



# SEPTEMBER 2019 NOW IN PAPERBACK



## The Feral Detective: A Novel

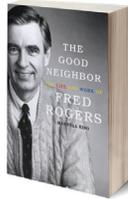
By Jonathan Lethem

(Ecco, 9780062859075, \$16.99)

"Lethem's latest is a treat for fans and new readers alike. His personal brand of detective fiction (shrewd character descriptions, razor-sharp dialogue, and scene-setting that engages all five senses) has always been indebted to the (wild) West Coast—Hollywood specifically—so it's unsurprising that *The Feral Detective* is as satisfying as

his New York novels. A compelling and timely tale of why even going off the grid won't save you from going off your rocker."

—John Francisconi, Bank Square Books, Mystic, CT



## The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers

By Maxwell King

(Abrams Press, 9781419735165, \$18, available Sept. 17)

"A wonderful biography of an American icon who seemed too good to be true. And yet, believe it or not, he was an even better, more caring man than he portrayed on television. If you are a fan of Fred Rogers and want to

understand what drove him to create *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*, this is an essential read. Learning more about Rogers' life through the words of his family and friends in this well-researched and comprehensive biography will give you even more reason to admire the man. And when's the last time a biography made you cry tears of joy?"

—James Wilson, Octavia Books, New Orleans, LA



## Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth

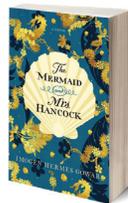
By Sarah Smarsh

(Scribner, 9781501133107, \$17)

"A classic is born! Sarah Smarsh takes us on a five-generation trek through the hardscrabble life of her Kansas childhood in the '80s and '90s. Just as J.D. Vance's *Hillbilly Elegy* and Barbara Ehrenreich's *Nickel*

and *Dime* addressed the uncomfortable topic of poverty in this country, *Heartland* successfully gives the reader an in-depth look at impoverishment in the bread basket of America. She writes with a crystal-clear and objective voice, never giving in to self-pity or malevolence. Indeed, tongue-in-cheek humor and tenderness often shine through. This book is a must-read, a milestone in the life of our country."

—Nancy Simpson-Brice, Book Vault, Oskaloosa, IA



## The Mermaid and Mrs. Hancock: A Novel

By Imogen Hermes Gowar

(Harper Perennial, 9780062859969, \$16.99)

"This book was a pure delight from beginning to end. High-class escorts, nouveau riche merchants, madams, back-stabbings, broken hearts, mended hearts, parties, an angry mob, pining, mermaids: what more could you ask from a historical novel taking place in the late 18th century? The characters are so well-rounded I found myself cringing for them in their embarrassment and cheering for them in their triumph. The writing is so atmospheric it feels absolutely authentic. The only way to describe this book is as an absolute romp."

—Chelsea Bauer, Union Avenue Books, Knoxville, TN



## The Real Lolita: A Lost Girl, an Unthinkable Crime, and a Scandalous Masterpiece

By Sarah Weinman

(Ecco, 9780062661937, \$17.99)

"Any fan of Nabokov's *Lolita* will be enthralled by Sarah Weinman's investigation of the real-life kidnapping and sexual assault that became the basis for the 20th-century masterpiece. Weinman dives deep into the archives to piece together the ties between fact and fiction, even when the author or the victim's family refused to discuss history. Swapping between true-crime journalism and contemporary literary analysis, the author brings new attention to Nabokov's seminal work and draws the tragedy of Sally Horner out of obscurity."

—Ariel Jacobs, Solid State Books, Washington, DC



## She Would Be King: A Novel

By Wayétu Moore

(Graywolf Press, 9781644450017, \$16)

"A retelling of the birth of Liberia through interconnected stories, this wholly original novel combines history, magic, and myth in one engrossing story. *She Would Be King* takes you from West Africa to the plantations of Virginia, from Jamaica to Liberia, weaving together the stories of three characters who yearn for power and true freedom. Guided by the ancient wind, all of Moore's characters challenge and transcend the many faces of oppression, and the story's profound culmination will leave you in awe. A must-read!"

—Morgan McComb, Raven Book Store, Lawrence, KS



## The Silence of the Girls: A Novel

By Pat Barker

(Anchor, 9780525564102, \$16.95)

"The women in Homer's *Iliad* hardly ever speak; we are not privy to their thoughts, feelings, or anguish as expressed in their own words. Until now. *The Silence of the Girls* depicts moments of the Trojan War through the eyes of the female captives at the mercy of the men who have slaughtered their husbands, fathers, brothers, and sons. The focus of Barker's novel is Briseis, through whose eyes we see, up close, the rift between Agamemnon and Achilles, the bond between Achilles and Patroclus, and the complex, beautiful support system the captured women weave together. Barker's novel is a masterpiece."

—Ariel Jacobs, Solid State Books, Washington, DC



## Virgil Wander: A Novel

By Leif Enger

(Grove Press, 9780802147127, \$17)

"From the fated flight of Virgil Wander's Pontiac into the frigid waters of Lake Superior to an encounter with Rune, an enigmatic kite enthusiast searching for word of a long-lost son, and other interactions with the citizens of Greenstone, Minnesota, Leif Enger's new novel is a most welcome, albeit quirky, story of words and people lost and found. Lovers of *Peace Like a River*, rejoice! Enger is back with another enchanting and enriching tale of community and revival. A perfect remedy for those whose hearts ache from our present reality, *Virgil Wander* is a treasure to be shared with all readers."

—Mark Nichols, Bank Square Books, Mystic, CT



## Waiting for Eden: A Novel

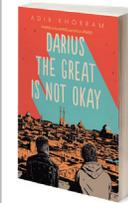
By Elliot Ackerman

(Vintage, 9781101971567, \$16)

"I was completely captivated by this intensely emotional yet compact novel. Both of Ackerman's previous novels were acclaimed by readers and critics alike, but *Waiting for Eden* proves something more. In less than 200 pages, the intersecting lives of three people and the consequences of their choices are revealed in an astounding manner. It's a love story, a ghost story, a horror story, a war story, and, ultimately, a testament to the resilience of the human spirit. I don't want to tell you much more as I don't want to spoil it, but urge you to read this powerful and important work of literature."

—Cody Morrison, Square Books, Oxford, MS

### YOUNG ADULT CROSSOVER FAVORITES



## Darius the Great Is Not Okay

By Adib Khorram

(Penguin Books, 9780525552970, \$10.99)

"A beautiful, thoughtful book that is all the more impressive for being a debut! Darius is visiting Iran with his family and meeting his grandparents in person for the first time. He struggles with fitting into an unfamiliar culture and feeling like a disappointment to his father, but a new friendship helps him learn some truths about himself and see the world in a new way. An achingly relatable story in a wry, honest voice. Stunning."

—Cecelia Cackley, East City Bookshop, Washington, DC



## The Light Between Worlds

By Laura E. Weymouth

(HarperTeen, 9780062696885, \$10.99)

"Laura Weymouth's debut novel, *The Light Between Worlds*, is a captivating tale of two sisters struggling to find home and to find themselves. The younger, Evelyn, longs for the days when she and her sister and brother lived in the Woodlands, a mystical Narnia-like land Weymouth paints with beautiful lyricism. Evelyn has carried the weight of her longing since she and her siblings returned to post-WWII England. When Evelyn goes missing, Phillipa carries the loss of her sister, as well as the pain of her own choices. They embark on their own journeys of healing and belonging, each searching for what they've lost and where they belong. Written with meaning, feeling, and depth, *The Light Between Worlds* is a stunning debut."

—Hannah Wilson, Out West Books, Grand Junction, CO



## Wildcard

By Marie Lu

(Penguin Books, 9780399548000, \$10.99,

available September 17)

"*Wildcard* picks up exactly where *Warcross* left off. Emika has uncovered Hideo's evil plan and now she's determined to stop him. But while she can trust her Phoenix Rider friends, she isn't sure what to make of Zero. *Wildcard* is a non-stop action, adventure, science

fiction thrill ride! In both the real world and the virtual there's barely a moment to pause and catch your breath."

—Jennifer Jones, Bookmiser, Roswell, GA