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“Despite having reservations about a ‘baseball book,’ reading this debut novel I discovered that baseball is every bit as exciting and excruciating as any thriller, as complicated as any psychological mystery, as heartbreaking as my favorite romance. Harbach loves his characters, and never lets them off easily. All the words I want to use to describe this book—original, heartfelt, classic, hilarious, wise, unforgettable—are insufficient. I loved every word of it.”
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[St. Martin’s Griffin, 9781250007018, $14.99]
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—Geoffrey Jennings, Rainy Day Books, Fairway, KS

A Jane Austen Education
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—Christine Grabish, MacDonald Book Shop, Estes Park, CO

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State of Wonder
A Novel, by Ann Patchett
[Harper Perennial, 9780062049810, $15.99]
“When Marina Singh receives a note that her office mate, Anders Eckman, has died in the Amazon while investigating scientific work on female fertility, she is persuaded to follow him into the jungle in search of the doctor with whom he worked—who has also exerted a crucial influence on Marina’s life—and to retrieve Anders’ personal effects. This spellbinding, richly atmospheric novel raises ethical questions about scientific research and discovery, loyalty, honesty, and love. Not to be missed!”
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A Novel, by Vanessa Diffenbaugh
[Ballantine, 9780345525550, $15]
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The Last Sparrow
A Novel, by Tayari Jones
[Algonquin, 9781616201425, $13.95]
“The unconventional, morally troubling relationships at the core of Jones’ Silver Sparrow illustrate the universality of the human quest for acknowledgment, legitimacy, love, and loyalty. As Chaunisse and her secret half-sister, Dana, move toward adulthood, they must shed idealistic notions of romantic and familial love to face difficult truths. A complex family drama, a richly crafted coming-of-age story, and a meditation on the nature of love and forgiveness.”
—Libby Cowles, Maria’s Bookshop, Durango, CO

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Trespasser
A Novel, by Paul Doiron
[Minotaur, 9781250015971, $14.99]
“Maine Game Warden Mike Bowditch is back on the job, following his introduction in Doiron’s debut, The Poacher’s Son, and once again he’s tripping over bodies. He is called to the scene of an accident in which a car hit a deer, but when he arrives neither the deer nor the driver are there. He is convinced by a state patrolman to leave the matter to the state police, but the situation continues to haunt Bowditch. Where would a young woman go on a cold, snowy Maine night? Devastated by the truth that the girl was the one who was killed, Bowditch risks all to finally bring a killer to justice. Doiron is an author to watch!”
—Vicki Erwin, Main Street Books, St.Charles, MO

Turn of Mind
by Alice LaPlante
[Grove Press, 9780802145901, $15]
“This is an emotionally intense story of a 64-year-old half-sister Jennifer White, as she experiences the unyielding onslaught of dementia. On any given day she is lucid, catatonic, violent, or very, very, very, did she kill her friend Amanda and amputate her fingers? LaPlante’s exceptional skill with words puts readers inside this brilliant woman’s mind so that we might experience her anger, frustration, and increasing confusion. This is a remarkable, heart-wrenching, and utterly compelling debut novel.”
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