

APRIL '10



I Thought You Were Dead

A Love Story, by Pete Nelson

"Dante may have had his Beatrice, but Paul Gustavson has Stella, a venerable pooch who is his guiding light for matters of the mind and heart. Their ongoing dialogue is smart, sweet, and poignant, and together they take on their fears of thunderstorms and seedy bars (hers) and normal, loving relationships without the buffer of alcohol (his), each bringing out the best in each other. This book is clever, heartwarming, and engaging."

—Emily Crowe, Odyssey Bookshop, Northampton, MA



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APRIL '10



The Solitude of Prime Numbers

A Novel, by Paolo Giordano

"Childhood traumas have shattered Alice and Mattia physically and psychologically. A friendship that begins in high school provides for each an anchor to a world too frightening to navigate alone. In this singular and striking debut, Giordano explores the ability of the human spirit to endure and to heal. Once you pick this up, you won't want to put it down."

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



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APRIL '10



Matterhorn

A Novel of the Vietnam War, by Karl Marlantes

"Every war has produced seminal fiction, but in the case of Vietnam there have been few examples. Marlantes now increases that list with a towering, majestic novel of men in combat. Like all great literature, his work transcends a particular war because of the universality of his characters and themes. This is a novel that will endure."

—Bill Cusumano, Nicola's Books, Ann Arbor, MI



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APRIL '10



The Tale of Halcyon Crane

A Novel, by Wendy Webb

"Ghosts, seances, and an unsolved murder are brought together on a remote island in the middle of the Great Lakes. Hallie James, who thought her mother died in a fire decades earlier, has discovered she was alive—until recently. Hallie's father's last words in answer to why he staged their deaths were, 'I had to save my little girl.' From what or whom? A gothic thriller with a modern twist."

—Karen Briggs, Great Northern Books & Hobbies, Oscoda, MI



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APRIL '10



Bite Me

A Love Story, by Christopher Moore

"While possibly the last of Moore's vampire series, his signature wit is still in full force. Moore perfectly captures the voice of the teenage Goth-girl Abby Normal and pulls off his mix of comedy with a real emotional core with his usual mastery. This is a perfect book for longtime fans and new readers."

—Mike Burns, Howard's Bookstore, Bloomington, IN



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APRIL '10



Secret Daughter

A Novel, by Shilpi Somaya Gowda

"Secret Daughter is the story of Asha, a daughter given up by her rural Indian mother in an attempt to give her a better life. Somer, Asha's adoptive mother in California, grapples with her daughter's return to her birth country as a young woman. The two families, intertwined by a twist of fate, will capture your heart."

—Caitlin Doggart, Where the Sidewalk Ends, Chatham, MA



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APRIL '10



A Murderous Procession

A Mistress of the Art of Death Novel, by Ariana Franklin

"Adelia is back in this fourth (and my favorite!) installment of the Mistress of the Art of Death series. King Henry II assigns Adelia to accompany his daughter, Joanna, to Italy for her wedding. Mysterious deaths occur amongst the royal procession, and Adelia is the prime suspect. She must uncover the killer and clear her name before the murderer's ultimate goal is accomplished. Once you start this book you won't want to put it down!"

—Erin Kurup, Bookhouse of Styvesant Plaza, Albany, NY



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APRIL '10



Solar

A Novel, by Ian McEwan

"Nobel Prize-winning English physicist Michael Beard is a human being of extremes: very bright, very lazy, overweight, over married (five times), amoral, and rapacious. Despite early success, he has become irrelevant until a lucky break furnishes him with material to change course, become an environmental darling, and appear to save the world. McEwan, as usual, writes a taut plot line, with suspense and dread of retribution building with each turned page."

—Darwin Ellis, Books on the Common, Ridgefield, CT



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The Creation of Eve

A Novel, by Lynn Cullen

"The story of Sofonisba Anguissola, the Renaissance painter, has long been forgotten. Michelangelo's tutelage and recommendation send her to Spanish Queen Elisabeth as a lady-in-waiting. While each endures heartbreak from men they love but can never have, Cullen takes us into the world of painting and political stratagems. This masterpiece is beautifully heartbreaking and impossible to put down."

—Lauren Denham, Alabama Booksmith, Birmingham, AL



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APRIL '10



The Spellmans Strike Again

A Novel, by Lisa Lutz

"The fourth and final installment of the Spellman Quartet finds the Spellmans spying on each other more than they are for their clients. Mom is keeping tabs on Isabel's dates in the hopes that she'll get married. The kids want to know why parts of the house are disappearing. Could someone really be stealing doorknobs and light fixtures? Lutz has written a quirky and sometimes bizarre tale that's definitely good for a laugh."

—Anne McMahon, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI



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31 Bond Street

A Novel, by Ellen Horan

"This engaging mystery of 1850s New York explores the death of prominent dentist and businessman Harvey Burdell and the subsequent trial of his housemistress Emma Cunningham. Based on actual events, Horan creates an inventive and compelling story that will keep you turning pages to the last."

—Meaghan Beasley, Island Bookstore, Corolla, NC



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APRIL '10



Nowhere to Run

A Joe Pickett Novel, by C.J. Box

"Gripping, compelling storytelling by Edgar Award-winning author Box makes his 10th Joe Pickett mystery a must-read. Set against the wide-open spaces of Wyoming, scary people do scary things to not-so-innocent bystanders. This book delivers a walloping good read on so many levels: superb writing, eerie plot, startling twists, and Joe Pickett's quiet decency showcased against the conflict between community need and individual integrity."

—Marie Ary, Seattle Mystery Bookshop, Seattle, WA



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The Bride Collector

by Ted Dekker

"FBI Special Agent Brad Raines, facing his most complex case—a serial killer targeting beautiful young women—enlists the aid of Paradise, a gifted young woman who can see the final moments of a person's life when she touches their dead body. Dekker has outdone himself once again."

—Sharon Kovacs, Saturn Booksellers, Gaylord, MI



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APRIL '10



Whiter Than Snow

A Novel, by Sandra Dallas

"Dallas has written another absorbing book filled with compelling characters. In 1920, an avalanche devastates a poor mining town high in the Colorado mountains. Nine children are trapped on their way home from school, and only four survive. Each child's family has a story. Was it chance or destiny that brought them to Swandyke from such different backgrounds? Don't miss this one!"

—Laurie Krushenisky, MacDonald Book Shop, Estes Park, CO



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Anthill

A Novel, by E.O. Wilson

"Three parallel viewpoints—of ants, developers, and environmentalists—are woven together in this novel by the Pulitzer Prize-winning science writer, who turns to fiction at age 81. Wilson tells the wonderful story of a young boy from Alabama who grows up to do battle to save his beloved forest. This magical tale reminds us of the life-and-death struggle that is going on all around us to protect our wilderness."

—Karen Harris, Andover Bookstore, Andover, MA



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APRIL '10



Eaarth

Making a Life on a Tough New Planet, by Bill McKibben
"McKibben has written his most important book about humankind's most pressing issue: global climate change and what it means. This book is a wakeup call about the 'tough new planet' we've created with our profligate behavior over the past 200 years. Read this book and recommend it widely. Hopefully you and your neighbors will get to work on solutions."

—Gary Colliver, Windows on the World Books and Art, Mariposa, CA



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Purge

A Novel, by Sofi Oksanen
"Translated from Finnish, this winner of Finland's top literary prizes is the story of Aliide, an Estonian peasant who survived the Soviet occupation, only to face the brutal realities of a post-occupation world when her sister's granddaughter shows up half-conscious in her yard. Powerful writing and exacting sense of place make this book stand out."

—Claire Benedict, Bear Pond Books of Montpelier, Montpelier, VT



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APRIL '10



The Lake Shore Limited

A Novel, by Sue Miller
"A beautifully and bravely written novel about an accident beyond anyone's control and how four people atone and come to peace with it. At the core of the story is a play previewing in Boston that becomes central to the lives of the playwright, the play's lead actor, and two attendees with a family tie to the 9/11 tragedy. Vivid characters and their personal narratives flow in and out of this moving novel about the consequences of loss."

—Carol Hicks, Bookshelf at Hooligan Rocks, Truckee, CA



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APRIL '10



The Season of Second Chances

A Novel, by Diane Meier
"This novel offers a poignant and entertaining view of a young woman's self discovery. As a Columbia professor, published academic, and owner of a New York apartment that has a great view of the Hudson River, Joy Harkness has it all. But does she? Transplanted to a New England college town, she buys a derelict Victorian house and has a relationship with the handyman who turns it into a beautiful home. Meier has produced a book that is fun to read and offers insight into Joy's transformation."

—Fran Keilty, Hickory Stick Book Shop, Washington Depot, CT



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APRIL '10



Seeing Stars

A Novel, by Diane Hammond

"Venture into the world of child stars, where the next booking could be their big break. Ruth leaves her husband in Seattle while trying to help their daughter find the part that will make her a star. Allison, old beyond her tender years, is searching for the role that will make her a household name. Quinn has the talent and drive, but is he too volatile to shine in Hollywood? You will come to care about these characters, and want to know their stories and share their hopes."

—Deon Stonehouse, Sunriver Books, Sunriver, OR



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