## The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend: A Novel
By Katarina Bivald
(Sourcebooks Landmark, 9781492623441, trade paper, $16.99)

“One of the conundrums facing a true bibliophile has always been: books or people? Sara has spent her entire life in Sweden working in a bookshop and her answer has always been obvious: books. An unexpected pen pal relationship with Amy—an older book lover from Iowa—challenges that easy answer. After months of corresponding, Amy invites Sara to come visit her one-stoplight town, Broken Wheel, for a summer of reading in small-town America. However, when Sara arrives, she is greeted by Amy’s funeral procession. Thousands of miles from home, Sara is at a loss for what to do. So, naturally, with Amy’s collection of books, she opens a bookstore. Bivald’s feel-good novel explores that ever-present question: books or people? Enjoy reaching your own conclusions.”
—Erin Figel, pages: a bookstore, Manhattan Beach, CA

### JANUARY ’16

#### Your Heart Is a Muscle the Size of a Fist: A Novel
By Sunil Yapa
(Lee Boudreaux Books, 9780316386531, trade paper, $26)
Recommended by Vicki Burger, Wind City Books, Casper, WY

#### The Song of Hartgrove Hall: A Novel
By Natasha Solomons
(Plume, 9780147517593, trade paper, $16)
Recommended by Lyla Wortham, Whistle-Stop Mercantile, Douglas, WY

#### My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel
By Elizabeth Strout
(Random House, 9781400067695, $26)
Recommended by Bill Cusumano, Square Books, Oxford, MS

#### Rosalie Lightning: A Graphic Memoir
By Tom Hart
(St. Martin’s Press, 9781250049940, $19.99)
Recommended by Lyla Wortham, Whistle-Stop Mercantile, Douglas, WY

#### American Housewife: Stories
By Helen Ellis
(Doubleday, 9780385541039, $24)
Recommended by Lauren Peugh, Changing Hands Bookstore, Tempe, AZ

#### And Again: A Novel
By Jessica Chiarella
(Touchstone, 9781501116100, $25.99)
Recommended by Ellen Sandmeyer, Sandmeyer’s Bookstore, Chicago, IL

#### Fallen Land: A Novel
By Taylor Brown
(St. Martin’s Press, 9781250077974, $25.99)
Recommended by Doug Robinson, Eagle Eye Book Shop, Decatur, GA

#### The Visitors: A Novel
By Simon Sylvester
(Melville House, 9781612935373, trade paper, $18.95)
Recommended by Sarah Hinckley, Hudson Bookstores, Marietta, GA

#### After the Crash: A Novel
By Michel Bussi
(Hachette Books, 9780316309677, $26)
Recommended by Darwin Ellis, Books on the Common, Ridgefield, CT

#### The Past: A Novel
By Tessa Hadley
(Harper, 9780062270412, $26.99)
Recommended by Yvette Olson, Magnolia’s Bookstore, Seattle, WA

#### The Expatriates: A Novel
By Janice Y.K. Lee
(Viking, 9780525429470, $27)
Recommended by Joanne Doggart, Where the Sidewalk Ends, Chatham, MA

#### The Guest Room: A Novel
By Chris Bohjalian
(Doubleday, 9780385541039, $24)
Recommended by Pamela Klinger-Horn, Excelsior Bay Books, Excelsior, MN

#### Only Love Can Break Your Heart: A Novel
By Ed Tarkington
(Algonquin Books, 9781616203825, $25.95)
Recommended by Andrew Hedglin, Lemuria Bookshop, Jackson, MS

#### The Sound of Gravel: A Memoir
By Ruth Wariner
(Flatiron Books, 9781250077691, $27.99)
Recommended by Mary Laura Philpott, Parnassus Books, Nashville, TN

#### When Breath Becomes Air
By Paul Kalanithi
(Random House, 9781501117398, $24)
Recommended by Dan Doody, University Book Store, Seattle, WA

#### The Gun
By Fuminori Nakamura, Allison Markin Powell (Trans.)
(Soho Crime, 9781616955908, $25.95)
Recommended by Cindy Pauldine, the river’s end bookstore, Oswego, NY

#### The Visitors: A Novel
By Charles Lambert
(Scribner, 9781476737398, $24)
Recommended by Dan Doody, University Book Store, Seattle, WA

#### The Geography of Genius: A Search for the World’s Most Creative Places, from Ancient Athens to Silicon Valley
By Sunil Yapa
(Lee Boudreaux Books, 9780316386531, trade paper, $26)
Recommended by Kathleen Dixon, Fair Isle Books, Washington Island, WI

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Vintage
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The Elliott Bay Book Company, Seattle, WA

The Daylight Marriage: A Novel
By Heidi Pitlor
Algonquin Books
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Recommended in hardcover by Sharon Nagel,
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Gallery Books
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Recommended in hardcover by Linda Bond,
Auntie’s Bookstore, Spokane, WA

The Jaguar’s Children: A Novel
By John Vaillant
Mariner Books
9780544570221, $14.95
Recommended in hardcover by Fran Keilty,
The Hickory Stick Bookshop, Washington Depot, CT

The Upstairs Wife: An Intimate History of Pakistan
By Rafia Zakaria
Beacon Press
9780807080467, $18
Recommended in hardcover by Cathy Langer,
Tattered Cover Bookstore, Denver, CO

West of Sunset: A Novel
By Stewart O’Nan
Penguin Books
9780143128243, $16
Recommended in hardcover by Kerry Spaulding,
University Book Store, Mill Creek, WA

The Devil’s Highway: A True Story
By Luis Alberto Urrea
Back Bay Books, 9780306000801, $16
Originally published in hardcover in 2004
“Empathy is the hallmark of most great novels, but the most important and powerful nonfiction often moves in the same direction as the novel, toward the complexities that come with such empathy. Such a work is Urrea’s account of the 26 men who crossed the border into the southern Arizona desert in 2001. Readers come to know and understand these men—14 of whom would perish in the desert—as well as the border patrol agents who are frustrated and traumatized by their inability to prevent the many deaths along the ‘Devil’s Highway.’ With his extraordinary skills as a writer, Urrea makes readers feel this tragedy deeply and painfully. This is a profoundly important and powerful book.”
—John Hughes, Warwick’s, La Jolla, CA

Cutting for Stone: A Novel
By Abraham Verghese
(Vintage, 9780375714368, $15.95)
Originally published in hardcover in 2009
“Twin boys, born to an Indian nun and a British surgeon in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, are raised in a hospital after their mother dies in childbirth and their father abandons them. Fascinated by the medicine that surrounds them, both brothers choose to become doctors in an Ethiopia on the edge of revolution. When both men fall in love with the same woman, one brother flees to begin a new life in America. Cutting for Stone is a compelling and beautiful family story that is rich with love and forgiveness. The epic feel of this book will stay with readers long after the final page is turned.”
—Sue Boucher, Cottage Book Shop, Glen Arbor, MI

Plainsong
By Kent Haruf
(Vintage, 9780375705854, $15)
Originally published in hardcover in 1999
“Much like Faulkner’s Yoknapatawpha County, Kent Haruf’s Holt, Colorado, captures the mythic element of the small town. Inspired by the American essence of Steinbeck, Haruf touches our land with the richness of humanity. Haruf’s precise and lean prose rivals Hemingway’s magic of the unspoken. With Plainsong, Haruf’s endurance as a writer will prevail.”
—John Evans, Lemuria Books, Jackson, MS

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