City of Girls: A Novel
By Elizabeth Gilbert
(Riverhead Books, 9781594634741, $17)
“City of Girls is a champagne cocktail, a tonic for anything...”

Disappearing Earth: A Novel
By Julia Phillips
(Vintage, 9780525436225, $16.95)
“Julia Phillips is an author to watch. She beautifully transports us to a region of the world that I had never heard of and now can’t stop thinking about. The stories of the women there— their family dynamics, their hopes and fears, the economic and cultural divide of various communities—tell a moving story about this place in a moment in time, but ultimately about the universal struggle of women living with the expectations placed on them. A remarkable debut.”

The End of the End of the Earth: Essays
By Jonathan Franzen
(Picador, 9781250234899, $17)
“Franzen reports on the state of the environment from Africa to Antarctica and questions his role as a privileged Westerner in a world of vast inequality. Using birds as his moral compass, Franzen evokes the deep joy they bring and delivers heartbreaking accounts of ruined habitats, wanton slaughter of songbirds, and the devastating toll of industrial fishing on seabirds. No less tragic are the stories of impoverished people who live among these birds, and Franzen questions the ethics of worrying about avian suffering in the midst of so much human suffering. Ultimately as hopeful as it is anguished, Franzen’s book takes biodiversity as its guiding principle: there’s no one way to save the world, just as there’s no single set of rules governing how to live in it.”

The Honey Bus: A Memoir of Loss, Courage and a Girl Saved by Bees
By Meredith May
(Park Row, 9780778309758, $16.99)
“I loved this perfect memoir so much that I read it twice and already know that it will be one of my favorites of the year. Meredith McLean learns to withstand pain, loss, and grief through the lessons her beloved grandfather teaches her. After her mother moves the family away from her father and shuts down emotionally, Grandpa shows May and her brother love and how to use honeybees as an example of how to survive and thrive in a confusing world. I cannot wait to put this moving, emotionally compelling memoir into many hands this spring!”

I Miss You When I Blink: Essays
By Mary Laura Philpott
(Atria Books, 978198202814, $16.99)
“Mary Laura Philpott writes about today’s American woman in her marvelously frank and witty book of essays. Women of all ages will nod their heads reading about the decision to have babies (or not), the pitfalls of volunteering, the difficulty of getting a cat and being from under the bed, the reward of crossing things off ‘the list,’ the challenge of finding time for relaxation and, above all, the acceleration of time as we age. Philpott shares pivotal moments from her life in such a relatable way that, through both laughter and tears, readers will exclaim, ‘Yes, yes, this is ME! Don’t miss this gem!’”

Lost and Wanted: A Novel
By Nell Freudenberger
(Vintage, 9780804170783, $16.95)
“Freudenberger writes with understated authority about grief, motherhood, and coming to terms with the decisions you make throughout your life. Everyone in Helen’s orbit is touched by Charlie’s death, and their grief is as mysterious as the scientific questions Helen grapples with in her work. This is a powerfully beautiful novel.”

Miracle Creek: A Novel
By Angie Kim
(Picador, 9781250251305, $17)
“Miracle Creek is a courtroom drama with impeccable pacing, an original plot, and stellar writing. It’s also a remarkably empathetic book, exploring the ripple effects of causality and the urgent need to do right by each other in big and small ways, recognizing that even the best of us will fail once in a while. It is a lovely reminder that even when doing the right thing feels like swimming upstream, we never know what harm may be prevented and what good might come from our actions. A great read that deserves broad success.”

Mrs. Everything: A Novel
By Jennifer Weiner
(Washington Square Press, 9781501133497, $17)
“Mrs. Everything is a magnificent look at the myriad societal changes for women that occurred in a short span of decades, wrapped up in a compelling novel of two sisters. While I’ve loved reading all of Jennifer Weiner’s work over the years, I believe THIS is her legacy novel—the book that will be read generations from now! It filled my heart.”

The Poisoned City: One Killer, Two Detectives, and the Battle to Cure a Pervasive Illness
By Beate Kindermann and Michael Pollan
(Harper, 9780062748383, $16.99)
“Kindermann and Pollan... are driven by an intense desire to put things right. Their book is a tour of the world of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and its toxic legacy, a journey that takes them from the laboratory to the courtroom to the manufacturing plant.”

YOUNG ADULT CROSSOVER FAVORITES
Opposite of Always
By Angie Sevin
(Penguin Books, 9780142422205, $10.99)
“Sevin weaves together multiple storylines to write a thoughtful and thought-provoking novel about race, class, and the effects of privilege on identity. With well-developed characters and a satisfying conclusion, Opposite of Always is a must-read for fans of John Green or anyone who wants a wonderful love story with hilarity, honesty, and one of the best friendship trifectas I’ve ever read.”

SHOUT
By Laurie Halse Anderson
(Penguin Books, 9780142422205, $10.99)
“Halse Anderson invites readers not to speak but to shout in her new poetry memoir, a long-awaited follow-up to her bestselling YA novel Speak, which centers around a survivor of sexual assault. In SHOUT, Anderson shares memories from her young adulthood when she herself was raped and the strength to keep going. Between autobiographical poems lie fierce rants about rape culture and censorship, as well as love letters and encouragement to survivors of sexual assault. SHOUT is a fist raised to the sky, arriving on the heels of #MeToo and urging readers to never be silenced. A must-read.”

The Unlikely Hallway: Stories From a Girl with ADHD
By Steven Kotler
(St. Martin’s Press, 9781250253528, $17.99)
“Kotler’s collection of stories is both inspiring and informative. He shares the challenges and successes of young people with ADHD, and the impact they have on the world around them.”

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