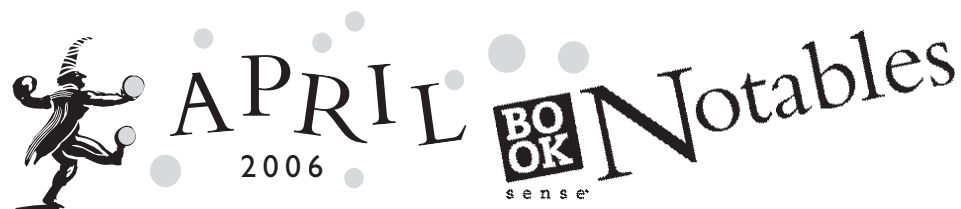




CATBIRD, by **Stephen March** (Permanent Press, \$26, 1579621260) "This story of a musician struggling in the face of a failed marriage and his father's suicide is a wonderfully unsettling story about loss and redemption."—**Pam White, Skyland Books, West Jefferson, NC**



A HIGH AND HIDDEN PLACE, by **Michele Claire Lucas** (HarperSanFrancisco, \$22.95, 0060740566) "Horribly, entire villages in occupied countries were wiped off the map during World War II by the German Army in retaliation for real or imagined resistance. One of these brutal massacres was the inspiration for Michele Claire Lucas' novel. The narrator, Christine, recalls little of her childhood; however, when events force her to explore her past, we begin a story that examines some of the greatest evils of war."—**Gina Webb, Tall Tales Book Shop, Atlanta, GA**



THE LAST WITCHFINDER, by **James Morrow** (Morrow, \$25.95, 0060821795) "It is rare for an author to have the skill to combine style, character, plot, and research into a single, sparkling novel. Engrossing and thought-provoking, this story of a search for justice set against the Salem witch trials should appeal not only to fans of historical fiction, but to anyone who loves a finely crafted tale."—**LouAnne Swartz, The Turning Page, Old Lyme, CT**



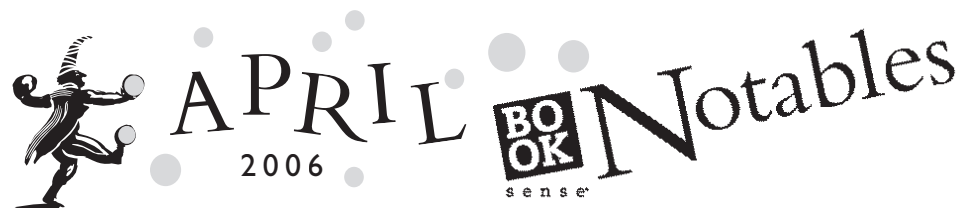
ME & EMMA, by **Elizabeth Flock** (Mira, \$12.95 paper, 0778322858) "After their father is murdered, eight-year-old Carrie and six-year-old Emma are left to fend for themselves with an abusive stepfather and a mother who just doesn't care. A heart-wrenching look at a broken family and the children struggling to survive, this novel shows a writing talent that's both skillful and original."—**Rachel Cunningham, The Avid Reader, Davis, CA**



A MOST UNCOMMON DEGREE OF POPULARITY, by Kathleen Gilles Seidel (St. Martins, \$21.95, 0312333269) "This story of the social shifts of the intertwined worlds of sixth grade and adult social scenes is a most uncommon accomplishment—witty, wise, and wonderful. I loved it!"—Eileen Charbonneau, Merritt Bookstore Vol. III, Cold Spring, NY



THE NYMPHOS OF ROCKY FLATS, by Mario Acevedo (Rayo, \$13.95 paper, 0060833262) "A great combination of humor and thrills, with a bit of romance thrown in for good measure, Mario Acevedo's debut novel is a real winner! Highly recommended."—Rita Moran, Apple Valley Books, Winthrop, ME



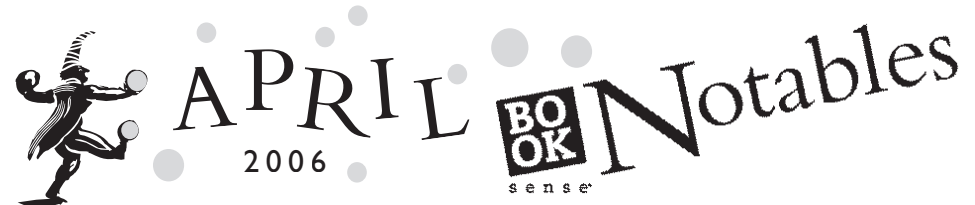
PHILOSOPHY MADE SIMPLE, by Robert Hellenga (Little, Brown, \$23.95, 0316058262) "Abandoning his home in Chicago, Rudy Harrington buys an avocado ranch on the Texas-Mexican border. There, he falls in love with an elephant, has a heart attack, hosts a daughter's Hindu wedding, and constantly reads *Philosophy Made Simple*—looking for answers to the big questions of life. Delightful, entertaining, with lots to think about."—Darwin Ellis, Books On The Common, Ridgefield, CT



A ROSE FOR THE CROWN, by Anne Easter Smith (Touchstone, \$16.95 paper, 0743276876) "Beginning from one tiny thread—the mention of a woman's name in the financial ledgers of Richard, Duke of Gloucester—Smith has woven a whole tapestry of the relationship between an engaging mistress and a notorious king. Details gleaned from exhaustive research, along with fictional embellishments make this love story one that shines a different light on the rocky reign of King Richard III."—Janice Johnson, The Bookery, Ephrata, WA



SECOND HONEYMOON, by **Joanna Trollope** (Bloomsbury, \$23.95, 1596910380) "Joanna Trollope has a great gift for creating believable characters, family situations, and intriguing lifestyles. The empty nest is refilled—to the distress of Russell who was looking forward to a closer relationship with his wife, a would-be actress who has totally submerged herself into motherhood. The characters ring true, and they are all people you enjoy spending time with."—**Marian Nielsen, Orinda Books, Orinda, CA**




A SHORT HISTORY OF TRACTORS IN UKRAINIAN, by **Marina Lewycka** (Penguin, \$14 paper, 0143036742) "Take an elderly father, a gold-digging blonde divorcee, two noisy daughters, and a tom cat named Lady Di and the fun begins. Funny, sweet, and charming—I loved this book!"—**Dawn C. Donovan, Armchair Bookstore, Dennis, MA**



TWO WOMEN OF GALILEE, by **Mary Rourke** (Mira, \$21.95, 0778323749) "I really liked this well-written, interesting mix of history and biblical facts, a novel telling the story of Joanna, wife to Chuza, King Herod's chief steward, and her conversion to Christianity."—**Deanne Hetrick, The Bethel Avenue Book Company, Port Orchard, WA**



ABSOLUTE CONVICTIONS: My Father, a City, and the Conflict that Divided America, by **Eyal Press** (Holt, \$25, 0805077316) "Press has written a very readable book, which skillfully presents both sides of the abortion debate with equal time on the motives and history of each group. Press also presents an interesting account of the industrial decline and ethnic history of the Northeast."—**Richard Johnson, Browsing Bison Books, Deer Lodge, MT**



APRIL 2006

BOOK sense®

Notables

BOUND FOR CANAAN: *The Epic Story of the Underground Railroad, America's First Civil Rights Movement*, by Fergus M. Bordewich (Amistad, \$14.95 paper, 0060524316) "For those of us who know little about the Underground Railroad, this book is nothing short of illuminating. Rich history is finely interwoven with personal narratives, from conductors to orphans to influential abolitionists. Bordewich gives this important subject the research and attention it deserves in this well-written account of brave individuals and extraordinary commitment to justice and freedom."—**Sally M. Evans, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Lexington, KY**




APRIL 2006

BOOK sense®

Notables

THE BOY WHO FELL OUT OF THE SKY: *A True Story*, by Ken Dornstein (Random House, \$23.95, 0375503595) "Ken Dornstein goes looking for truth in the journals and journeys of his brother, who died on the Pan Am flight that blew up over Lockerbie, Scotland. This story will wrench your gut with its honesty, discovery, and love."—**Colin Rea, University of Oregon Bookstore, Eugene, OR**



APRIL 2006

BOOK sense®

Notables

PATRIOTS ACT: *Voices of Dissent and the Risk of Speaking Out: An Oral History*, by Bill Katovsky (Lyons Press, \$22.95, 1592288162) "This is an eclectic collection of interviews with Americans who have spoken out, often at great personal risk, about issues important to them and to all of us. Included are well known public figures like Daniel Ellsberg, Max Cleland, and Mort Sahl. Equally inspiring are the stories of peace activist Kathy Kelly and California National Guardsman Lorenzo Dominquez. This book will make a great graduation gift."—**Mary Gleysteen, Eagle Harbor Book Company, Bainbridge Island, WA**



APRIL 2006

BOOK sense®

Notables

PARTY OF THE CENTURY: *The Fabulous Story of Truman Capote and His Black and White Ball*, by Deborah Davis (Wiley, \$24.95, 0471659665) "Davis tells the story of a lonely, odd Southern boy who grew up to become one of the 'In' people in the socially defining and re-defining time of the '50s and '60s. This is a biography in the context of history, albeit very recent history, and it should interest anyone open to gaining a glimpse of a path into a world that was not accessible to most and—some may argue—exists no longer."—**Carolyn Chin, Books On First, Dixon, IL**



APRIL 2006 BOOK sense Notables

THE \$64 TOMATO, by **William Alexander** (Algonquin, \$22.95, 1565125037) “William Alexander had a ‘simple dream’ of a backyard vegetable garden and a small orchard. Who knew that mayhem and madness would result? Alexander humorously details his misadventures as he pursues his quest. If damp spring soil is your idea of perfume, you’ll enjoy this book.”—**Maryjude Hoeffel, Bookin’ It, Little Falls, MN**



APRIL 2006 BOOK sense Notables

WHAT JESUS MEANT, by **Garry Wills** (Viking, \$24.95, 0670034967) “A clear and concise commentary on the Gospels and the words of Jesus. Wills shows Jesus as a radical, intense, in-your-face revolutionary. He hung out with all the wrong people, and even his followers argued over what he meant. It was all about intense, personal love ... not sweet and flowery, but uncompromising. The chapter on why Jesus had to die is the best explanation I have read.”
—**Deb McDonald, Garden District Book Shop, New Orleans, LA**



APRIL 2006 BOOK sense Notables

THE AMERICAN, by **Andrew Britton** (Kensington, \$24, 0758213336) “This first novel is a real page-turner. This story of an ex-CIA agent’s hunt for an assassin is fast-moving and full of compelling characters. A winner.”—**Linda Vinstra, Great Northern Books and Hobbies, Oscoda, MI**



APRIL 2006 BOOK sense Notables

18 SECONDS, by **George D. Shuman** (Simon & Schuster, \$23, 0743277163) “Sherry Moore is blind but still able to see what victims have seen in the last seconds of their lives. Kelly O’Shaughnessy is an investigator who has an eye for detail but misses the big one. Shuman gradually reveals the story of each victim before and after their death as Sherry and Lt. Kelly rush to discover who the killer is. Shuman is definitely an author you’ll want to follow closely.”
—**Andra Tracy, Out Word Bound, Indianapolis, IN**