



OCTOBER 2018 NOW IN PAPERBACK



The End We Start From

By Megan Hunter

(Grove Press, 9780802128591, \$14)

"As the floodwaters rise on London, a first-time mother takes her newborn son and flees for higher ground, seeking a safe haven from the environmental collapse and the chaos that will follow it. Luminous and sparse, heartbreaking yet hopeful, *The End We Start From* is a lyrical rumination on environment, normalcy in the midst of crisis, new motherhood, unavoidable endings, and tentative beginnings. A slim and stunning debut whose echoes will be thunderous."

—Rebecca Speas, One More Page Books, Arlington, VA



Five-Carat Soul: Stories

By James McBride

(Riverhead Books, 9780735216709, \$16)

"Sometimes after I've read a great book by an author, I judge. When I picked up a copy of James McBride's new collection of stories, *Five-Carat Soul*, I was prepared to be disappointed; how could he top *The Good Lord Bird*? Was I ever surprised, in the best way possible! These stories have all the magnificent qualities of his National Book Award-winning novel: quirky, poignant, and hilarious characters amid myriad situations in life, and humanity at its most human presented in beautiful writing. A couple of multi-story combinations read like novellas, and satisfied my craving to know more about the most interesting of the characters. McBride has set the bar high once again."

—Mamie Potter, Quail Ridge Books, Raleigh, NC



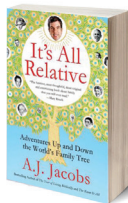
A Hundred Small Lessons: A Novel

By Ashley Hay

(Washington Square Press, 9781501165146, \$16)

"This a beautifully written, important, quiet gem of a novel that takes hold of you and wends its way into your psyche. It tells the story of two families who live in the same house at different times in Brisbane, plumbing the relationships between mothers and children, husbands and wives. Marriage and motherhood are explored in-depth within the context of the story's rich character development. *A Hundred Small Lessons* is a welcome addition to the genre of thoughtful novels with much wisdom to offer the reader. I highly recommend this novel, whose life lessons will continue to live with me for years to come."

—Sarajane Giddings, Blue Door Books, Cedarhurst, NY



It's All Relative: Adventures Up and Down the World's Family Tree

By A.J. Jacobs

(Simon & Schuster, 9781476734507, \$16)

"For anyone interested in climbing their own family tree, A.J. Jacobs' *It's All Relative* offers a lighthearted crash course into the addictive world of genealogy. Inspired by the record-breaking get-togethers of the Lilly clan and heartened by the theory that we're all related, Jacobs embarks on a quest to hold the world's largest family reunion. As Jacobs juggles the mechanics of such a massive undertaking, he interviews well-known researchers in the field, discovers famous 'cousins,' and considers some of the ethical issues of diving into an ancestor's past. An enjoyable introduction to genealogy and the living family tree."

—Molly Gillespie, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Cincinnati, OH



The Prague Sonata: A Novel

By Bradford Morrow

(Grove Press, 9780802128683, \$17)

"A rich, sweeping novel that moves through history, from World War I to World War II, into the fall of the Soviet Union, and up to the present day. Weaving throughout the story is a hauntingly beautiful anonymous piano sonata that has been broken up into three parts. With rich and complex characters and multilayered writing that moves seamlessly throughout, *The Prague Sonata* touches deep into the human heart."

—Richard Corbett, Powell's Books, Portland, OR



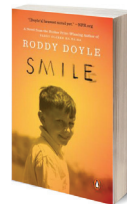
Seven Days of Us: A Novel

By Francesca Hornak

(Berkley, 9780451488763, \$16)

"The holidays are always a stressful time, but imagine being with your immediate family for a full seven days of quarantine! This is the premise of Hornak's *Seven Days of Us*. To ride out the weeklong quarantine imposed due to daughter Olivia's work treating patients of an epidemic in Liberia, the Birch family plans to spend the Christmas holiday in mother Emma's crumbling ancestral home, Weyfield Hall, in Norfolk. On top of isolation and the lack of escape, each member of the family is dealing with their own secrets. A wonderful tale full of humor and heartache and all the issues families deal with—love, longing, and regret. Sometimes being forced together gives you a new perspective on your family and yourself."

—Maxwell Gregory, Lake Forest Book Store, Lake Forest, IL



Smile: A Novel

By Roddy Doyle

(Penguin Books, 9780735224469, \$16)

"Roddy Doyle is best known for writing engaging dialogue that permeates the pages of his perfect Irish novels. *Smile*, his latest novel, is no exception. Except with this work, the playful Irish banter not only serves to transport you to the Irish pubs where recently divorced Victor Forde finds himself confronting his adolescence and current sense of belonging, it also leads you to question everything you just read once you turn the last page."

—Casey Protti, Bookshop Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA



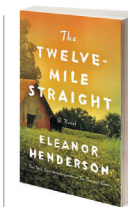
This Could Hurt: A Novel

By Jillian Medoff

(Harper Paperbacks, 9780062660770, \$16.99)

"Who knew that a novel about a faltering company's HR department could be so gripping and compassionate? Anyone who has worked in a company with other people will appreciate the resentments, friendships, and competitions that develop in a long-time team. Medoff does a great job of making the reader care about each and every character."

—Susan Taylor, Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza, Albany, NY



The Twelve-Mile Straight: A Novel

By Eleanor Henderson

(Ecco, 9780062422095, \$16.99)

"When asked what defines 'Southern' literature, most would put land and family on the top of the list. These also define Eleanor Henderson's *The Twelve-Mile Straight*, a story set in the 1930s in Georgia, where George Wilson owns the cotton mill and most of the land and Juke Jessop is a sharecropper on land that wouldn't support his family, but his renown fills the gap. Full of entanglements, violence, and vivid characters, both white and black, this gripping saga starts with a lynching and weaves back and forth in time and voice until a stasis, if not resolution, is reached."

—Ann Carlson, Waterfront Books, Georgetown, SC



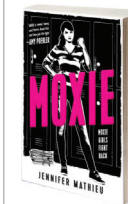
An Enchantment of Ravens

By Margaret Rogerson

(Margaret K. McElderry Books, 9781481497596, \$10.99)

"You have one job this fall: read this book. That is if the idea of a gorgeous, glittering, and sometimes grotesque modern fairy tale imbued with wit, humor, and pitch-perfect romance appeals to you. I absolutely loved this unexpected, absurdly lovely novel. It gave me the creeps, it made me laugh out loud, and I swooned and cheered. Isobel is badass, and this story is a joy to read. I can't wait to see what Rogerson writes next! Perfect for fans of Holly Black, Laini Taylor, or anyone who loved *Uprooted* by Naomi Novik."

—Cristina Russell, Books & Books, Coral Gables, FL



Moxie: A Novel

By Jennifer Mathieu

(Square Fish, 9781250104267, \$9.99)

"I adored this book. Vivian's many struggles are so beautifully portrayed: negotiating between an old friendship and a new one; navigating a new crush; worrying about her grandparents' reaction to behavior that's out of character; raging silently (at first) against the quotidian misogyny of a small town high school. And, of course, her *Moxie* zine is everything you would want from a cool, smart, strong teen heroine."

—Lexi Beach, Astoria Bookshop, Astoria, NY



Renegades

By Marissa Meyer

(Square Fish, 9781250180636, \$10.99)

"Prodigies—people born with special powers—have been separated into two groups, villains and Renegades. After being let down by the Renegades as a child, Nova has grown up as a villain. Adrian, on the other hand, is the adopted son of two of the Renegades' founders, and he believes in heroism wholeheartedly. When Nova becomes a Renegade to spy on their inner workings, she and Adrian end up challenging each other's long-held beliefs about good and evil. Marissa Meyer writes superhero stories just as well as sci-fi fairy tales. I'm so glad I have the Renegades now that Cinder's story is over."

—Melissa Oates, Fiction Addiction, Greenville, SC