



MARCH 2018 NOW IN PAPERBACK



Abandon Me: Memoirs

By Melissa Febos

(Bloomsbury USA, 9781632866585, \$17)
“Melissa Febos has one of those minds that’s as good at describing scenes as it is at clearly breaking down a complicated idea or articulating ambivalence. *Abandon Me* is a powerhouse collection—each essay can be enjoyed on its own, but taken together, they form a striking autobiographical portrait of a talented young writer and thinker. You won’t want to abandon a voice this powerful, and you won’t forget it either.”

—John Francisconi, Bank Square Books, Mystic, CT



All Our Wrong Todays: A Novel

By Elan Mastai

(Dutton, 9781101985151, \$16)
“Tom Barren is a time traveler. From 2016. A different 2016 from ours, that is. It’s complicated. You see, he travelled from his techno-perfect utopian 2016 back to 1964 and really messed things up, leaving us with our current world. Now, the 2016 Tom-in-our-world, given the chance to return to 1964 and fix what he broke and return the world to the spiffy state he knows, faces the dilemma of loyalty to friends and family from his world versus the possibility of settling down with the love of his life in our grungy world. Whichever he chooses, people he loves will cease to exist. I predict the clever, witty, and poignant *All Our Wrong Todays* will be a huge bestseller for screenwriter and first-time novelist Elan Mastai.”

—Clay Belcher, Signs of Life, Lawrence, KS



Edgar and Lucy: A Novel

By Victor Lodato

(Picador, 9781250096999, \$18)
“*Edgar and Lucy* is about a terribly broken family that faces crisis after crisis yet never gives up trying to be a family. The main narrator is eight-year-old Edgar, a child brilliant beyond his years but who has a problem relating to almost everyone except his grandmother, Florence. Edgar’s mother, Lucy, loves him in her own way but thanks to Florence, Lucy really doesn’t need to make much of an effort. When Florence dies, everything changes. A stunning novel, dark at times, raw and bold, written with an uncanny feel for life and death, *Edgar and Lucy* kept me spellbound waiting for its conclusion but unwilling for the story to end.”

—Nancy McFarlane, Fiction Addiction, Greenville, SC



The Fall of Lisa Bellow: A Novel

By Susan Perabo

(Simon & Schuster, 9781476761480, \$16)
“I was surprised by the lasting impact of this novel. Though it speaks to a horrible crime, it is not the crime that becomes the plot, but rather the crime’s impact. This book is an intimate look at adolescence—of how gritty and hard it can be. Through Meredith’s eyes, we are reminded of the tug-of-war between needing family and needing independence, the way that friendship and loyalty can get lost in the status wars of high-school cliques, and how innocence and wisdom twist together to leave behind something much more complex. I loved this book for its intimacy rather than its sensationalism.”

—Susan McCloskey, Bookshop Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA



Fever Dream: A Novel

By Samanta Schweblin, Megan McDowell (Trans.)

(Riverhead Books, 9780399184604, \$16)
“Haunting, foreboding, eerie, and ominous, Schweblin’s *Fever Dream* is the first of the Argentine author’s books to appear in English. Despite its brevity, *Fever Dream* throbs with a quickened pulse, as heightening tension is its most effective quality. An intriguing yet purposefully vague plot adds to the story’s mystique, one of peril, poison, and the unexplained terror of worms. Metaphorical in scope, Schweblin’s impressively constructed tale leaves much to the imagination but is all the richer for doing so. Unsettling and compelling, this is a delirious, potent novel not to be overlooked.”

—Jeremy Garber, Powell’s Books, Portland, OR

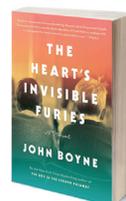


Girl in Disguise: A Novel

By Greer Macallister

(Sourcebooks Landmark, 9781492652731, \$15.99)
“‘I’m a resourceful and strong young woman, there is no other option.’ That’s the concept behind Greer Macallister’s telling of the real, honest-to-goodness life of Kate Warne, the first female Pinkerton detective. Kate is a widow with no money and no honest prospects, and she is desperate. Her unconventional upbringing taught her flexibility, and, spotting Pinkerton’s ad, she won’t take no for an answer. She is hired as an agent and, having proved her value, is soon hiring and training more female agents and serving as a spy as the U.S. prepares to split apart. *Girl in Disguise* is a delight: entertaining and a sure nonstop read.”

—Becky Milner, Vintage Books, Vancouver, WA



The Heart's Invisible Furies: A Novel

By John Boyne

(Hogarth, 9781524760793, \$17)
“A love song to John Irving, this new novel from John Boyne, acclaimed author of *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, may just be his masterpiece. The story follows the life of Cecil Avery, an adopted child raised in repressed Ireland by unconventional parents. Hilarious and awkward, heartbreaking and beautiful, the pains and small triumphs of its characters leave you feeling hopeful for the future. I loved this book!”

—Whitney Kaaz, Northshire Bookstore, Manchester Center, VT

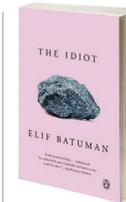


Her Every Fear: A Novel

By Peter Swanson

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062427038, \$15.99)
“Swanson builds tension in *Her Every Fear* like a chess grandmaster slowly revealing his game. Kate Priddy tries to escape her dark past with a move to Boston, only to discover that she is not the only one trying to hide their secrets, and that many are darker than her own. Moving seamlessly between each character’s point of view, Swanson’s heart-stopping thriller draws readers into this terrifying and twisted tale of revenge and holds them until the surprising end.”

—Luisa Smith, Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA



The Idiot: A Novel

By Elif Batuman

(Penguin Books, 978014311061, \$16)
“Batuman’s voice is biting original and her protagonist, Selin, brings vitality to the pages through her odd, serious, and slightly sardonic naiveté. The honesty of Selin’s self-exploration during her first year at Harvard struck a chord with me. Her frank sense of observation as she navigates first love, friendship, and freshman year are a breath of fresh air. I have not read anything quite like *The Idiot* and I doubt I will again. I loved it.”

—Kisky Holwerda, Astoria Bookshop, Astoria, NY

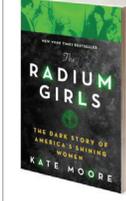


One of the Boys: A Novel

By Daniel Magariel

(Scribner, 9781501156175, \$15)
“The intensity of this novel is such that you’ll be relieved that it is not longer than its 176 powerful pages. When ‘the war’ with his wife ends, a man uses devious methods to win custody of his two sons, 12 and 14, packs them in his Jeep, and heads from Kansas to start a new life in Albuquerque. The boys are aware that their father uses drugs, but their loyalty to him and their youth keep them trapped in a home that soon becomes little more than a torture chamber as their father sinks further into his addiction. Narrated in excruciating detail by the younger son, this is a moving story about how parent/child love can be turned on its head by drug abuse. Excellent writing keeps one riveted in hope that the boys will survive.”

—Alice Meloy, Blue Willow Bookshop, Houston, TX



The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women

By Kate Moore

(Sourcebooks, 9781492650959, \$17.99)
“The harrowing true story of *The Radium Girls* is a compelling and forthright portrayal of a dark, insidious mystery and the ‘shining girls’ who revealed it. Author Kate Moore takes the reader from Orange, New Jersey, to Ottawa, Illinois, following several women who work at factories that specialize in painting watch faces and instrument dials with the glow-in-the-dark wonder element radium. As these women fall ill in various and dire ways in the ensuing years, they seek answers and relief from the very companies that would deny them. In *The Radium Girls*, Moore, like the ‘shining girls’ before her, casts a bright light on these lives lost too young.”

—Heather Herbaugh, Mitzi’s Books, Rapid City, SD



Small Great Things: A Novel

By Jodi Picoult

(Ballantine Books, 9780345544971, \$17)
“Picoult can be relied upon to find the themes that are most important to our national conversation and then to explore them with wit, warmth, and skill. In *Small Great Things*, she illuminates the racial divide in our country through the vivid stories of a black nurse, a white supremacist, and the public defender who intervenes when the worst happens. This excellent, timely novel is sure to be loved by Picoult’s fans and is certain to create new ones.”

—Michael Hermann, Gibson’s Bookstore, Concord, NH