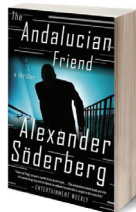




DECEMBER '13 NOW IN PAPERBACK



The Andalusian Friend

A Thriller, by Alexander Soderberg

(Broadway Books, 9780770436070, \$15)

"Fans of Stieg Larsson's Millennium series, rejoice! A new high-octane thriller (first in a trilogy) is here from Sweden. Sophie Brinkmann, a single mother and nurse, finds herself in the middle of a war between international drug dealers when she meets and starts dating a book publisher named Hector Guzman. The police

immediately contact Sophie to convince her to inform on Hector, who is actually the head of a criminal organization. Desperate to save her life and that of her son, Sophie turns to an ex-boyfriend for help. But he is an arms dealer, whose latest deal has angered his clients, unpredictable Russian mobsters. All these people collide in a tightly woven and highly suspenseful story."

—Pierre Camy, Schuler Books & Music, Grand Rapids, MI



The Aviator's Wife

A Novel, by Melanie Benjamin

(Bantam, 9780345528681, \$15)

"We know Charles Lindbergh as the hero who was the first to fly solo across the Atlantic, and his wife, Anne, as a poet and writer. In *The Aviator's Wife*, Benjamin offers a vivid portrait of the private side of the man and his family. The story is told from Anne's point of view and portrays a life where the family's every move is monitored

by the press and fed to the public. From Anne's growing self-confidence as Charles' co-pilot in exploration to the tragic kidnapping of their firstborn son to Lindbergh's extra-marital affairs, we share the joys and sadness of the aviator's wife in this poignant novel."

—Vicki Erwin, Main Street Books, Saint Charles, MO



Being Esther

A Novel, by Miriam Karmel

(Milkweed Editions, 9781571311054, \$15)

"Esther's daughter worries about her widowed mother living alone, but Esther resists being 'sent to Bingoville' and prefers living in her familiar north-side Chicago apartment building with its mix of neighbors, including her childhood friend. This is a pitch-perfect portrait of a woman reflecting on her past struggles and joys, meeting each day with zest despite her failing health and memory."

—Ellen Sandmeyer, Sandmeyer's Bookstore, Chicago, IL



The Carrion Birds

A Novel, by Urban Waite

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062216892, \$14.99)

"Can you really go home again? Urban White tackles this subject with great skill in *The Carrion Birds*. Ray, a recently unemployed widower, becomes a hired killer for a drug cartel. When Ray attempts to leave the cartel, his father is brutally murdered & Ray vows revenge. His cousin, Tom, a former police officer, tracks him down. But can cousins who are as close as brothers really do the right thing?"

—Pamela Pride, Kerri's Korner Bookstore, Fairmont, WV



Criminal Enterprise

A Stevens and Windermere Novel, by Owen Laukkanen

(Berkley, 9780425264706, \$9.99)

"CPA Carter Tomlin loses his job but pretends he is still employed. Desperate for funds, he robs a bank. One bank robbery leads to another, and soon he is shooting and terrorizing people. Introduced in Laukkanen's first novel, *The Professionals*, FBI agent Carla Windermere and

Minnesota Investigator Kirk Stevens, team up again. Carla knows that it is Carter doing the robberies, but Carter knows Carla has figured it out and he becomes even more violent and brazen."

—Susan Wasson, Bookworks, Albuquerque, NM



The Great Pearl Heist

London's Greatest Thief and Scotland Yard's Hunt for the World's Most Valuable Necklace, by Molly Caldwell Crosby

(Berkley Trade, 9780425253731, \$16)

"This is the true story of the heist of the most valuable pearl necklace in the world in 1913 London by one of the biggest international jewel thieves and the man who sent him to jail. This little-known case is a great read about how

Scotland Yard began to use forensic sleuthing to solve crimes as well as a compelling description of how the criminals were almost able to get away with the theft."

—Beth Carpenter, The Country Bookshop, Southern Pines, NC



Little Wolves

A Novel, by Thomas Maltman

(Soho Press, 9781616953430, \$15)

"Keep an eye on Tom Maltman. He hit the ground running with *Night Birds* and has now given us another award-worthy novel. Maltman populates *Little Wolves* with folks not unlike us, except that they harbor deep secrets and commit horrific crimes. You will be drawn into the intriguing murder plot, of course, but you will also be captivated by Maltman's lyrical prose, adept storytelling, and artistic rendering of the moody Midwestern prairie of the 1980s. Maltman has done for the Midwest what Steinbeck did for the Salinas Valley."

—Bev Denor, LaDeDa Books, Manitowoc, WI



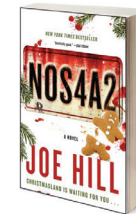
Marmee & Louisa

The Untold Story of Louisa May Alcott and Her Mother, by Eve LaPlante

(Simon & Schuster 9781451620672, \$16)

"In this intriguing dual biography fans of Louisa May Alcott may be surprised to learn what a gifted writer her mother was. Despite the nearly nonexistent educational opportunities for young women of her time, Abigail read and wrote with fervor, and as she grew older, these skills became a passion. Her words enabled self-expression and the ability to question, both of which were unexpected of 19th century women. LaPlante's lineage—she is descended from the Alcott family—enriches her gifts as a talented chronicler, and telling the story of Louisa's life by examining that of her mother is a fascinating structure."

—Christopher Rose, Andover Books, Andover, MA



NOS4A2

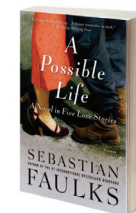
A Novel, by Joe Hill

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062200587, \$17.99)

"From the very opening scene, Joe Hill's *NOS4A2* gave me everything I want in a horror novel, believable characters coming face to face with fears that are primal and universal, and a plot that purrs along like the featured Rolls Royce, speeding on a wide-open night

highway. Poet Helen Adam always said that her goal in reciting her creepy ballads was to give listeners 'the grue,' that chill of a skeletal finger down the spine. This book gave me the grue. It kept on doing it, long after I've finished. I dare you not to want to keep reading. I dare you not to be very, very scared. I loved it."

—Robert McDonald, The Book Stall at Chestnut Court, Winnetka, IL



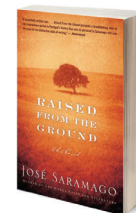
A Possible Life

A Novel in Five Parts, by Sebastian Faulks

(Picador, 9781250037855, \$16)

"This incredible novel traces the separate trajectories of five unforgettable lives in five different time periods. Each life story is expertly etched by Faulks, and each could stand alone, but the stories become even more compelling as they join to form a provocative whole."

—Jenny Lyons, The King's English Bookshop, Salt Lake City, UT



Raised From the Ground

A Novel, by José Saramago, Margaret Jull Costa (Trans.)

(Mariner, 9780544102736, \$14.95)

"Published in Portugal in 1980 and just now appearing in English, Saramago's third novel was worth the wait. A pivotal book in the late Nobel laureate's development, this tale marks the debut of Saramago's inimitable literary voice: digressive, ironic, humorous, and

graceful, but impatient with 'lyrical tosh,' it features a narrator who speaks as 'we' and embraces all of humanity in a drama of good versus evil. Scathing about the abuse of the poor by the rich and powerful, Saramago's story is nonetheless written from a deep faith in the pure-heartedness and resilience of the human spirit, showing how even the most down-trodden will eventually rise up."

—Laurie Greer, Politics and Prose Bookstore and Coffeehouse, Washington, DC



Reconstructing Amelia

A Novel, by Kimberly McCreight

(Harper Perennial, 9780062225443, \$15.99)

"Throw out all the clichéd superlatives!

McCreight's remarkable debut novel is about Kate Baron, a high-powered lawyer who believes that her daughter Amelia has committed suicide—until she receives the anonymous text—"She didn't jump." I couldn't turn the pages fast enough as Kate races to reconstruct her daughter's life. This novel will have crossover appeal to fans of Jodi Picoult as well as young adults and is also perfect for discussion groups."

—Jerry Brown, The Bookstore, Radcliff, KY