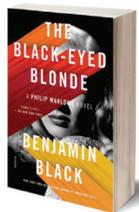




MARCH '15

# NOW IN PAPERBACK



## The Black-Eyed Blonde

**A Philip Marlowe Novel, by Benjamin Black**

(Picador, 9781250062123, \$16)  
"In well-written noir, each sentence feels like a story unto itself and strung together those sentences form a book that feels somehow 'more' than any other out there. *The Black-Eyed Blonde* is such a book. Black manages to mimic the style of one of the best-known authors of the 20th century while still keeping a distinct voice. Raymond Chandler fans will be happy to see

Phillip Marlowe back roaming the mean streets of L.A. There's a sultry femme fatale, a sinister philanthropist, and plenty of punches thrown, pistols whipped, and suits ruined."

—Lauren Peugh, Changing Hands Bookstore, Tempe, AZ



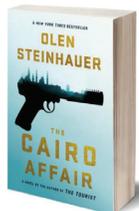
## Boy, Snow, Bird

**A Novel, by Helen Oyeyemi**

(Riverhead Trade, 9781594633409, \$16)  
"In 1953, Boy Novak runs away from her home on the Lower East Side of New York and ends up in a small town in Massachusetts. She marries Arturo Whitman, a widower with an adored daughter named Snow, and the three live happily until the birth of Bird, whose dark skin exposes the Whitmans as African-Americans passing for

white. Oyeyemi is a stunning talent who examines the disparity in how we perceive ourselves and how we allow others to perceive us."

—Amanda Hurley, Inkwood Books, Tampa, FL



## The Cairo Affair

**by Olen Steinhauer**

(Picador, 9781250036155, \$16)  
"Steinhauer's latest page-turner is set in Egypt during the initial Libyan uprising. Layers of deceit, betrayal, and duplicity permeate this story of an alleged American plan to steal the revolution from the hands of the Libyan people. The CIA in Cairo is turning Egyptian secret service members; the Egyptians spy on the other services and have

sources in many foreign embassies; and there is a leak of the Libyan plan that points to an American diplomat who is murdered. Plenty of intrigue, unreliable sources, shifting allegiances, and philosophy—Steinhauer manages it all superbly."

—Darwin Ellis, Books on the Common, Ridgefield, CT



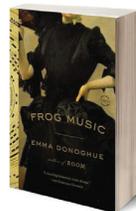
## The Enchanted

**A Novel, by Rene Denfeld**

(Harper Perennial 9780062285515, \$14.99)  
"A death row inmate, a fallen priest, and the Lady. These nameless characters are central to this dark, enthralling, magical story. Locked in a dungeon cell, the inmate deals with his incarceration by transforming the prison into a wondrous place. The rumblings of the earth become golden horses running below his cell,

molten lava flowing from their manes. The Lady works to have the sentences of the condemned commuted to life in prison while the priest is fallen, lost, and desperately in love with her. These characters live and work in a truly enchanted place, and I was sorry to leave them behind when the book was finished."

—Jessie Martin, Nicola's Books, Ann Arbor, MI



## Frog Music

**A Novel, by Emma Donoghue**

(Back Bay Books, 9780316324670, \$17)  
"Donoghue writes my favorite historical fiction. She has a knack for that great alchemy of turning research—letters, family trees, and newspaper articles buried in archives—into fiction that lives and breathes on the page. *Frog Music*, a vivid, atmospheric crime novel, brings to life the roiling streets of San Francisco just after the Gold Rush.

and her murdered friend, Jenny, which is based on true events, has a frantic pulse that makes it hard to put down."

—Kat Bailey, Bookshop Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA



## The Good Girl

**A Novel, by Mary Kubica**

(MIRA, 9780778317760, \$14.95)  
"Independent and headstrong, Mia Dennett moves to the beat of her own drum. She has proudly distanced herself from her prominent, wealthy, and uptight Chicago family to teach art at an inner city high school. But, when she is abducted and held captive in a remote cabin in rural Minnesota, she wonders if her estranged

family is looking for her or even knows she is missing. With Minnesota's harsh winter bearing down, Mia and Colin, captive and captor, must forge a peace or succumb to the elements. As Colin's motives become clear, an emotional entanglement ensues that is provocative, thrilling, and absolutely page-turning!"

—Melanie Green, Bluebird Books, Hutchinson, KS



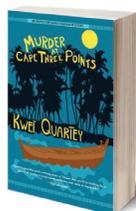
## The Intern's Handbook

**A John Lago Thriller, by Shane Kuhn**

(Simon & Schuster, 9781476733845, \$15)  
"Fans of Max Barry and Christopher Moore will love this brilliant satirical suspense. Told as though it were an actual handbook for would be assassins *The Intern's Handbook* follows the last mission, of uber-assassin John Lago as he lays out the laws of the land (and his corrupt agency HR, Inc.) for interning. Granted in this world

interns are assassins—the perfect killers really, because who pays attention to the intern—no one."

—Heather Christman Johnston, Warwick's La Jolla, CA



## Murder at Cape Three Points

**An Inspector Darko Dawson Mystery, by Kwei Quartey**

(Soho Crime, 9781616954833, \$14.95)  
"Two bodies appear drifting in a canoe at the Cape Three Points oil drilling rig. They turn out to be Charles and Fiona Smith-Aidoos, prominent members of the local community. Charles works for Malgum Oil, the company that owns the rig. The local police investigate, but nothing comes of it.

Sapphire, the Smith-Aidoos' niece, requests the help of the Ghanaian federal police, and Inspector Darko Dawson of the Accra police is assigned. Quartey portrays the country of Ghana with all its charms and quirks, a culture that stands at the brink of the modern world, yet has not lost its tribal traditions. The result is a thoroughly fascinating book."

—Janice Hunsche, Kaleidosaurus Books, Metamora, IN



## The Quick

**A Novel, by Lauren Owen**

(Random House Trade Paperbacks, 9780812983432, \$16)

"In her debut novel, Owen captures the pacing and cadence of Victorian fiction without the sometimes florid language of that era. She manages to deftly balance a large cast of characters and several seemingly diverse story threads while keeping the reader guessing through all of the twists and turns in this tale. With its formal language, diverse cast of characters, explorations of prejudice and oppression, and a bloody secret at its center, *The Quick* is very much a Victorian gothic novel written for a 21st century reader."

—Billie Bloebaum, Powell's Books, Portland, OR



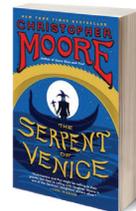
## Savage Harvest

**A Tale of Cannibals, Colonialism, and Michael Rockefeller's Tragic Quest, by Carl Hoffman**

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062116161, \$15.99)

"The tragedy of Michael Rockefeller's death is made far more poignant by the larger tragedy of the environment that surrounded it. Faulty ethnographic assumptions, compounded by unsettling socio-economic factors, bring a depth and pathos to *Savage Harvest*. A rare balance of mystery and the author's slowly unfolding epiphany of understanding is maintained throughout this riveting and edifying work of nonfiction."

—Kenny Brechner, Devaney, Doak & Garrett Booksellers, Farmington, ME



## The Serpent of Venice

**A Novel, by Christopher Moore**

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780061779770, \$15.99)

"Moore has always been a fantastic comic writer, with a fierce intelligence behind his relentlessly entertaining books, and *The Serpent of Venice* is his most delightful book yet. This novel continues the adventures of Pocket, the titular jester of *Fool*, as he befriends Shyllock's daughter, tries to straighten things out for Othello and Desdemona, and gets mixed up in Venetian politics, some of which bear a disturbing similarity to current events. And did I mention the sea serpent? Hilarious, thought-provoking, and thoroughly enjoyable!"

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



## The Sun and Other Stars

**A Novel, by Brigid Pasulka**

(Simon & Schuster, 9781451667127, \$16)

"This is a wondrous novel that radiates with poignant, witty insights on love, loss, loyalty, and sacrifice. Pasulka's sharp, engaging prose transports readers to a seaside Italian village and immerses them in community gossip, family dramas, and personal discoveries spurred by an obsession with soccer. It is a delightfully consuming story that will leave readers satiated and smiling."

—Anderson McKean, Page & Palette, Fair Hope, AL