



SEPTEMBER 2020 NOW IN PAPERBACK



The Chestnut Man: A Novel

By Soren Svestrup

(Harper Paperbacks, 9780062895370, \$16.99)
“This is the thriller of the year! *The Chestnut Man* is an unbelievably fast-paced and exciting page-turner. I literally had trouble putting it down so I could go to sleep! A serial killer is on the loose, a cold case kidnapping is brought back to life, and a politician is attacked from all sides. This is the kind of book Thomas Harris would write,

and it's one of the best-plotted mysteries in a long time. What a wonderful group of vivid characters and what a ride! Whew!”

—William Carl, An Unlikely Story, Plainville, MA



Dominicana: A Novel

By Angie Cruz

(Flatiron Books, 9781250205940, \$16.99)
“Angie Cruz is a beautiful writer with a powerful voice. *Dominicana* is a riveting story about family, womanhood, and what it means to be an immigrant. Ana Cancion, who's only 15, leaves her home behind for a new life in New York City with her soon-to-be husband, Juan Ruiz. Big lights, tall buildings, and a bright future

constitute the promise of a new beginning. However, upon Ana's arrival, her fate untangles into something unexpected. It'll be really hard to forget these characters and the realism in their heartache. Throughout these pages, I fell in and out of love, I laughed, I cried, and I was deeply moved.”

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



FKA USA: A Novel

By Reed King

(Flatiron Books, 9781250108913, \$17.99)
“This book is a wild ride through a post-dissolution, post-apocalyptic United States beginning a mere decade from now and continuing to the end of the 21st century. The political, technological, and ecological disasters it envisions seem all too plausibly extrapolated from the headlines of today. Despite the litany of

cascading disasters—mass extinctions, warring androids, southern California dropping into the ocean, conflicts between different corporations controlling different sections of the former USA, mind control, goat-human hybrids, and more—Reed King injects a measure of hilarity into his tale. At the same time harrowing and hysterical, this is a great book by a visionary author. Highly recommended.”

—Edward Newton, The Literate Lizard, Sedona, AZ



Full Throttle: Stories

By Joe Hill

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062200693, \$18.99)
“This book of stories is a fast ride through Hill's considerable imagination. He takes us through 13 stories of suspense, from the back of a motorcycle and outrunning a murderous semi-truck driver to an American sea monster, then on to a young girl who befriends a machine, and ending with, well, the end of the world. His

stories are reminiscent of a certain well-known horror writer, but are clearly his own brand of terror. I enjoyed each of them and wished that some might morph into full-length books because it was hard to let them go. I always look forward to Hill's books, and this one did not disappoint.”

—Sarah Harmuth Letke, Redbery Books, Cable, WI



A Madness of Sunshine: A Novel

By Nalini Singh

(Berkley, 9780593099094, \$9.99)
“Singh brings us into the wild side of New Zealand, to a tiny village where the new cop knows everybody by name and really cares about protecting them. Maya has returned to find her old school friends greatly changed—and one may be a serial killer. This thriller is compelling; the characters are fresh and exciting

but realistic. The tension builds with every page turned, right up to the finale—wow!”

—Karen Bakshoian, Letterpress Books, Portland, ME



Nothing to See Here: A Novel

By Kevin Wilson

(Ecco, 9780062913494, \$16.99)
“When a politician's young wife hires her old school friend as a nanny for her two stepchildren, the main duty will be to keep the twins out of sight and out of trouble. That's because the kids' father is a senator and under serious consideration to be the next Secretary of State. But what if the children can't control themselves? Who is the best person to take care of children who are afflicted with spontaneous combustion? Obviously, a woman with no fear of fire, nothing to lose, and nothing to gain. At turns hilarious and heartbreaking, this unique novel explores family dynamics, resentment, and retribution, leaving the reader with a new perspective on motherhood and what it means to be loyal to those you love.”

—Laura Simcox, Sunrise Books, High Point, NC



Red at the Bone: A Novel

By Jacqueline Woodson

(Riverhead Books, 9780525535287, \$16)
“Although you can read Jacqueline Woodson's newest novel over the course of one evening, there is nothing breezy about the richness of its story, nothing short about the depth of its characters, nothing quick about the way this book stays with you after you finish reading. Told through five distinct voices, *Red at the Bone* tracks an

African-American family through time and place as an unexpected pregnancy upends and reshapes family and class expectations as well as individual trajectories. Ultimately, the novel is about legacy in every sense of the word. And since Woodson's writing packs the emotional punch of an epic in a novella number of pages, the legacy of her book is to be read over and over again.”

—Kelly Brown, Magic City Books, Tulsa, OK



Running with Sherman

By Christopher McDougall

(Vintage, 9780525433255, \$16.95)
“Sherman, an abused donkey adopted by Christopher McDougall and family, needs a task, and that task turns out to be joining the World Championship of burro running in Colorado. In his inimitably engaging style, McDougall has taken the best of his two previous books—the personal stories of *Born to Run* and the

history from *Natural Born Heroes*—and created the most enjoyable book I've read this year. I laughed, I got teary, I smiled a lot. Sherman is my new hero!”

—Pete Mock, McIntyre's Fine Books, Pittsboro, NC



The Sacrament: A Novel

By Olaf Olafsson

(Ecco, 9780062899880, \$16.99)
“*The Sacrament* is a thoughtful, atmospheric, and quietly intense novel about how our choices have effects that must be felt our whole lives, and how we grapple with those consequences. I loved settling in with this novel.”

—Catherine Bock, Parnassus Books, Nashville, TN



The Tenant: A Novel

By Katrine Engberg

(Gallery/Scout Press, 9781982127589, \$16.99)
“Truth is stranger than fiction for two detectives and an aspiring author, characters featured in Katrine Engberg's new novel, *The Tenant*. No one is quite who we think they are, so we're right there with police detectives Jeppe Korner and Anette Werner as they try to unravel the multitude of threads connecting victims, possible suspects, and witnesses. Terror and thrills abound as Engberg keeps all of us guessing right up to the end. I didn't breathe a sigh of relief until the last page.”

—Eileen McGervey, One More Page Books, Arlington, VA



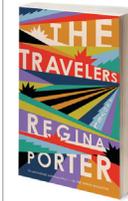
The Topeka School: A Novel

By Ben Lerner

(Picador, 9781250758002, \$17)
“It's the late '90s in Topeka, and high school senior Adam Gordon is partying, going to school, and preparing for a national speech and debate competition—living a life he expects to reflect back upon with irony and detachment in some urbane, imaginary future. Lerner shifts between perspectives, stealing stylistic bits from

autofiction and documentary; he reinvents the way narrative can place the moments of our lives in the context of history, both global and hyper-local, exploring how history inflicts trauma onto us and how we, in turn, inflict that trauma back onto history. And he does all this while toying with language and the spaces where it breaks down as we attempt to self-define. Simply put, *The Topeka School* is a work of genius.”

—Chris Lee, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI



The Travelers: A Novel

By Regina Porter

(Hogarth, 9780525576204, \$17)
“Spanning over 50 years and the intersection of two centuries, *The Travelers* weaves together the stories of two families and in the process gives an incisive portrait of a country and society in the midst of massive social change. The author artfully moves back and forth in time as the stories emerge and converge, probing the dynamics of love and family and the bounds and conflicts inherent in both. This novel is the story of two families but universal in the America it portrays.”

—Bill Cusumano, Square Books, Oxford, MS