

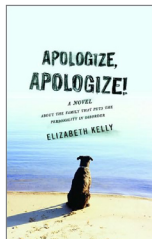


APRIL '09

NOTABLES



FICTION

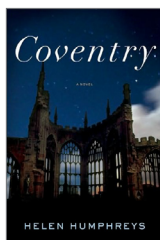


Apologize, Apologize! by Elizabeth Kelly

(Twelve, \$23.99, 9780446406147/0446406147)

"Elizabeth Kelly's story of a highly dysfunctional, wealthy, and quirky family is one of those beautiful, tragic stories of love, loss, and redemption that you can't (and don't want to) stop reading. Bravo to Elizabeth Kelly for bringing to rambunctious life some of the most interesting characters I've met in a while."

—Kathryn Fabiani, R.J. Julia Booksellers, Madison, CT

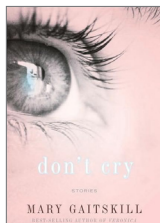


Coventry by Helen Humphreys

(Norton, \$23.95, 9780393067200/0393067203)

"Fans of Pat Barker will find much to enjoy in this gem of a book, which is centered on the intersecting lives of two women and the night of the bombing of Coventry during World War Two. Highly recommended!"

—Carol Schneck, Schuler Books & Music, Okemos, MI

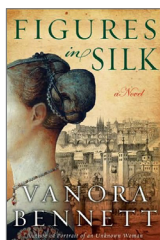


Don't Cry Stories by Mary Gaitskill

(Pantheon, \$23.95, 9780375424199/0375424199)

"Reading a Mary Gaitskill story is like looking into the base of a hedge: She gets so deep into that impenetrable thicket of anger and love. But there are lighter moments, too, like glimpsing a secret garden through that hedge. It's a fascinating mix of emotion and fairy dust."

—Rem Ryals, Village Books, Bellingham, WA

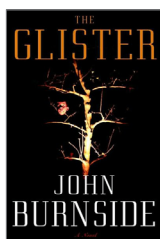


Figures in Silk by Vanora Bennett

(Morrow, \$25.99, 9780061689840/006168984X)

"You will immerse yourself in London of 1471 in *Figures in Silk*, another gracefully intriguing blend of historical fact and fiction from the author of *Portrait of an Unknown Woman*."

—Nicola Rooney, Nicola's Books, Ann Arbor, MI

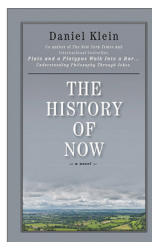


The Glisters by John Burnside

(Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, \$22.95, 9780385527644/0385527640)

"John Burnside's novel of disappeared children in a dying town is beautifully written, even as it shows how perceiving life as 'everything is inevitable' makes a community distant and hopeless. *The Glisters* will make you want to read Burnside's other books."

—Julia Green, Front Street Books, Alpine, TX

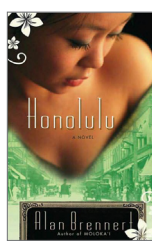


The History of Now by Daniel Klein

(Permanent Press, \$28, 9781579621810/1579621813)

"*The History of Now* has perfectly drawn characters, a small town you'll want to move to as soon as you open the pages of the book, and various subplots that propel the story from start to finish, all from the heart and brain of a very fine and very funny veteran novelist."

—Matthew Tannenbaum, The Bookstore, Lenox, MA

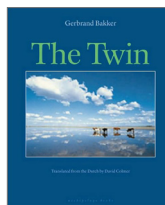


Honolulu by Alan Brennert

(St. Martin's, \$24.95, 9780312360405/0312360401)

"Jin is a young Korean who has emigrated to Hawaii to become a 'picture bride.' But her new husband is not a handsome, young man, and she does not find a better life, where women can be educated. Brennert's story will pull you into the early days of Hawaii, and it brims with interesting history."

—Deon Stonehouse, Sunriver Books, Sunriver, OR



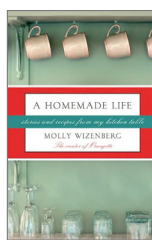
The Twin by Gerbrand Bakker, David Colmer (trans.)

(Archipelago, \$25, 9780980033021/0980033020)

"The loneliness and the wide-open interior spaces of a life half lived—such is the thematic backdrop of this melancholy but engrossing Dutch novel about a farmer who has survived the death of his twin brother only, eventually, to realize that life does still hold something for him, something uncanny and new."

—Adam Walter, Third Place Books, Lake Forest Park, WA

NONFICTION

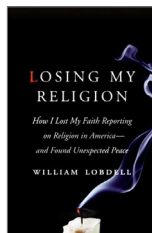


A Homemade Life Stories and Recipes from My Kitchen Table, by Molly Wizenberg

(Simon & Schuster, \$25, 9781416551058/1416551050)

"*A Homemade Life* is a biography told in recipes. Imbued with an extremely personable and personal voice—and including a recipe for Tarte Tatin in which the memory of a young heartbreak in Paris is a silent but important ingredient—*A Homemade Life* reads very much like a chat at the table over coffee with your best friend."

—Jackie Blem, Tattered Cover Bookstore, Denver, CO



Losing My Religion How I Lost My Faith Reporting on Religion in America—and Found Unexpected Peace, by William Lobdell

(Collins, \$25.99, 9780061626814/0061626813)

"William Lobdell had the religion beat for the Los Angeles Times. He began his journey as an agnostic, went through a bornagain conversion, then, after eight years of reporting on the paradoxes of religion, lost his faith in God. This is a courageous memoir that speaks to all of us—whether Christian, agnostic, or atheist."

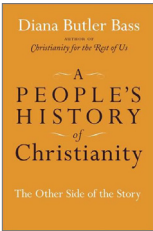
—Lillian Kinsey, Bohannon's Books With a Past, Georgetown, KY

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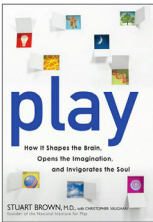
NOTABLES



**A People's History of Christianity
The Other Side of the Story,
by Diana Butler Bass**

(HarperOne, \$25.99, 9780061448706/0061448702)
"Diana Butler Bass writes with a historian's authority and a believer's conviction in a beautifully executed book. Her use of the stories of Christian heroes—saints and monks, and laypersons, too—adds a human dimension to a vast topic. Readers couldn't ask for a better guide to 2000 years of Christian faith than this refreshing and highly readable book."

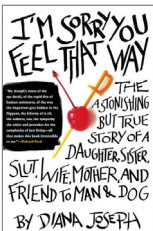
—Christopher Rose, Andover Bookstore, Andover, MA



**Play
How it Shapes the Brain, Opens the Imagination,
and Invigorates the Soul,
by Stuart Brown MD, Christopher Vaughan**

(Avery, \$24.95, 9781583333334/1583333339)
"Time to pull out your old legos! According to Stuart Brown (founder of the National Institute for Play), playfulness is as essential to our individual development as to our evolution as a species. Peppered with anecdotes from the animal kingdom, this book is a delight."

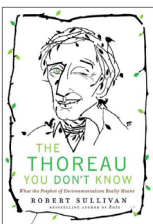
—April Nabholz, Grass Roots Books & Music, Corvallis, OR



**I'm Sorry You Feel That Way
The Astonishing but True Story of a Daughter,
Sister, Slut, Wife, Mother, and Friend to Man
and Dog, by Diana Joseph**

(Putnam, \$23.95, 9780399155284/0399155287)
"Diana Joseph has never chosen the path of least resistance, or the straight and narrow. She writes of her mistakes with candor, no regret, and a wry sense of humor that will resonate with all of us who have grown up to find that things haven't turned out the way we had imagined it. One couldn't ask for a better traveling companion."

—Lyn Roberts, Square Books, Oxford, MS

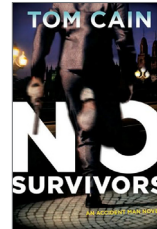


**The Thoreau You Don't Know
What the Prophet of Environmentalism Really
Meant, by Robert Sullivan**

(Collins, \$25.99, 9780061710315/0061710318)
"Robert Sullivan's refreshing, empathetic biography revives the Thoreau of the work, aptly freeing him from the straits of clichés and revealing an inspiring, living intellect that reaches though the years. I loved it!"

—Mary Taft, Prairie Lights Books, Iowa City, IA

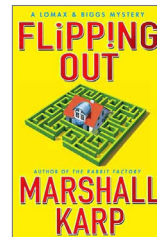
MYSTERY/SUSPENSE



**No Survivors
An Accident Man Novel, by Tom Cain**

(Viking, \$25.95, 9780670020492/0670020494)
"Samuel Carver, who gets paid to make bad things happen, takes on jobs that are dangerous and ugly, and Tom Cain's latest is brilliantly conceived, with explosive action, a plausible plot, and a very likable Carver. Outstanding!"

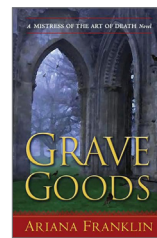
—Susan Wasson, Bookworks, Albuquerque, NM



**Flipping Out
A Lomax & Biggs Mystery, by Marshall Karp**

(St. Martin's Minotaur, \$24.95, 9780312378219/0312378211)
"Marshall Karp's likable detective team of Lomax and Biggs have unraveled the mystery of each case with a good deal of both mirth and mayhem. His latest is funny, fast-paced, and frightfully creative—one of the most entertaining police procedurals that you will read this year."

—Joe Drabak, Chester County Book & Music Company, West Chester, PA



**Grave Goods
A Mistress of the Art of Death Novel,
by Arianna Franklin**

(Putnam, \$25.95, 9780399155444/0399155449)
"The bones of Arthur and Guinevere have been found at Glastonbury Abbey, the land of fabled Avalon. King Henry II sends his 'Mistress of the Art of Death' to verify the find, and Franklin has written a story that is vivid and full of danger."

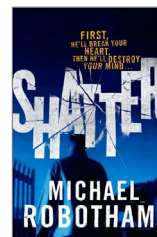
—Becky Milner, Vintage Books, Vancouver, WA



**A Quiet Flame
A Bernie Gunther Novel, by Phillip Kerr**

(Putnam, \$26.95, 9780399155307/0399155309)
"The second Bernie Gunter novel finds the former Berlin detective in 1950s Buenos Aires, a city full of corruption, terrorism and a large community of escaped Germans, when he is called upon to help solve a crime similar to one of his old, unsolved cases. Phillip Kerr is top notch."

—Sue Richardson, Maine Coast Book Shop, Damariscotta, ME



**Shatter
by Michael Robotham**

(Doubleday, \$24.95, 9780385517911/0385517912)
"Called to prevent a naked woman from jumping from a bridge, psychologist Joe O'Loughlin tries to talk to her down, only to watch, horrified, as she jumps. She has a cell phone in her hand and even while authorities try to discover whom she's been talking to another woman dies under similar circumstances. A mystery you are not likely to forget."

—Betsy Burton, The King's English, Salt Lake City, UT