



# NOVEMBER 2016 NOW IN PAPERBACK



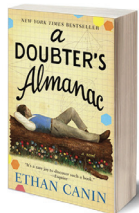
## Boys in the Trees: A Memoir

By Carly Simon

(Flatiron Books, 9781250095916, \$16.99)  
“*Boys in the Trees* is a surprising and delightful read and more than a guilty pleasure derived from a crass and exploitative celebrity culture. Carly Simon has always been an appealing and alluring personality, and her memoir presents an honest—yet crafty—look at her life, beautifully

and elegantly voiced. At times captivating, touching, and occasionally embarrassing, it is unflinching and entertaining—a sexy and romantic book with a sweet heart and soul.”

—Ed Conklin, Chaucer's Books, Santa Barbara, CA



## A Doubter's Almanac: A Novel

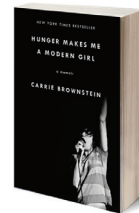
By Ethan Canin

(Random House Trade Paperbacks, 9780812980264, \$18)

“I love settling into a novel where I meet smart yet conflicted protagonists and get right into their skin. In *A Doubter's Almanac*, Milo Andret's mathematical genius is as much a burden as it is a gift. He makes a series of choices – damaging to

both himself and his family—that would seem to unravel any empathy readers might have for him, but Canin's eloquent prose brings out the humanity in even the most flawed individuals. This is a novel filled with characters whose struggles with intellect, family, and vulnerability I won't soon forget.”

—Sarah Bagby, Watermark Books & Café, Wichita, KS



## Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl: A Memoir

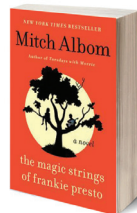
By Carrie Brownstein

(Riverhead Books, 9780399184765, \$16)

“Before *Portlandia*, before Sleater-Kinney, there was a girl living in the Pacific Northwest with big ambitions, desperately yearning for an identity all her own. In *Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl*, Brownstein strays from the normal parameters

of memoir to give readers an insightful, raw look into the moments that shaped her into the person who would later co-found one of the world's most influential rock bands. Navigating a past fraught with family turmoil, rejection from the music industry, and an unwavering determination to succeed, Brownstein shares the power of rock and roll, both as her catalyst to success and as a cultural barometer of our times.”

—Zack Ruskin, Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA



## The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto: A Novel

By Mitch Albom

(Harper Paperbacks, 9780062294432, \$15.99)

“According to the Spirit of Music, the narrator of Albom's latest novel, everyone joins a band in life—some of them play music, while others can be in a band of friendship, romance, or career.

Frankie's music is so powerful that he can actually affect people's futures with the six magic strings on his guitar, but this gift becomes a burden for Frankie, impacting his loves and friendships, and ultimately, his life. Albom offers a story destined to become a classic that will have readers looking at music differently than they ever have before.”

—Karen Briggs, Great Northern Books & Hobbies, Oscoda, MI



## Only Love Can Break Your Heart: A Novel

By Ed Tarkington

(Algonquin Books, 9781616205263, \$15.95)

“Tarkington's debut novel feels positively Shakespearean in its sense of family dynamics and the sometimes destructive power of love, but it speaks with the deceptively plain, poignant

language of a Neil Young song. Set in the 1980s in a small Virginia town, the book tells the coming-of-age story of Rocky Askew as he copes with fraternal abandonment, dangerous liaisons, caregiving, and one town scandal after another with little help other than his brother Paul's old vinyl collection.”

—Andrew Hedglin, Lemuria Bookshop, Jackson, MS



## The Opposite of Everyone: A Novel

By Joshilyn Jackson

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062105691, \$15.99)

“Paula Vauss, née Kali Jai, is complicated, with every right to be so. When she was a young girl, her mother landed in prison and Paula spent time in foster care. Kai, Paula's Southern, bohemian, Hindu story-telling, boyfriend-hopping mother,

loves her, but circumstances surrounding the separation permanently alter their unique love and each spends time trying to make life work again. This is a poignant story of hurt and forgiveness, of secrets and courage, and ultimately of allowing love and family to make one whole again. Jackson's *The Opposite of Everyone* will remain in readers' hearts long after the last line is read.”

—Annell Gerson, Bookmiser, Roswell, GA



## The Queen of the Night

By Alexander Chee

(Mariner Books, 9780544925472, \$15.95)

“This historical novel about an opera singer is as grand and theatrical as opera itself. It is the story of a legendary soprano who looks back at her past to solve a mystery, but it is also a story of an artist and the road she takes to become one. Chee attempts the seemingly impossible—

to describe a soprano voice with words—and he succeeds brilliantly, creating a tale that is vivid, intricate, and rich. Throw in cameos by figures like Verdi and George Sand, fascinating details about royal fashions, 19th century Paris, theater, and a circus, and the result is a perfect novel.”

—Anton Bogomazov, Politics & Prose, Washington, DC



## The Swans of Fifth Avenue: A Novel

By Melanie Benjamin

(Bantam, 9780345528704, \$16)

“Are you interested in the lifestyles of the rich and famous? Arrange your hair and makeup, darlings, and get ready to dish about the dirty little secrets in 1950s high society. Truman

Capote collected ‘swans’—rich and glamorous women who floated through life pampered and indulged. This fictionalized account of the meteoric rise and very public fall of Capote, entwined with his deep friendship with Babe Paley and his ultimate betrayal of her and the rest of the swans, will slake your thirst for gossipy, breezy, scandalous details. Take off your wrap, pour a highball, and enjoy!”

—Cindy Pauldine, the river's end bookstore, Oswego, NY



## Sweetgirl: A Novel

By Travis Mulhauser

(Ecco, 9780062400833, \$15.99)

“When her addict mother goes missing, Percy James is determined to find her before a winter storm descends upon their rural Michigan town. When Percy arrives at the drug dealer's house, the smells and clutter don't surprise her, but the discovery of a screaming infant does. Percy

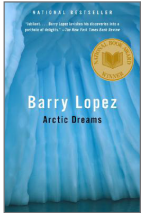
grabs the child and sets out to find help for her, no matter what the cost. Determined to save this little girl, Percy takes risks she never thought she could assume, and through the journey she finds she can save herself as well. Fans of Ron Rash will fall in love with Percy in Mulhauser's debut!”

—Teresa Steele, Old Firehouse Books, Fort Collins, CO



# Revisit & Rediscover

Take  
a fresh look  
at these old  
favorites.



## Arctic Dreams

By Barry Lopez  
(Vintage Books, 9780375727481, \$16.95)  
*Originally published in hardcover in 1986*

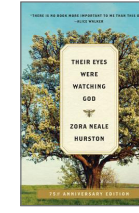
“Lopez brings a poet’s eye to his exploration of the frozen North and beautifully navigates the scientific, cultural, and mythic aspects of the Arctic landscape. Although *Arctic Dreams* reads like a timeless classic, the horrors of climate change mean that this book is rapidly becoming an ode to a lost world.”  
—Stephanie Valdez, Community Bookstore, Brooklyn, NY



## A Confederacy of Dunces

By John Kennedy Toole  
(Grove Press, 9780802130204, \$16)  
*Originally published in hardcover in 1980*

“Ignatius J. Reilly’s contempt for his fellow man would suit any Internet comment section, while his delusional view of himself as an unappreciated genius – the last bastion of intellectualism in a scourge of pop culture – would make a perfect hate blog. But this is the early 1960s, and his ‘audience’ is not uncaring online browsers but the louche denizens of New Orleans. Thankfully, Toole doesn’t take Ignatius as seriously as Ignatius takes himself. Come for the perfect NOLA patois, stay for the unlikely shenanigans.”  
—Aaron Curtis, Books & Books, Coral Gables, FL



## Their Eyes Were Watching God

By Zora Neale Hurston  
(Harper Perennial Modern Classics, 9780060838676, \$14.99)  
*Originally published in hardcover in 1937*

“Hurston’s gift with language and storytelling sings from every page as Janey Crawford journeys to self-discovery through three marriages, a devastating hurricane, and heartbreaking loss. Forced into a loveless marriage at 16 by her grandmother, Janie is used as cheap labor by her first husband and a career asset by her second. Only with the much younger Tea Cake does she find real love and her true self. With its straightforward portrayal of African American culture in 1930s Florida, this fine novel is devoid of an agenda beyond the portrayal of a strong woman coming into her own.”  
—Cathy Langer, Tattered Cover Book Store, Denver, CO