



# FEBRUARY 2021 NOW IN PAPERBACK



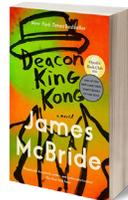
## Apeirogon: A Novel

By Colum McCann

(Random House Trade Paperbacks, 9780812981933, \$18)  
"This is a towering, breathtaking, sweeping work of poetic and technical brilliance. Although much of *Apeirogon* resides in the current and past state of Israeli-Palestinian relations, the novel demonstrates how each person, each story, in this ultimately small section of the world represents but one point of an

infinitely sided shape—how between all of us, even those locked in seemingly irreconcilable conflict, there pulses a vital connectivity, a path to understanding, forgiveness, and compassion."

—Ben Newgard, Flyleaf Books, Chapel Hill, NC



## Deacon King Kong: A Novel

By James McBride

(Riverhead Books, 9780735216730, \$17)  
"*Deacon King Kong* is a quintessential New York story. Set in the Brooklyn projects in 1969, a perpetually inebriated deacon called Sportcoat aims a gun at the neighborhood's main drug dealer in the public plaza and pulls the trigger. Incredibly well-constructed and hilarious at times, McBride's story entwines a number

of storylines that are kickstarted by this central event. The local Italian gangster, the veteran cop, the meddling churchgoers, and the drug pushers all have their own agendas, hopes, and dreams that are affected. And though Sportcoat doesn't remember his actions and is always under the influence of gut-rot moonshine, I couldn't help but root for him as I was reading this. His delightful ineptitude and absence of clarity made this book impossible for me to put down. If you've never read McBride before, this is a great introduction."

—Stuart McCommon, Novel., Memphis, TN



## Dear Edward: A Novel

By Ann Napolitano

(Dial Press, 9781984854803, \$18)  
"A stunning portrayal of what it means to be a survivor and the fine balance between surviving and actually finding the will to move forward from the shattered remains of your life. This is what 12-year-old Eddie—now known as Edward—must deal with as the sole survivor of a plane crash in which 191 people, including his immediate

family, perished. *Dear Edward* is a novel that pierces you to the core with its depiction of grief, guilt, loneliness, and remorse, but through glimpses of hope, friendship, and kindness, shows how Edward slowly mends."

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



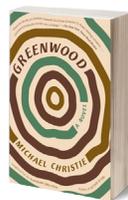
## Eight Perfect Murders: A Novel

By Peter Swanson

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062838193, \$16.99)  
"Malcolm Kershaw is an unassuming bookseller who once wrote a list of the eight most perfect literary murders. He is surprised when the FBI shows up at his door and explains that someone is using this list and recreating the murders. With perfect pacing and shocking twists, this is a murder mystery with a classic

feel that will leave you questioning how well you can know anyone. It will also add eight more books to your to-be-read pile as you will immediately need to read all the books on the perfect murder list!"

—Carrie Deming, The Dog Eared Book, Palmyra, NY



## Greenwood: A Novel

By Michael Christie

(Hogarth, 9781984822017, \$18)

"Trees: They provide shelter, sustenance, and sanctuary for vast numbers of creatures. They create the very air we breathe. And they are under threat. For generations, the Greenwood family lives with, destroys, fights for, and monetizes these gentle giants until their very existence is absorbed into the class system designed and upheld

by the one percent. This is a sweeping arboreal saga full of blood, greed, heart, and humanity. *Greenwood* will fell readers worldwide."

—Bex Petterson, Bloomsbury Books, Ashland, OR



## Grown Ups: A Novel

By Emma Jane Unsworth

(Gallery/Scout Press, 9781982141943, \$16.99)

"*Grown Ups* is told with humor and angst (both causing laughter and anxiety) in traditional prose supplemented with emails, texts, and social media columns and comments—much like our lives today. Jenny is living in London and tethered to her Instagram as her real life is slightly falling apart. This book is filled with fantastic

writing and insights relevant to the modern balance of social media life with real life. I don't want to say too much more, other than I will miss Jenny now that I've finished reading."

—Melissa Summers, Main Street Books, Davidson, NC



## My Autobiography of Carson McCullers: A Memoir

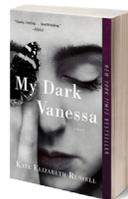
By Jenn Shapland

(Tin House Books, 9781951142292, \$16.95)

"This look into the hidden life of Carson McCullers is a brilliant mix of biography and personal memoir. Shapland depicts the life of one of our most beloved and least-known authors in a search for the ultimate meaning of love. It will make you ask yourself difficult

questions and delve into the complexities of your own heart. Looking at Carson, Jenn Shapland makes us all vulnerable, more human, more open."

—Pepper Parker, Vintage Books, Vancouver, WA



## My Dark Vanessa: A Novel

By Kate Elizabeth Russell

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062941510, \$17.99)  
"In this gripping debut novel, a teenage girl falls into an affair with her English teacher, who is 30 years her senior. The voice of Vanessa, the narrator, is unparalleled in its honesty, and her emotions are fiercely conveyed with unrelenting realism. This novel is a timely and important read, sometimes difficult, but ultimately an unforgettable

experience. You will be left astonished and transformed. Vanessa is formidable and so is her story; you won't be able to put down this powerhouse of a novel."

—Luisa Barbano, Oblong Books and Music, Millerton, NY



## The Secret Lives of Baba Segi's Wives: A Novel

By Lola Shoneyin

(Avon, 9780063072329, \$16.99)

"There is nothing quite so tantalizing as a glimpse into another culture. With disarming wit and grace, Shoneyin tells the story of a modern Nigerian man and his four wives, the latest of whom, Bolanle, is causing no end of disruption in the household. Deeply political without being corrosive, this is an intimate and compassionate view of social life in Nigeria. Lola Shoneyin has penned a splendid first novel!"

—Jennie Turner-Collins, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Cincinnati, OH



## Verge: Stories

By Lidia Yuknavitch

(Riverhead Books, 9780525534884, \$16)

"A powerful and visceral collection from one of today's most unique voices that will take you out of your comfort zone. Yuknavitch focuses on the subject of the body: bodies trying to find comfort, bodies trying to become whole, bodies destroyed, bodies as an object, how they are connected to one another, how they can be broken, and how much they are worth. To dive into this collection is to let a cinderblock tied to your leg drag you down into unknown watery depths and instead of trying to loosen the knot, holding tight and letting the waters consume you."

—Anthony Piacentini, Books Are Magic, Brooklyn, NY



## Vita Nostra: A Novel

By Sergey and Marina Dyachenko

(Harper Voyager, 9780063054158, \$17.99)

"One part coming-of-age parable and one part psychological horror, this book combines dark fantasy with contemporary magical realism, and I can't stop thinking about the resulting magnificence weeks after finishing it. Beautifully translated from its original Russian, *Vita Nostra* brilliantly explores the period in early adulthood where we consider the price we're willing to pay to discover our full potential, and how we make ourselves vulnerable when we strive for outside approval."

—Ilana Darrant, Bookshop Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA



## Weather: A Novel

By Jenny Offill

(Vintage, 9780345806901, \$16)

"Brief and brilliant, Jenny Offill's *Weather* doesn't need page after page to trap us inside. Tearing through precision-crafted paragraphs, we willingly follow a Brooklyn librarian down a doomsday rabbit hole as she tries to limit the world's damage to those she loves. On the express bus to the demise of civilization, find a seat next to Lizzie for a wild and witty ride through the storm raging across America. An astute and satisfying read."

—Ann Woodbeck, Excelsior Bay Books, Excelsior, MN