

DECEMBER '09



NOTABLES



FICTION



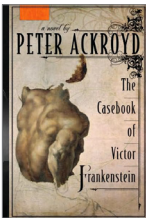
But Not for Long

A Novel, by Michelle Wildgen

(Thomas Dunne Books, \$24.99, 9780312571412)

“Three members of a sustainable foods cooperative struggle to sort out their own lives in a compelling story that engages themes that are very relevant to our contemporary world. But Not for Long is one of those books that entertains and illuminates.”

—Melissa Olm, The Reader’s Loft, Green Bay, WI



The Casebook of Victor Frankenstein

A Novel, by Peter Ackroyd

(Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, \$26.95, 9780385530842)

“Peter Ackroyd’s latest work is part historical novel, part mystery, part dark fantasy (or science fiction). It’s a book that rewards close reading and, even though I half-suspected the ending, The Casebook of Victor Frankenstein is a highly successful pastiche of a classic novel that I would enjoy reading in tandem with the original.”

—Billie J. Bloebaum, Powell’s Books, Portland, OR



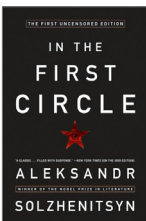
Demon Bound

A Black London Novel, by Caitlin Kittredge

(St. Martin’s, \$7.99 paper, 9780312943639)

“Caitlin Kittredge’s books are always a great ride, and this story of a dark bargain is no exception. Fans of urban fantasy got lucky when she hit the scene!”

—Diana Portwood, Bob’s Beach Books, Lincoln City, OR



In the First Circle

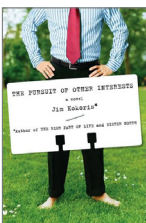
The First Uncensored Edition, by Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn

(Harper Perennial, \$18.99 paper, 9780061479014)

“The arrival of the uncensored text of this great novel is long overdue. A complex meditation on fear, tyranny, and the never-ceasing efforts of governments to control speech, In the First Circle transcends the specific and illuminates the universal. This work is testimony that there are

bulwarks against the complicity of forgetting.”

—Shawn Wathen, Chapter One Book Store, Hamilton, MT



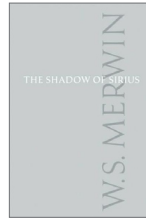
The Pursuit of Other Interests

A Novel, by Jim Kokoris

(St. Martin’s, \$24.99, 9780312365486)

“The Pursuit of Other Interests is a funny, often cynical, look at down-on-their-luck former CEOs and their job placement mentors. While Kokoris’ moral is a common one, his book is a thoroughly enjoyable read.”

—Mary Cowen, Anderson’s Bookshop, Naperville, IL



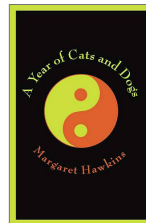
The Shadow of Sirius

by W.S. Merwin

(Copper Canyon, \$16 paper, 9781556593109)

“The breath is what I keep coming back to in the poetry of Merwin; his pacing is impeccable. If you didn’t get out of the city this summer, this is a perfect trip to take into the landscape. If you still can, take this with you; it will deepen your valleys and soften your light.”

—Rebecca Armstrong, McNally Jackson Books, New York, NY



A Year of Cats and Dogs

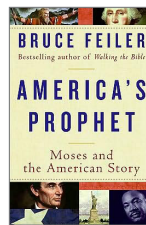
by Margaret Hawkins

(Permanent Press, \$28, 9781579621896)

“At the end of a long relationship, Maryanne is spurred into action, or rather inaction, as she ‘cleans house’ in her life and some surprising and wonderful things move into the space that she creates. Maryanne is a very real character and a true seeker. We should all be that brave.”

—Anne Wilde, Next Chapter Bookshop, Mequon, WI

NONFICTION



America’s Prophet

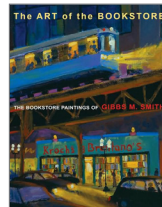
Moses and the American Story, by Bruce Feiler

(Morrow, \$26.99, 9780060574888)

“Do you think you know all about the Pilgrims, the Liberty Bell, the Statue of Liberty, the emancipation of slaves, and Martin Luther King, Jr.? Think again. I thought I did until I read America’s Prophet, a thoroughly enjoyable and accessible book, with a surprisingly fresh focus on

American history.”

—Fran Wilson, Colorado State University Bookstore, Fort Collins, CO



The Art of the Bookstore

The Bookstore Paintings of Gibbs M. Smith, by Gibbs Smith

(Gibbs Smith, \$35, 9781423606437)

“The Art of the Bookstore is a great gift idea for every bookstore aficionado. Fifty-eight bookstores are profiled, with colorful full-page paintings of each store done by publisher/artist Gibbs Smith himself, a passionate fan of indie bookstores. (Disclaimer: our store is among the 58 painting/profiles.)”

—Kerry Slattery, Skylight Books, Los Angeles, CA



Children of Dust

A Memoir of Pakistan, by Ali Eteraz

(HarperOne, \$25.99, 9780061567087)

“Ali Eteraz’ account of his schooling in a madrassa in Pakistan is a fascinating look into a culture few Americans ever see. Eteraz is a talented young author who writes with intelligence and critical self-awareness. Children of Dust is a pleasure to read.”

—Tamara Maxey, Windows on the World-Books & Art, Mariposa, CA

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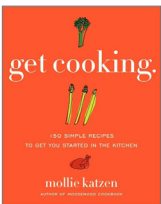
INDIE BOUND.org



Everything Will Be All Right A Memoir, by Douglas Wallace

(Greenleaf Book Group, \$21.95, 9781608320042)
"Doug Wallace's memoir of a childhood of poverty and abuse is a compelling book with the message that when all appears wasted there is a way out."

—Larry Granados, The Book Carriage, Roanoke, TX



Get Cooking 150 Simple Recipes to Get You Started in the Kitchen, by Mollie Katzen

(HarperStudio, \$24.99 paper, 9780061732430)
"Get Cooking is designed for the beginning cook, complete with pages of what gear a kitchen needs, from knives to storage. The book is accessible to everyone, with enough tips and twists on recipes to keep a seasoned cook

interested. This would make a great first cookbook for a person just starting out on their own, or a great addition to anyone's bulging cookbook shelves."

—Jackie Blem, Tattered Cover Book Store, Denver, CO



Our Choice A Plan to Solve the Climate Crisis, by Al Gore

(Rodale, \$26.99, 9781594867347)
"Al Gore's Our Choice will inform you on what you can do next to help the environment. It turns out we do make a difference."

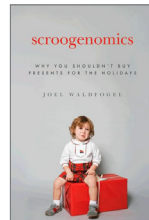
—Margaret Osondu, Osondu Booksellers, Waynesville, NC



Roll Around Heaven An All-True Accidental Spiritual Adventure, by Jessica Maxwell

(Atria Books/Beyond Words, \$25, 9781582702360)
"Adventure travel writer Jessica Maxwell takes us on her latest journey—an 'accidental spiritual adventure.' With much good humor and no heavy religious baggage, she explores the spiritual landscape of her life. I found it hard to put the book down!"

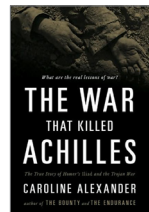
—Susan Wood Taylor, The Traveler, Bainbridge Island, WA



Scroogenomics Why You Shouldn't Buy Presents for the Holidays, by Joel Waldfoegel

(Princeton University Press, \$9.95, 9780691142647)
"Sometimes principle compels one to bite the hand that feeds one. Such is the case with the dangerously subtitled Scroogenomics. While the author attacks wasteful holiday spending from an economist's perspective, this book will also speak to those who yearn for an infusion of spiritual comfort and joy to the season."

—Katherine Le Croy, Davis-Kidd Booksellers, Nashville, TN



The War That Killed Achilles The True Story of Homer's Iliad and the Trojan War, by Caroline Alexander

(Viking, \$26.95, 9780670021123)
"In a new and refreshing examination of The Iliad, Caroline Alexander gives fascinating perspective on the Western world's first epic poem. Delving into questions of duty, honor, obligation, and moral authority, Alexander gives us an Achilles more heroic than his legend and asks us to seriously question what lessons were intended to be imparted in the original narration."

—Bill Cusumano, Nicola's Books, Ann Arbor, MI

MYSTERY/SUSPENSE



Pariah by Dave Zeltserman

(Serpent's Tail, \$14.95 paper, 9781846686436)
"Dave Zeltserman returns with a tale of the South Boston mob so harrowing it places him alongside contemporary masters Jim Crais and James Ellroy. One of the few writers whose tales are both brutal and beautiful, Zeltserman is a rising star of crime fiction."

—Alex Green, Back Pages Books, Waltham, MA

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