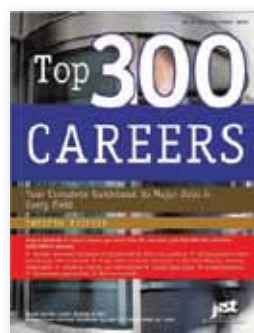


Brainstorm

If you've found yourself reliving a workplace squabble during an entire weekend, spent a family visit stewing over childhood issues, or spent hours beating yourself up, you know how frustrating it can be to see how obsessing like this gets us nowhere – like a hamster on a wheel. Creativity expert Eric Maisel suggests there's such a thing as productive obsession where we use that energy to our creative advantage. Learn how to shift and focus your attention in *Brainstorm: Harnessing the Power of Productive Obsessions* (\$14.95, New World Library, 978-1-5773-1621-3). Redirect your thoughts and discover a life skill that frees you for a happier, healthier life.

Top 300 Careers

Explore the world of work in *Top 300 Careers: Your Complete Guidebook to Major Jobs in Every Field* (\$19.95, JIST Works, 978-1-5935-7772-8). The U.S. Department of Labor presents thorough, current, and interesting descriptions for all major jobs – covering 90% of the workforce. If you're looking for ideas on how to combine your interests, skills, and education, this is a fabulous way to research the possibilities.



Prisoners of Our Thoughts

Viktor Frankl's *Man's Search for Meaning* is one of the most important books of modern times. Alex Pattakos – who Frankl urged to write this book – draws on the entire body of Frankl's work to offer meaning-focused principles and how they can be applied to everyday life and work in the 21st century. In *Prisoners of Our Thoughts* (\$17.95, Berrett-Koehler, 978-1-605-09524-0), we not only learn about our ultimate freedom to choose our attitude no matter the situation, but read the stories of others and benefit from exercises that help us open up to the ageless wisdom that proves most valuable in these difficult of times.

What Color Is Your Parachute?

In this economy, where are the jobs? If you or someone you care about is wondering about their place in today's job market, look to *What Color Is Your Parachute? 2011* (\$18.99, Ten Speed, 978-1-580-08270-9), the bestselling job-hunting book in the world for more than three decades. In this latest edition, career guru Richard N. Bolles will lead you to find meaningful work and help you navigate ads, agencies, and online sources.



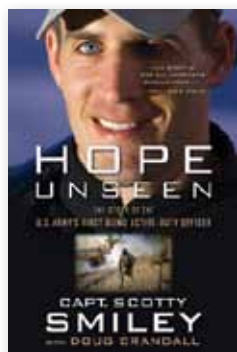
Wild West 2.0

More than ever before, your online image and reputation controls your success in “real world” business and personal life. One disgruntled employee, unhinged customer, jealous competitor, or bitter ex can trash your reputation in just a few keystrokes – leaving you to clean up the damage. In *Wild West 2.0: How to Protect and Restore Your Online Reputation on the Untamed Social Frontier* (\$24.95, AMACOM, 978-0-8144-1509-2), Michael Fertik and David Thompson provide tips to creating layers of truthful online content so you can protect the reputation you work so hard to develop and maintain.



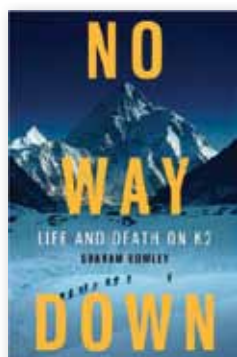
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Understanding Our World



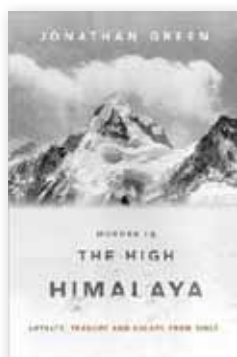
Hope Unseen

Captain Scotty Smiley was the U.S. Army's first blind active-duty officer and its first blind company commander. In 2005, he lost use of both eyes when a suicide car bomber blew himself up near Scotty's vehicle. He's taught a course in leadership at West Point and now commands the Warrior Transition Unit at the Medical Center. *Hope Unseen: A Soldier's Journey of Perseverance and Faith* (\$24.99, Howard Books, 978-1-4391-8379-3) is his remarkable and inspiring story of triumph over tragedy. Avail. 9/14



No Way Down

Journalist Graham Bowley re-creates one of the most dramatic tales of death and survival in mountaineering history, vividly taking readers through the tragic 2008 K2 ascent that claimed the lives of eleven climbers, severely injured two others, and made headlines around the world. Based on interviews with surviving climbers, porters, and family and friends of those who died, *No Way Down: Life and Death on K2* (\$25.99, Harper, 978-0-061-83478-3) reveals this harrowing drama in a gripping work.



Murder in the High Himalaya

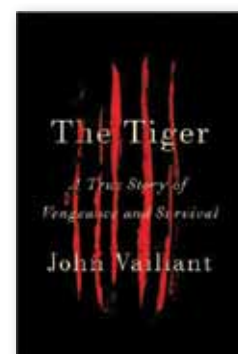
On September 30, 2006 gunfire echoed through the thin air near Advance Base Camp on Cho Oyu Mountain, nineteen miles east of Mt. Everest. To mountaineers, it offers a challenging summit; to Tibetans, Cho Oyu is a gateway to freedom. *Murder in the High Himalaya* (\$26.95, PublicAffairs, 978-1-586-48714-0) by Jonathan Green is the unforgettable account of the brutal killing of Kelsang Namtso – a seventeen-year-old Tibetan nun fleeing to India – by Chinese border guards. Witnessed by dozens of Western climbers, Kelsang's death sparked

an international debate. Green takes us into the investigation which poses enduring questions about morality and the lengths we go to achieve freedom.



The Tiger

It's December 1997, and a man-eating tiger is on the prowl outside a remote village in Russia's Far East. Injured, starving, and extremely dangerous, the tiger must be found before it strikes again. John Vaillant gives us an unforgettable portrait of this ancient, tenuous relationship between man and predator in *The Tiger: A True Story of Vengeance and Survival* (\$26.95, Knopf, 978-0-307-26893-8). Through decades of Soviet disregard for the wilds, overhunting of tigers as trophies, and the upset of the natural balance of the region, we come to understand the endangered state of the Siberian tiger in Vaillant's harrowing tale of man and nature. Avail. 8/24



Oil

The story of oil is a story of high stakes and extreme risk. It is the story of the crushing rivalries exploring for oil five miles beneath the sea, battling for control of the world's biggest corporations, and gambling billions of dollars twenty-four hours every day on oil's prices. In *Oil: Money, Politics, and Power in the 21st Century* (\$26.99, Grand Central, 978-0-446-54798-7), acclaimed investigative reporter Tom Bower gathers unprecedented first-hand information from hundreds of sources to give readers the definitive, untold modern history of oil – the ultimate story of arrogance, intrigue, and greed.



\$20 Per Gallon

After the country has experienced the horror of the BP oil disaster in the Gulf, the timing couldn't be better for the paperback release of Christopher Steiner's *\$20 Per Gallon: How the Inevitable Rise in the Price of Gasoline Will Change Our Lives for the Better* (\$15.99, Grand Central, 978-0-446-54955-4). Steiner, an engineer before becoming a journalist, poses the grim realities, then probes how the liberation of technology and innovation, triggered by climbing gas prices, will prompt us to rethink our priorities and commit to positive and lasting changes in the way we live.

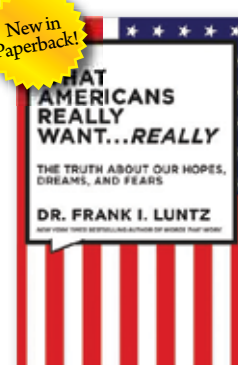
New in Paperback!



What Americans Really Want

From restaurant booths to voting booths, pollster Frank Luntz has watched and assessed our private habits, our public interests, and our hopes and fears. What are the five things Americans want the most? What do we really want in our daily lives? From our government? For our families? And how does understanding what Americans want allow businesses to thrive? *What Americans Really Want* (\$15.99, Hyperion, 978-1-401-31041-7), based on a decade of face-to-face interviews with 25,000 people and telephone polls with one million more, Luntz disassembles the preconceived notions we have about one another and presents a sometimes scary discussion of Americans' secret hopes, fears, wants, and needs. Avail. 9/14

New in Paperback!



Food & Friendship

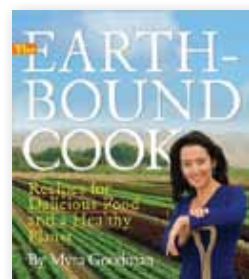
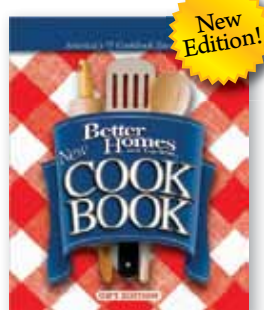
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In the Kitchen with a Good Appetite

“A Good Appetite,” Melissa Clark’s weekly column in the New York Times dining section, is about “foods that are easy to cook and that speak to everyone, either stirring a memory or creating one.” Now, Clark takes the same freewheeling yet well-informed approach that has won her countless fans and applies it to her new book, *In the Kitchen with a Good Appetite: 150 Recipes and Stories About the Food You Love* (\$27.50, Hyperion, 978-1-401-32376-9). This is a cookbook to read, savor, and cook from, again and again. Avail. 9/7

Better Homes and Gardens New Cook Book

It’s been an American favorite since the 1930s and now has been updated with hundreds of all-new recipes and a fresh, contemporary style. With more than 1,200 recipes, photos, icons that call out fast, healthy, and classic dishes, step-by-step instructions, and ideas for leftovers, *Better Homes and Gardens New Cook Book* (\$29.95, John Wiley & Sons, 978-0-470-55686-3) remains a “must” for every kitchen.



The Earth-Bound Cook

Is cage-free the same as free-range? Is grass-fed worth the price? What’s better: farmed salmon or wild? Myra Goodman – co-owner of Earthbound Farm, the country’s largest producer of organic produce and other products, inspiration behind the Earthbound Farmstand Cafe, and author of *Food to Live By* – brings both sides of the dinner dilemma together by showing us what to shop for, and how to cook it in *The EarthBound Cook: Recipes for Delicious Food and a Healthy Planet* (\$19.95, Workman, 978-0-761-15634-5). Doing the right thing never looked or tasted better. Avail. 9/2

Fiesta Rick’s

Rick Bayless has spent the last thirty years eating his way across Mexico and serves up 150 recipes and four complete menus for unforgettable parties in *Fiesta Rick’s: Fabulous Food for Great Times with Friends* (\$35, W.W. Norton, 978-0-393-05899-4). From Champagne Margaritas and Sizzling Mojitos to grilled pork tacos, “Lazy” salsa, roasted veggie enchiladas, grilled fish, chocolate-chile ice cream, and more, everyone will enjoy themselves at your next fiesta!

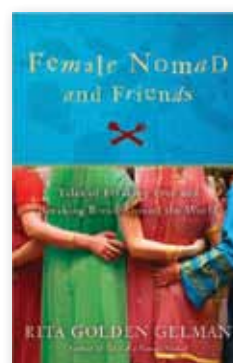
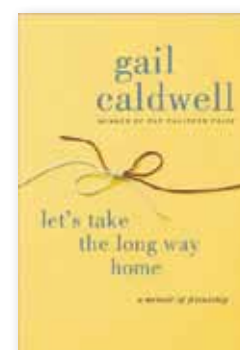


Cheap Cabernet: A Friendship

Cathie Beck was in her late thirties and taking a deep breath after years of struggling to get by. With her children off to college, Cathie found herself alone and in need of friends, so she ran a newspaper ad for a women’s group – WOW: Women on the Way. *Cheap Cabernet: A Friendship* (\$14.99, Hyperion, 978-1-401-34154-1) is the heartbreaking, ultimately triumphant memoir of a powerful friendship between two women as they learn together what living—and dying—is really about.

Let’s Take the Long Way Home

Pulitzer Prize winner Gail Caldwell writes a testament to the power of friendship, a story of how an extraordinary bond between two women can illuminate the loneliest, funniest, hardest moments in life, including the final and ultimate challenge in *Let’s Take the Long Way Home* (\$23, Random House, 978-1-400-06738-1). From disparate backgrounds but with striking emotional similarities, these two private, fiercely self-reliant women created an attachment more profound than either of them could have ever foreseen in this beautiful celebration of life and friendship.



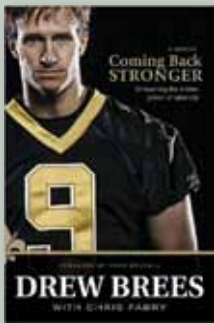
Female Nomad and Friends

In 1987, Rita Gelman sold all her possessions and became a nomad. She wrote a book about her journey and since has met thousands of readers, stayed in their homes, and sat around kitchen tables sharing stories and food and laughter. Her collection of essays (with recipes), *Female Nomad and Friends: Tales of Breaking Free and Breaking Bread Around the World* (\$15, Three Rivers, 978-0-307-58801-2), will make you laugh and cry as you take in the tales of our shared humanity.

“A strong local food supply, when you think about it, can provide some of the much needed social glue that we seem to lack in today’s culture.”

– Chef Rick Bayless

Local Flavors



Coming Back Stronger: Unleashing The Hidden Power of Adversity

When a potentially career-ending shoulder injury left quarterback Drew Brees without a team and faced with the daunting task of having to learn to throw a football all over again, coaches around the NFL wondered, “would he ever come back?” After Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, many wondered, “would the city ever come back?” And with their stadium transformed into a makeshift refugee camp, forcing the Saints to play their entire 2005 season on the road, people questioned, “would the Saints ever come back?” **Coming Back Stronger** (\$26.99, Tyndale House, 978-1-4143-3943-6) is the ultimate comeback story, not only of one of the NFL’s top quarterbacks, but also of a city and a team that many had all but given up on.



Home Team: Coaching the Saints and New Orleans Back to Life

In the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, the New Orleans Superdome became a national symbol of misery and hopelessness, where the truly desperate rode out the storm. Four years later, in that very stadium, the New Orleans Saints won the NFC championship and earned their first-ever trip to the Super Bowl. Two weeks later, the Saints soundly defeated the heavily favored Indianapolis Colts 31-17 in what would become the most-watched television event in history. In **Home Team** (\$24.95, New American Library, 978-0-4512-3261-8), Sean Payton shares the inspirational true story of how one man led a football team – and a city – to triumph in Super Bowl XLIV.



The Glass Rainbow

James Lee Burke’s eagerly awaited new novel finds Detective Dave Robicheaux back in New Iberia, Louisiana, and embroiled in the most harrowing and dangerous case of his career. Seven young women in neighboring Jefferson Davis Parish have been brutally murdered. While the crimes have all the telltale signs of a serial killer, the death of Bernadette Latiolais, a high school honor student, doesn’t fit: she is not the kind of hapless and marginalized victim psychopaths usually

prey upon. Robicheaux and his best friend, Clete Purcel, confront Herman Stanga, a notorious pimp and crack dealer whom both men despise. When Stanga turns up dead shortly after a fierce beating by Purcel, in front of numerous witnesses, the case takes a nasty turn, and Clete’s career and life are hanging by threads over the abyss.

Set against the backdrop of a paradise threatened by pernicious forces, Burke’s **The Glass Rainbow** (\$25.99, S&S, 978-1-4391-2829-9) is already being hailed as perhaps the best novel in the Robicheaux series.

Farm to Fork:

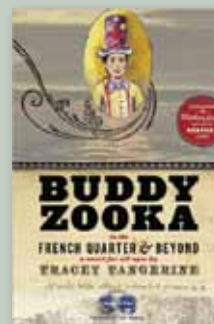
Cooking Local, Cooking Fresh

Emeril Lagasse continues his lifelong commitment to using fresh, local ingredients in his restaurants and home kitchen. He has spent the past thirty years building close relationships with farmers, fishermen, and ranchers. Fill your basket with the ripest seasonal ingredients and dig into delicious recipes such as Sweet Potato Ravioli with Sage Brown Butter, Cheesy Creole Tomato Pie, Honey-Brined Pork Chops with Nectarine Chutney, Watermelon Rind Crisp Sweet Pickles, and Rhubarb Strawberry Crisp. Even learn how to make your own cheese and pasta at home. Emeril shares his love for fresh-from-the-fields foods – and the heritage of the artisans who bring them to the table – in **Farm to Fork** (\$24.99, Harperstudio, 978-0-061-74295-8).



Buddy Zooka in the French Quarter & Beyond

Buddy Zooka brings the French Quarter to life like no one since Ignatius Reilly. In fact, if *A Confederacy of Dunces* were written by Lewis Carroll, Buddy would appear. Buddy is a happy-go-lucky musician in the French Quarter until one day he goes fishing and catches an alligator, Mardi Gator, who quickly decides to take up residence in Buddy’s hat. Thrown off his usual carefree routine, Buddy loses his smile and starts to contemplate his world. Buddy’s journey turns spiritual as faith healers show him how man has been degrading his environment and how the secret to our salvation resides within each one of us. **Buddy Zooka in the French Quarter & Beyond** (\$16, Broken Levee Books, 978-0-9741-9958-0) by Tracy Tangerine is at turns zany and contemplative, and the lesson learned is a profound one that resonates in New Orleans like nowhere else. Ages 12-18

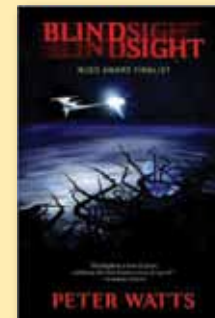


Book Clubs

Octavia Books

Science Fiction Book Club

~ Meets the 2nd Saturday of the Month at 10:30 am ~



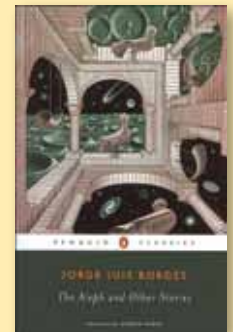
Saturday, August 14, 10:30 am
Blindsight by Peter Watts
Two months have passed since a myriad of alien objects clenched about the Earth, screaming as they burned. The heavens have been silent since – until a derelict space probe hears whispers from a distant comet. Something talks out there: but not to us.

Who should we send to meet the alien, when the alien doesn’t want to meet? **Blindsight** (\$14.95, Tor, 978-0-7653-1964-7) was nominated for the Hugo Award and has earned widespread praise.

Saturday, September 11,
10:30 am

The Aleph and Other Stories by Jorge Luis Borges

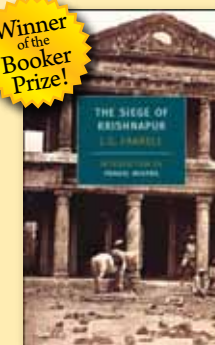
Full of philosophical puzzles and supernatural surprises, the works of fiction in **The Aleph and Other Stories** (\$15, Penguin, 978-0-1424-3788-9) contain some of Borges’s most fully realized human characters. With uncanny insight, he takes us inside the minds of an unrepentant Nazi, an imprisoned Mayan priest, fanatical Christian theologians, a woman plotting vengeance on her father’s killer, and a man awaiting his assassin in a Buenos Aires guest house..



Octavia Books Book Club

~ Meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:30 am ~

Winner
of the
Booker
Prize!



Saturday, August 21, 10:30 am
The Siege of Krishnapur by Pankaj Mishra
India, 1857 – the year of the Great Mutiny, when Muslim soldiers turned in bloody rebellion on their British overlords. This time of convulsion is the subject of J. G. Farrell’s **The Siege of Krishnapur**, (\$15.95, NYRB

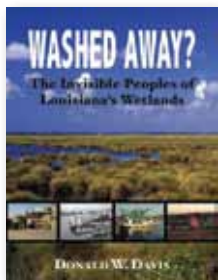
Classics, 978-1-5901-7092-2) widely considered one of the finest British novels of the last fifty years.

Saturday, September 18, 10:30 am

To Be Announced

Check with us online at OctaviaBooks.com for this month’s selection.

Upcoming Events at Octavia Books



Donald W. Davis
Washed Away? The Invisible Peoples of Louisiana's Wetlands
Tuesday, August 3, 6 pm

Please join us for a presentation and book signing with Louisiana coastal researcher Donald W. Davis featuring his just released book, *Washed Away?* (\$49.50,

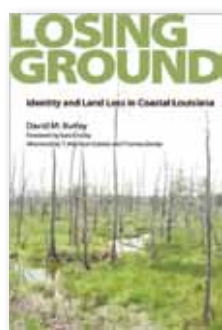
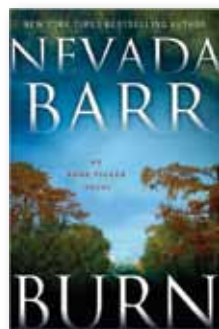
Univ. of Louisiana/Lafayette, 978-1-8873-6696-0), the first comprehensive look at the settlement, occupation and environmental challenges of these Louisiana coastal communities.

Donald W. Davis has been involved in Louisiana coastal research for over forty years as a professor at Nicholls State University and more recently, LSU.

Nevada Barr

Burn: An Anna Pigeon Novel
Thursday, August 5, 6 pm

New York Times best-selling New Orleans-based author Nevada Barr returns to Octavia Books for a reading performance and booksigning featuring her explosive new Anna Pigeon novel. *Burn* (\$25.99, Minotaur, 978-0-312-61456-0) finds the resilient National Park Service ranger leaving the country's wide open spaces to face danger in the back streets of New Orleans. Anna arrives in the Big Easy to stay with a friend who has a suspicious tenant that leaves a gruesome hint that Anna is the target of a hex. Searching for answers, Anna uncovers hints of a criminal ring far more sinister than any voodoo curse.



David Burley
Losing Ground: Identity & Land Loss in Coastal Louisiana
Tuesday, August 10, 6 pm

David M. Burley joins us for a presentation and book signing for his new book, *Losing Ground* (\$40, Univ. Press of Mississippi, 978-1-6047-3488-1) which explores how residents of our changing coastline reconcile

sense of place with the Gulf's encroachment. People speak with an urgency that exemplifies a fear of losing not just property and familiar surroundings, but their identity as well. Joining Burley for this event will be Thomas Darder, Chief of the Houma Nation Native American tribe, who co-wrote the Afterword.



Robert R. M. Verchick
Facing Catastrophe: Environmental Action for a Post-Katrina World
Saturday, August 21, 6 pm

In his bold contribution to environmental law, Robert Verchick argues for a new perspective on disaster law that is based on the principles of environmental protection: Go Green, Be Fair, and Keep Safe.

He asserts that government must assume a stronger regulatory role in managing natural infrastructure, distributional fairness, and public risk. Verchick, who now serves as the Deputy Associate Administrator in the EPA's Office of Policy, Economic, and Innovation, offers a new vision of disaster law for the next generation in *Facing Catastrophe* (\$45, Harvard Univ. Press, 978-0-6740-4791-4).

Photographer John Woodin
City of Memory: New Orleans, Before and After Katrina

Tuesday, August 24, 6 pm

Pairing photos of pre- and post-Hurricane Katrina New Orleans, commercial and fine-art photographer John Woodin creates a document of the changes resulting from that disaster in *City of Memory* (\$39.95, Univ. of Georgia Press, 978-1-9351-9518-4).



Josh Neufeld
A.D.: New Orleans After the Deluge

Saturday, August 28, 2 pm

Join us for the paperback release of *The New York Times* best-selling graphic nonfiction portrait of seven

New Orleanians before, during, and after Hurricane Katrina, in *A.D.: New Orleans After the Deluge* (\$16.95, Pantheon, 978-0-375-71488-7). Josh Neufeld presents a city in chaos and shines a bright, profoundly human light on the tragedies and triumphs that took place within it.

Mark Mustian
The Gendarme

Wednesday, September 15, 6 pm

To those around him, Emmet Conn is a 92 year old man on the verge of senility. A World War I veteran, he's been affected by memory loss since being injured in the war. Now, at the end of his life, he's beset by visions



– frightening and realistic, he's convinced they are memories of events he and others have denied or purposely forgotten.

Meet Mark Mustian, author of *The Gendarme* (\$25.95, Putnam, 978-0-399-15634-2), and learn how the human spirit fights to survive in the face of hopelessness. Avail. 9/2

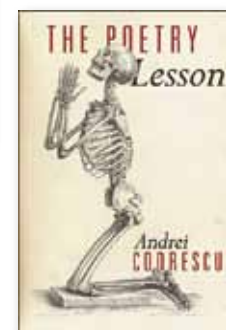
Natasha Tretheway
Beyond Katrina

Wednesday, September 22, 6 pm

Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Natasha Tretheway joins us to read and sign *Beyond Katrina* (\$22.95, Univ. of Georgia Press, 978-0-8203-3381-6), her very personal profile of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and of the people whose lives were forever changed by the storm.



Beyond Katrina offers a moving meditation on the love she holds for her childhood home.



Andrei Codrescu
The Poetry Lesson

Thursday, September 23, 6 pm

Neither a novel nor a memoir, but mimicking aspects of each, *The Poetry Lesson* (\$19.95, Princeton Univ. Press, 978-0-6911-4724-6) is pure Andrei Codrescu: irreverent, unconventional, brilliant, and always funny.

Jewell Parker Rhodes
Ninth Ward

Monday, September 27, 4 pm

Jewell Parker Rhodes makes her debut with children's fiction in *Ninth Ward*, a deeply emotional story about transformation and a celebration of resilience, friendship, and family – as only love can define it. See page 7 for review.



Jewell is the Artistic Director for Global Engagement and the Piper Endowed Chair of the Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing at Arizona State University.

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