



JANUARY '14 NOW IN PAPERBACK



The Colour of Milk A Novel, by Nell Leyshon

(Ecco, 9780062192066, \$14.99)

"Heartbreaking, breathtaking, and very human, *The Colour of Milk* reads less like historical fiction and more like a memoir. Mary is a hardworking but willful farm girl in rural England until her abusive father 'sells' her to the local vicar as a servant. Her new position brings her opportunities for education and wider knowledge

than she ever had before, but there are consequences. Gripping!"

—Caitlin Caulfield, Odyssey Bookshop, South Hadley, MA



Cover of Snow

A Novel, by Jenny Milchman

(Ballantine Books, 9780345534224, \$15)

"Small towns have secrets. That's no surprise to anyone who has ever lived in one, but the depth of those secrets is what Nora Hamilton must explore in Milchman's debut. Nora's husband, Brendan, is a police officer in their small town of Wedeskyull, New York. One snowy January morning, Nora wakes up to an awful silence, and

finds her husband has hanged himself. She is beyond stunned, and as she tries to make sense of what has happened, Nora discovers that things in Wedeskyull are not as peaceful as she has always believed and that the secrets the town hides go back farther than she could have ever imagined."

—Fran Fuller, Seattle Mystery Bookshop, Seattle, WA



Finding Camlann A Novel, by Sean Pidgeon

(W. W. Norton, 9780393348255, \$15.95)

"This is a new and gripping look at the history and landscape of Britain and the legend of King Arthur. A linguist and an archeologist search for the truth behind the myth, as they climb foggy hills and glean new meanings from a mysterious poem. We follow them through long-lost battles and modern feuds, as they look with fascination

at the secrets and natural beauty of an ancient land that lives anew. *Finding Camlann* will please both scholars and poets and will intrigue historians and lovers of romance."

—Daniel Butler, Brookline Booksmith, Brookline, MA



The Golem and the Jinni

A Novel, by Helene Wecker

(Harper Perennial, 9780062110848, \$15.99)

"I think I missed the deadline for May, but I'm a strong believer in better late than never. Sorry!!! Helene Wecker's debut novel, *The Golem and the Jinni*, takes a magical flight back to turn of the century New York. The Golem is a woman cast from clay – the Jinni springs from fire. Both are old world denizens in a very new world, a world

and a time exquisitely rendered by Wecker. And while the most obvious elements of the novel are fantastical, with much of its magic being dark, at its heart *The Golem and the Jinni* brims emotionally over with love and loss, with longing and what it means to belong – or not. Wecker is part novelist, part alchemist – leaving the reader to wonder how she gave such vibrant life to her characters."

—Nick Petrolakis, Books Inc., San Francisco, CA



Gun Machine

A Novel, by Warren Ellis

(Mulholland Books, 9780316187411, \$17)

"Ellis brings visual storytelling skills honed by his comic and graphic novel work, his obsessions with present and future technology, and his flare for fast-paced dialog to a novel that is part modern police procedural, part CSI drama, part serial killer monologue, and part techno thriller. What starts out as a really bad day for Detective

John Tallow as he sees his partner shot dead in front of him suddenly becomes a potentially career-ending day with his discovery of an apartment full of guns that lead back to a host of unsolved murders. I hope that Ellis continues to explore this fascinating cast of characters in future books."

—Scott Stearns, The Book Nook, Ludlow, VT



Life After Life

A Novel, by Kate Atkinson

(Back Bay Books, 9780316176491, \$18)

"*Life After Life* is both an engaging puzzle and a meticulously detailed historical novel that spans the two World Wars. With the introduction of Ursula Todd, a woman who lives her life over and over, Atkinson plays with second chances and alternate histories, and poses endless, fascinating questions: What would the world be like if we

could start over when things went terribly awry? Could our decisions, big and small, avert wars? Make us happier? Stop death in its tracks? *Life After Life* is simply a terrific novel, rich with history and possibility."

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



Love Water Memory

A Novel, by Jennie Shortridge

(Gallery Books, 9781451684841, \$16)

"By the end of the first page of *Love Water Memory*, readers will both care about Lucie and want to know why she is standing in frigid San Francisco Bay in an Armani suit. Shortridge's novel moves like a thriller, as, along with Lucie, we discover what led to her flight from her fiancé, Grady, and her high-powered career.

Grady is loving but flawed and Lucie is not always likable, but they fight for understanding and happiness. Readers will be cheering for them all the way."

—Cheryl Krockner McKeon, Book Passage, San Francisco, CA



Snow White Must Die

A Novel, by Nele Neuhaus

(Minotaur, 9781250039774, \$14.99)

"This mesmerizing story comes from one of Germany's most popular mystery writers. A seemingly normal small town is turned upside down when the body of a young woman is found and the convicted killer of two young girls who have never been found returns home after 10 years in prison.

Nothing is as it seems as neighbor turns against neighbor and dark secrets from the past are slowly revealed by the diligent work of two police detectives. Filled with enough twists and turns and motives and means to keep you guessing to the very end!"

—Nancy McFarlane, Fiction Addiction, Greenville, SC



Some Girls, Some Hats and Hitler

A True Love Story, by Trudi Kanter

(Scribner, 9781476700281, \$16)

"Kanter's ability to take you inside her memories is phenomenal. Her tone is fluid, yet full of the tension of the times. Her use of unique phrases – 'it was delicious to know who was walking with whom' – and the way she speaks directly to her husband's memory add a refreshing and dreamlike familiarity to her prose. A love story, a reminder of a cruel period in history, and a book filled with hope, beautifully written. I'll never forget it!"

—Linda Bond, Auntie's Bookstore, Spokane, WA



A Tale for the Time Being

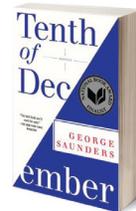
A Novel, by Ruth Ozeki

(Penguin Books, 9780143124870, \$16)

"Ruth, a writer, walking the beach of a remote Pacific island, comes across the modern-day equivalent of a message in a bottle: a freezer bag, covered with barnacles, containing a Hello Kitty lunchbox that has protected a watch, a diary, and a stash of letters. As Ruth begins to read the diary she wonders if it is debris from the 2011 tsunami. The book shifts between Ruth, the

diary of 16 year old Nao in Tokyo, and the letters of Nao's great-uncle who died in the war. Horribly bullied and lonely, Nao is planning to kill herself after she records the life of her great grandmother, a Buddhist nun. Ozeki allows us to see the despair and strength of her varied characters (a kamikaze pilot, a Buddhist nun, a writer, a failed software developer, a lonely teen), and deftly weaves history and philosophy into a tale you will not forget."

—Leslie Reiner, Inkwood Books, Tampa, FL



Tenth of December

Stories, by George Saunders

(Random House Trade Paperbacks, 9780812984255, \$15)

"Saunders' stories stretch the boundaries of reality, but his characters are often defined by their limits. He is a master satirist in top form with this collection, but his occasionally outlandish settings never overshadow the humanity of the men, women, and children struggling through each tale.

These stories do all the things we hope good fiction will do: blow your mind and break your heart, make you laugh and make you think."

—Jessica Stockton Bagnulo, Greenlight Bookstore, Brooklyn, NY



Vampires in the Lemon Grove And Other Stories, by Karen Russell

(Vintage, 9780307947475, \$14.95)

"Karen Russell has the audacity to venture into realms few writers will explore and the talent to make the landscape her own. She returns to the short story form and creates worlds surreal, magical, and horrific, all the while displaying the ability to comment on our own life through her fictional devices. Few modern writers can match

her skill, courage, and genius. This collection is testament to her right to be considered in the elite of current authors."

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