



SEPTEMBER 2016 NOW IN PAPERBACK



And Again: A Novel

By Jessica Chiarella

(Touchstone, 978150116117, \$15.99)

"This intriguing novel explores the age-old body/soul relationship from a fresh angle by introducing us to four participants in a pilot program that gives terminally ill patients new, genetically perfect bodies. Will these four—a beautiful actress, a womanizing congressman, a talented artist, and a beloved mother—simply resume their lives as they were before disease or accident struck? Or will they make new starts, make different choices? Can their new bodies incorporate what they have learned in the past? A fascinating literary debut."

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



The Art of Memoir

By Mary Karr

(Harper Perennial, 9780062223074, \$15.99)

"Karr, a professor of literature at Syracuse University and the author of three memoirs, provides readers and writers with background, insights, hints, history, and humor related to both her own writing and that of other memoirists, past and present. The book is valuable not only to those who aspire to document portions of their own lives, but also to those who find the genre of memoir of interest for casual reading."

—Susan Posch, The Book Shoppe, Boone, IA

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Be Frank With Me: A Novel

By Julia Claiborne Johnson

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062413727, \$15.99)

"When reclusive novelist Mimi Banning loses her fortune and must quickly write a second novel, her publisher sends a young publicist to oversee the efforts and make sure their huge investment is secure. Alice Whitley arrives and

is put to work as a caregiver to Mimi's eccentric nine-year-old son, Frank. Frank is a diamond in the rough, and as Alice gets to know him and the mysterious characters in his life, she becomes all-consumed with discovering his paternity. *Be Frank With Me* is captivating, irresistible, moving, heartbreaking, and utterly unputdownable."

—Bess Bleyaert, McLean & Eakin Booksellers, Petoskey, MI



Bell Weather: A Novel

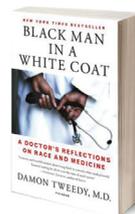
By Dennis Mahoney

(St. Martin's Griffin, 9781250093813, \$15.99)

"Set in a fantastical 18th century world where rain falls up and color storms wash the land with bright hues, *Bell Weather* is, at its core, the story of a spirited young woman fighting for the freedom to choose her own path. Although Molly tells the townsfolk of Root almost nothing of her

past, readers learn about her childhood with an overbearing governess, a cold father, and a brilliant, cunning brother who will stop at nothing to ensure that he and Molly are together and unbridled. Mahoney has created a marvelous world that readers will want to visit again and again."

—Amelia Stymacks, Northshire Bookstore, Manchester Center, VT



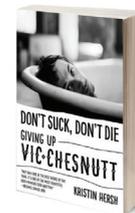
Black Man in a White Coat: A Doctor's Reflections on Race and Medicine

By Damon Tweedy, M.D.

(Picador, 9781250105042, \$16)

"A marvelous story of the pitfalls and problems of "doctoring while black." From a professor who mistakes him for a maintenance worker, to white—and black—patients who assume he is less competent than white doctors, Tweedy tells an engaging, personal, and compassionate story of his road to becoming an M.D. Combine our problematic medical system with our problematic race relations and...Damon Tweedy manages to come through all of this with memorable stories and great insights into both sides of the doctor/patient relationship, including the subtle effects of race on the quality of medical care for black patients."

—Tom Campbell, The Regulator Bookshop, Durham, NC



Don't Suck, Don't Die: Giving Up Vic Chesnutt

By Kristin Hersh

(University of Texas Press, 9781477311363, \$14.95)

"You don't need to be familiar with Chesnutt's or Hersh's work to appreciate this phenomenal book. Hersh is a writer of intense and subtle beauty, and through the tragic story of her close

friend and tourmate, Chesnutt, she evokes the torture of all that artistic genius encapsulates and makes that pain sing in a voice both opaque and elegant, grimy and pristine. A deeply affecting meditation on how music is a necessary expression of sadness and loneliness but also one of intense and inimitable beauty."

—Donovan Swift, Inkwood Books, Tampa, FL



Eileen: A Novel

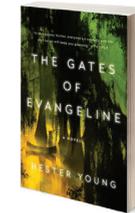
By Ottessa Moshfegh

(Penguin Books, 9780143128755, \$16)

"Psychological thrillers don't get any better than this. Moshfegh masterfully captures the inner despair of a young mind filled with vitriol. Through atmospheric and unsettling writing, the cold dreariness of small-town New England seeps into readers' bones even as Eileen's

twisted view of the world—desperate, angry, and vulnerable—seeps into the reading experience. Creepy, but morbidly funny too, *Eileen*, both the girl and the book, will be with readers long after the last page is turned."

—Christopher Phipps, DIESEL: A Bookstore, Oakland, CA



The Gates of Evangeline: A Novel

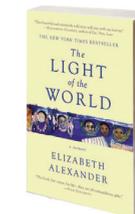
By Hester Young

(G.P. Putnam's Sons, 9780425283172, \$16)

"Charlie Cates recently lost her young son and the job that she worked so hard for is probably going to be eliminated. When Charlie is offered a chance to write about the Deveau family and their child who went missing over 30 years ago, she jumps at the chance. What she hasn't told

anybody is that she has been seeing visions of children in trouble and is currently experiencing one of a young boy in a rowboat in a Louisiana swamp who she suspects is the missing Deveau child. But what if she has it all wrong? In this excellent thriller, things are really not what they seem to be. A wonderful puzzle with a Southern Gothic feel, this is a definite must-read!"

—Janice Hunsche, Kaleidosaurus Books, Metamora, IN



The Light of the World: A Memoir

By Elizabeth Alexander

(Grand Central Publishing, 9781455599868, \$15.99)

"It is hard to find the right words to do justice to this very special book. Yes, it is by one of our greatest contemporary poets, Elizabeth Alexander, who wrote 'Praise Song for the Day' for President Obama's first inauguration, so the

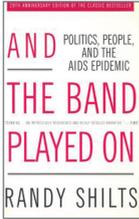
language is gorgeous. And yes, it is a memoir of losing her husband at a young age and so it is, in parts, gut-wrenchingly sad. And yes, it is an ode to an extraordinary man we come to feel we know as an artist, chef, father, friend, and lover. But, above all, it is as beautiful a love story as I have ever read, and it lifts readers up and gives us hope and makes us believe. I will urge it on everyone I know."

—Carole Horne, Harvard Book Store, Cambridge, MA



Revisit & Rediscover

Take
a fresh look
at these old
favorites.



And the Band Played On: Politics, People, and the AIDS Epidemic

By Randy Shilts

(St. Martin's Griffin, 9780312374631, \$21.99)

Originally published in hardcover in 1987

"*And the Band Played On* fuses the thoughtfulness of history to the urgency of a great news story. In writing about the people affected by the AIDS epidemic – doctors, politicians, and, most of all, gay men – Shilts powerfully conveys not only his anger at official inaction, but also his love and compassion for the victims. Thirty years after the book's publication, it continues to inspire, to move, and to drive a stronger engagement with issues and the truth of people's lives. Every time someone worries that a devastating topic means a depressing book, I think of *And the Band Played On*. Like *Schindler's List* or *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*, this book enlarges our understanding of the human story. It should be required reading."

—Michael Barnard, Rakestraw Books, Danville, CA



Geek Love: A Novel

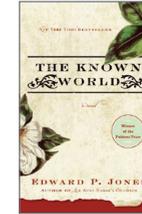
By Katherine Dunn

(Vintage, 9780375713347, \$16)

Originally published in hardcover in 1989

"A stunning, gripping, and profoundly unforgettable tale of what it means to be a 'freak,' *Geek Love* is the story of the Binewskis, a couple whose traveling carnival is failing, when they decide, through the use of prescription drugs and radiation, to birth a line of 'freakish' children to save their business. Narrator Oly, their albino dwarf daughter, leads us through the unsettling journey of her siblings. The humanity portrayed through those whom we may see as the least human among us is captured brilliantly."

—Kelly Estep, Carmichael's Bookstore, Louisville, KY



The Known World: A Novel

By Edward P. Jones

(Amistad, 9780061159176, \$16.99)

Originally published in hardcover in 2003

"When Jones' first novel, *The Known World*, was published in 2003, it was a literary sensation; Jones was even compared to Toni Morrison and William Faulkner. Set in a fictional antebellum Virginia county with a protagonist who is a mixed-race slaveholder, this complex examination of slavery won the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and a number of other literary awards. With a quiet restraint and luminous prose, it plumbs the depths of slavery's harsh realities and anomalies. It is a rare wonder and should not be missed."

—Carole Horne, Harvard Book Store, Cambridge, MA