

JUNE '09



NOTABLES

THE BROTHERS BOSWELL

by Philip Baruth

“This is a book full of wonderful writing, insightful observations of human nature, and witty dialogue—totally appropriate considering its subjects, diarist James Boswell and his brother John.”

—Susan C. Bradley, Tinman Artworks, Spokane, WA



Find out more about this book and others at WWW.INDIEBOUND.ORG

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NOTABLES

BUFFALO LOCKJAW

by Greg Ames

“James Fitzroy is headed home to Buffalo for Thanksgiving, but he and his family are struggling with very big questions about the end of life, the quality of life, and assisted suicide. Ames’ novel is is funny, tragic, sad, and troubling all at the same time.”

—Ann Reiersen, Inklings Bookshop, Yakima, WA



Find out more about this book and others at WWW.INDIEBOUND.ORG

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NOTABLES

THE FAMILY MAN

by Elinor Lipman

“*The Family Man* is a charming, funny tale of a gay father reconnecting with his hapless ex-wife and aspiring-actress stepdaughter. Witty and urbane, Lipman’s latest showcases endearing characters and a storyline that satirizes our fascination with celebrity while it reassures us of the endurance of love and good intentions.”

—Linda Bubon, Women & Children First, Chicago, IL



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NOTABLES

THE GREAT PERHAPS

by Joe Meno

“Joe Meno is basically America’s best writer right now, even though most folks don’t know it yet. In *The Great Perhaps*, obviously, he’s going after the Great American Novel. The Caspers—whose surname, characteristically, is a gentle allusion—are a family afraid of clouds, afraid of sexuality, afraid of the world. Meno’s best trick is taking cartoon scenarios and filling them to the brim with pathos, but there’s also a race with the French to find the biggest living squid and a mysterious man made out of clouds. Joe Meno just keeps outdoing himself.”

—Imogen Park, Pegasus Downtown, Berkeley, CA



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THE LAST PRINCE OF THE MEXICAN EMPIRE

by C. M. Mayo

“Based on actual events, *The Last Prince of the Mexican Empire* tells the tale of an adopted two-year-old who becomes the Heir Presumptive of Maximilian von Hapsburg. The cast of historical characters, ranging from royalty to household servants, is extensive in this intriguing, real-life drama.”

—**Sherri Gallentine, Vroman's Bookstore, Pasadena, CA**



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NOTABLES

NIKOLSKI

A Novel, by Nicolas Dickner, Lazer Lederhendler (trans.)

“Unaware of each others' existence, two half-siblings and their cousin cross paths in this modern-day, coming-of-age saga set mostly in Montreal. Winner of several prizes in the original French, *Nikolski* draws you in with sympathetic characters, gentle humor, and vivid prose, all laced with fascinating tidbits of geography and ethnography.”

—**Ilene Traiger, Books On The Common, Ridgefield, CT**



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RIGHT OF THIRST

A Novel, by Frank Huyler

“Frank Huyler's novel about a doctor's troubled life after his wife's death is a tender and unexpected story, completely different from what I expected it to be.”

—**Joe Foster, Maria's Bookshop, Durango, CO**



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ROOFTOPS OF TEHRAN

A Novel, by Mahbod Seraji

“This novel, set in the 1970s, beautifully captures the heart and soul of the characters who inhabit a Tehran on the verge of revolution. The appealing characters and vivid sense of time and place make this a terrific read and a great book club choice.”

—**Linda Walonen, Bay Books, San Ramon, CA**



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STONE'S FALL

A Novel, by Iain Pears

"I spent three days glued to *Stone's Fall*, which is full of intricate twists and turns, espionage, political intrigue, romance, travel, and history. Don't be daunted by the 600-plus pages—you'll be hooked from page one!"

—Robin Allen, **Forever Books, Saint Joseph, MI**



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A THREAD OF TRUTH

by Marie Bostwick

"*A Thread of Truth* is a captivating story of an abused wife who is caught in a cycle of constant flight from her abuser. This novel has wonderful characters, a fast-moving plot, and a strong message of friendship and community.

A really good read, especially for book groups."

—Linda Vinstra, **Great Northern Books and Hobbies, Oscoda, MI**



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TROUBLE

A Novel, by Kate Christensen

"A sexy, steamy book just in time for the hot summer months. Kate Christensen knows how to write dialogue and characters, and she does it again with the story of two female friends going to Mexico to escape their relationship problems."

—Michele Filgate, **RiverRun Bookstore, Portsmouth, NH**



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AFTER AMERICA

Narratives for the Next Global Age, by Paul Starobin

"Paul Starobin's book is a phenomenal example of speculative nonfiction that accessibly assesses the rise and plateau of American global dominance and lays down several fascinating possibilities for the world's future."

—Emily Pullen, **Skylight Books, Los Angeles, CA**



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NOTABLES

EIFFEL'S TOWER

And the World's Fair Where Buffalo Bill Beguiled Paris, the Artists Quarreled, and Thomas Edison Became a Count, by Jill Jonnes

"*Eiffel's Tower* tells a tale of art, science, entertainment—and the creation of the Paris icon. The story includes Thomas Edison, Buffalo Bill, Gauguin, Whistler, and Gustave Eiffel, and the reader learns how the world is, and always was, interconnected."

—Barbara Theroux, *Fact & Fiction, Missoula, MT*



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NOTABLES

THE INDIFFERENT STARS ABOVE

The Harrowing Saga of a Donner Party Bride, by Daniel James Brown

"Daniel James Brown makes you feel as though you are there with the ill-fated members of the wagon train led by George Donner through the Sierra Nevada in 1846. A compulsive read."

—Maryjude Hoeffel, *Bookin' It, Little Falls, MN*



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LOVE IN CONDITION YELLOW

A Memoir of an Unlikely Marriage,
by Sophia Raday

"When an Army reservist and Oakland police officer meets a Northern California peace activist, sparks fly. The tension between the two drastically different world views gives birth to a deeper and greater understanding of not only what love is, but what it requires of us."

—Elizabette Plante & Dan Chartrand, *Water Street Books, Exeter, NH*



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THE MAD ONES

Crazy Joe Gallo and the Revolution at the Edge of the Underworld, by Tom Folsom

"The '60s were a time of revolution and upheaval, and organized crime was not immune from social change. Tom Folsom tells of the Gallo brothers' quixotic challenge to crime's power structure and breathes life into a mostly forgotten New York society on the edge of a new world."

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



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RETAIL SUPERSTARS

Inside the 25 Best Independent Stores in America, by George Whalin
“Just when you thought Wal-Mart was gobbling up independent stores right and left, Whalin introduces us to 25 retail superstars that have been around a long time and are doing very well. Long live the independents!”

—Joan Kolp, **The River's End Bookstore, Oswego, NY**



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NOTABLES

TALES OF WONDER

Adventures Chasing the Divine, an Autobiography, by Huston Smith
“In the classic *The World's Religions*, Huston Smith introduced several generations to Islam, Buddhism, Judaism, and Hinduism. Now, with *Tales of Wonder*, he pulls back the veil on a life well lived, from his childhood as the son of missionaries in China to his involvement in the Civil Rights movement, to his first-hand experience of religious practice.”

—Scott Foley, **The Boulder Book Store, Boulder, CO**



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WICKED PLANTS

The Weed That Killed Lincoln's Mother and Other Botanical Atrocities, by Amy Stewart, Briony Morrow-Cribbs (illus.)
“Master gardener and historian Amy Stewart sheds sunlight on the darkest, deadliest (but seemingly innocuous) flora around the world. You never know what might be growing in your neighbor's yard!”

—Emily Stavrou, **Schuler Books & Music, Grand Rapids, MI**



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THE DEVLIN DIARY

by Christi Phillips
“Claire Donovan is back. Now a visiting lecturer at Cambridge University, she stumbles across a coded diary while attempting to find a subject for her next paper and gets caught up in academic intrigue while she tries to decode the book. One of the most engrossing novels I've read in a long time.”

—Jake Hallman, **A Great Good Place for Books, Oakland, CA**



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