



# JANUARY 2019 NOW IN PAPERBACK



## The Afterlives: A Novel

By Thomas Pierce

(Riverhead Books, 9780399573002, \$16)

"In *The Afterlives*, Thomas Pierce follows a man's quest for what comes after death. The story skillfully intersects religion, technology, philosophy, humor, love, and fear, but love and fear are what really got to me. The novel celebrates the love we're born into with our family and the love we find, but behind that is the fear of its loss. The

novel doesn't flinch. Pierce's characters are so natural and so funny that at times it felt like I was reading Douglas Coupland or Elan Mastai. *The Afterlives* didn't feel bleak or hopeless or preachy—it was sincere and hopeful."

—Myles Mickle, Village Square Booksellers, Bellows Falls, VT



## Anatomy of a Miracle: A Novel

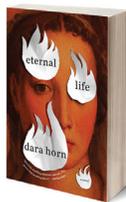
By Jonathan Miles

(Hogarth, 9780553447606, \$16)

"A priest, a doctor, and a reality TV producer walk into a convenience store... Actually, the notable walker in this story is Cameron Harris, a paralyzed soldier who inexplicably rises from his wheelchair and starts walking in the Biz-E-Bee parking lot. *Anatomy of a Miracle* follows Harris and the aforementioned sundry characters in

the aftermath and dissection of this reported 'miracle.' Was it science? Was it divine? Was it a hoax? Will it make for a hit TV show? Jonathan Miles' charming—and often humorous—novel explores the varying perspectives on faith, truth, and the unexpected consequences of the miraculous."

—Lelia Nebeker, One More Page Books, Arlington, VA



## Eternal Life: A Novel

By Dara Horn

(W.W. Norton & Company, 9780393356564, \$15.95)

"*Eternal Life* is a stunningly moving and lively investigation of mortality. It is also a story of profound love—young love, eternal love, and the love of parents for their children. Rachel, whose inability to die animates the plot, is a strong, willful, and complex woman. Dara Horn, whom I have long admired, infuses

the book with her profound knowledge of Judaism, without ever becoming dull or didactic. This is an ode to the joys, sorrows, and brevity of existence as seen through the improbable lens of eternal life—and it made me cry! Highly recommended."

—Lilla Weinberger, Readers' Books, Sonoma, CA



## Everything Here Is Beautiful: A Novel

By Mira T. Lee

(Penguin Books, 9780735221970, \$16)

"*Everything Here Is Beautiful* is a remarkable debut about two sisters and the strength of their bond. At the heart of this story is Lucia—a sister, mother, and woman who struggles with mental illness. Told from alternating points of view, Mira T. Lee gives an honest and emotional look at living with mental illness and its

impact on not only your own life but the lives of those you love most.

Captivating doesn't begin to cover this novel. You will find me eagerly waiting on the edge of my seat for the next book by this talented author."

—Kaitlin Smith, Copperfield's Books, Sebastopol, CA



## Force of Nature: A Novel

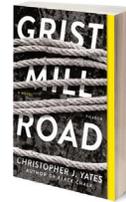
By Jane Harper

(Flatiron Books, 9781250105653, \$16.99)

"A company team-building weekend in the thick Australian bush goes awry when the women's team gets lost. Hidden feelings between team members complicate their mission to get back to the camp. When four of the five return, they each have a different story about what happened to Alice. After his debut in *The Dry*, Aaron Falk returns to

solve this mystery and resolve some personal issues, but this time we have wet, cold wind creating the most miserable conditions imaginable for those who are lost, hungry, and quickly becoming suspicious of each other. The complicated plot, edge-of-your-seat suspense, and vivid description of the rugged Giralang Ranges will keep you breathless."

—Nancy McFarlane, Fiction Addiction, Greenville, SC



## Grist Mill Road: A Novel

By Christopher J. Yates

(Picador, 9781250150301, \$18)

"I love finding a new author who writes something so great that I'm compelled to find more of their work. Christopher Yates is my new guy. At the start of *Grist Mill Road*, the reader witnesses an event that changes the lives of three people, Hannah, Matthew, and Patrick, who each have their moment to narrate their

side of the story. Saying there is great character depth here doesn't do Yates justice; they become living, breathing human beings. This gripping story keeps your heart racing at just the right pace and the story concludes right where it should. Be prepared to put yourself in another person's shoes—well, make that three pairs of shoes."

—Nichole Cousins, White Birch Books, North Conway, NH



## It Devours!: A Welcome to Night Vale Novel

By Joseph Fink, Jeffrey Cranor

(Harper Perennial, 9780062476074, \$16.99)

"Even if you've never heard of Night Vale, I truly believe you'll enjoy *It Devours!* It's a book about science and religion. It's a book about belonging and how sometimes to truly understand what is happening, you may need an outsider's perspective. It's also a book about a friendly desert town that finds its way into some of the strangest predicaments, and the people who live there. In other words, it's superbly written science fiction that deserves to be read more than once."

—Allison Skaggs, Lowry's Books, Three Rivers, MI



## The Largesse of the Sea Maiden: Stories

By Denis Johnson

(Random House Trade Paperbacks, 9780812988659, \$17)

"Denis Johnson is one of those writers whose work you read, no matter the topic or reviews. Even in his strangest stories, he manages to conjure just the right turns of phrase to put the reader within his wacky world. I was so excited to get my hands on his posthumously published collection of short stories, which reminds me of his breakout collection, *Jesus' Son*. The stories are wry, expertly written, and laced with similarly hazy, under-the-influence characters. It was bittersweet to read his final published works, but he certainly didn't let us down."

—Courtney Flynn, Trident Booksellers & Café, Boston, MA



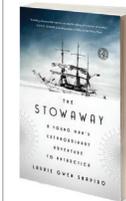
## Love and Ruin: A Novel

By Paula McLain

(Ballantine Books, 9781101967393, \$17)

"*The Paris Wife* and *Circling the Sun* were two of the most successful titles of the last decade for Alabama Booksmith, and *Love and Ruin* is more proof for the pudding that Paula McLain is a member of the master class of historical fiction writers. This exciting page-turner follows Martha Gellhorn as she reports from the center of the action of the Spanish Civil War, then jeopardizes her reputation and very existence by falling in love with the greatest literary giant of the day, Ernest Hemingway. This spectacular read is fact-based and deliciously entertaining."

—Jake Reiss, Alabama Booksmith, Birmingham, AL



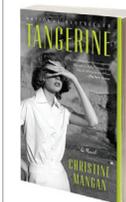
## The Stowaway: A Young Man's Extraordinary Adventure to Antarctica

By Laurie Gwen Shapiro

(Simon & Schuster, 9781476753874, \$16)

"The story of Billy Gawronski, the young man who repeatedly tried to join Richard Byrd's Antarctic expedition, reads like an adventure novel. The reality of his life is beyond the realm of the wildest imagination. Shapiro brings this resilient and resourceful man to life against the changing world of the Roaring Twenties, and his story perfectly reflects a world undergoing vast change. Combining narrative, science, and portraits of outsized personalities, Shapiro treats the reader to a story that is not only relevant but a total joy."

—Bill Cusumano, Square Books, Oxford, MS



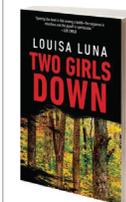
## Tangerine: A Novel

By Christine Mangan

(Ecco, 9780062686695, \$16.99)

"*Tangerine* is one of the best debut novels I've read in a long time. Thanks to her exquisite writing, Christine Mangan manages to create a lush, vivid picture of Tangier in the 1950s and bring to life a complicated and very dark friendship between two young women. Lucy and Alice are former college roommates whose relationship has long since gone sour. When they reunite in Tangier, Mangan milks the delicious tension for all it's worth and brings their story to a shocking conclusion. This book is an absolute stunner!"

—Erika VanDam, RoscoeBooks, Chicago, IL



## Two Girls Down: A Novel

By Louisa Luna

(Anchor, 9780525433750, \$16)

"At last, a book with girl in the title that is about actual girls. Kylie and Bailey, ages 8 and 10, disappear from a strip mall. Their mother is frantic and the police are making no progress. When the family hires Alice Vega, an out-of-state bounty hunter, to find the girls, she teams up with Max Caplan, a former cop turned private investigator, and they combine their skills to try to find the missing girls before it is too late. A suspenseful and all-too-real scenario that will drive readers to finish the story before doing anything else."

—Sharon K. Nagel, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI