



MAY '09

## Brooklyn

by Colm Tóibín

*"Eilis Lacey has come of age in the dark, impoverished Ireland of the 1950s. Trained as a bookkeeper but unable to find suitable work, she makes a new home in Brooklyn. Struggling to understand her new world and haunted by the old, she lives the classic immigrant story of loss and regret, hope and resilience. Brooklyn is a quiet tour de force."*

Nan Hadden, Books Inc., San Francisco, CA



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MAY '09

## The Last Child

A Novel, by John Hart

*"John Hart has written a thriller about a young boy searching for his missing twin that will have you on edge and pulling for the hero from the very beginning. The strong characters and twists in the plot had me white-knuckled until I turned the final page."*

Marc Galvin, The Bookstore Plus, Lake Placid, NY



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MAY '09

## The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet

by Reif Larsen

*"In The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet, which is full of observations and maps, we see the world through the eyes of a Cheerios-obsessed 12-year-old with the wisdom of an old soul. This book is funny, tender, heartwarming, heartbreaking, and full of insight. On every page there was something that I wanted to read aloud to anyone who would listen."*

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



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## The Whole Five Feet

What the Great Books Taught Me About Life, Death, and Pretty Much Everything Else, by Christopher R. Beha

*"The Whole Five Feet is a fine introduction to some of the best books ever written. Christopher Beha decided to read the Harvard Classics series in its entirety in one year, and he writes about both what he absorbs from the books and how reading these classics affects him. A must-read for anyone fascinated about how reading transforms us!"*

Michele Filgate, RiverRun Bookstore, Portsmouth, NH



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MAY '09

## Secret Son

A Novel, by Laila Lalami

*"Laila Lalami has written a wonderfully crafted novel—set in the slums of Casablanca—whose carefully wrought characters allow us to lift the veil of media headlines and to gain greater empathy and understanding of the competing protagonists in today's sundered world. Secret Son is an irresistible read."*

Paul Yamazaki, City Lights Books, San Francisco, CA



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## The Wildwater Walking Club

A Novel, by Claire Cook

*"Summer is coming and so is a new, hilarious book by Claire Cook. The Wildwater Walking Club follows 32 days in the lives of three neighboring women who come together for fellowship and understanding as they set their pedometers for their daily walks. Cook once again blends familiar and serious issues with her keen sense of humor to serve up a treat for her vast legion of fans."*

Jackie Blem, Tattered Cover Bookstore, Denver, CO



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MAY '09

## Valeria's Last Stand

A Novel, by Marc Fitten

*"Valeria, a 50-ish curmudgeon of a woman, finds fault with everyone in her small Hungarian village. One day, though, the town's potter catches her eye, and she discovers herself. Full of interesting characters, intrigue, love and lust, political corruption, and more, Valeria's Last Stand is a delightful and satisfying read."*

Gayle Wingerter, Inklings Bookshop, Yakima, WA



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## On the Divinity of Second Chances

A Novel, by Kaya McLaren

*"This beautifully realized story tells of a family's quest for meaning in lives gone awry. Told alternately from the perspective of each character, the narrative unravels a lifetime of buried feelings, regrets, and lost desires as McLaren deftly chronicles this family's downward spiral and ultimate redemption through forgiveness."*

Brianne Kuhle, Lindon Bookstore, Enumclaw, WA



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## An Edible History of Humanity

by Tom Standage

*"Tom Standage's An Edible History of Humanity is filled with remarkable and intriguing facts about the history of food in human civilization. It will make you hungry just reading it!"*

Jerry Fieldsted, *Windows on the World—Books & Art*, Mariposa, CA



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MAY '09

## Not Becoming My Mother

and Other Things She Taught Me Along the Way, by Ruth Reichl

*"Ruth Reichl does a wonderful job of showing us the person at the heart of her mother, Miriam Reichl—a woman who struggled against the constraints of 1950s American culture and who encouraged her daughter to enter a world that she herself so desperately wanted to belong to but could not access."*

Lisa Stefanacci, *The Book Works*, Del Mar, CA



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## All Other Nights

A Novel, by Dara Horn

*"All Other Nights is a picture of the Civil War I've never seen before—Jew divided from Jew, just like the rest of the country. Eccentric and highly memorable characters, tragedy, deep romance, and an intricate plot make this a thrilling read that I will be recommending to a broad swath of customers."*

Lilla G. Weinberger, *Readers' Books*, Sonoma, CA



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## Prayers For Sale

A Novel, by Sandra Dallas

*"During the 1930s Depression in the mining mountains of rural Colorado, two women form a close friendship while sharing their dark secrets of the past. Hennie, 86 and a widow, and Nit, 17 and newly married, tell of heartbreak, redemption, and forgiveness in this beautiful story that will deeply move its readers."*

Carol Hicks, *Bookshelf At Hooligan Rocks*, Truckee, CA



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