



APRIL '13

NOW IN PAPERBACK



Alif the Unseen

A Novel, by G. Willow Wilson

(Grove Press, 9780802121226, \$16)

"Alif is an Arab-Indian computer hacker who gets into deep trouble when he tries to erase himself from the web. His troubles only increase when he receives an ancient text—written by the mythological Jinn—that may be the key to unlocking a whole new way of programming. This smartly written, action-packed thriller is

reminiscent of the early works of Neal Stephenson and William Gibson. Unpredictable to the very end—I could not put it down!"

—James Wilson, Octavia Books, New Orleans, LA



Beautiful Ruins

A Novel, by Jess Walter

(Harper Perennial, 9780061928178, \$15.99)

"In 1962, a young Italian innkeeper unwittingly ends up taking part in the Hollywood 'clean up' of a love affair on the set for the film *Cleopatra*. Fast forward to present day Los Angeles; Pasquale Tursi shows up at the studio of a legendary Hollywood producer to find out the fate of the actress he met so briefly, so long

ago. The 'beautiful ruins' refer not only to the stunning descriptions of the Italian coastline, but also to the winding path a life can take and the sweet middle ground that we sometimes discover when our dreams don't pan out."

—Sarah Harvey, Tattered Cover Book Store, Denver, CO



The Coldest Night

A Novel, by Robert Olmstead

(Algonquin Books, 9781616202774, \$14.95)

"In *The Coldest Night*, Olmstead tells the story of Henry Childs and his first love, his run from its failure into the brutality of the Korean War, and his scarred return home. Reading Olmstead is like eating a meal put together with a minimum number of ingredients that have lovingly been transformed into something amazing and truly satisfying. Olmstead is an author every lover of words should read, and this new novel is a great place to start."

—Lisa Sharp, Nightbird Books, Fayetteville, AR



Dust to Dust

A Memoir, by Benjamin Busch

(Ecco, 9780062014856, \$14.99)

"In this powerful memoir, Busch muses on life both concrete and abstract. He traces his life—as a boy, a marine, a son, a father, an actor—through a prism of materials: stone, ash, water, blood, and bone. Each chapter is a different view into the same life, taking us deeper and deeper, letting us up to breathe,

then pulling us back down to the heart of things. No matter if he's rebuilding a farmhouse in Michigan or training marines in North Carolina, Busch focuses completely on the moment and takes us there, and then connects us back to the wide world. A book to savor, to appreciate, and to be changed by."

—Kate Reynolds, Colgate Bookstore, Hamilton, NY



Light Between Oceans

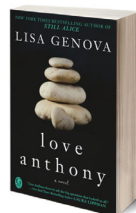
A Novel, by M.L. Stedman

(Scribner, 9781451681758, \$16)

"World War I is over and Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia as a lighthouse keeper on remote Janus Rock. His young bride, Isabel, joins him, and they love their isolated life on Janus. Sadness descends, however, as they try unsuccessfully to start a family. A small boat washes ashore carrying a dead man and a

beautiful, healthy baby girl whom they make their own, living happily until they go back to the mainland and begin to realize the consequences of their actions. This is a great debut novel."

—Judy Crosby, Island Books, Middletown, RI



Love Anthony

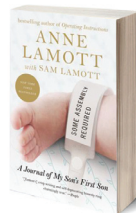
A Novel by Lisa Genova

(Gallery Books, 9781439164693, \$16)

"In her new novel, Genova provides a unique view of unconditional love through Anthony, a boy with autism. His mother, Olivia, and neighbor, Beth, live on the island of Nantucket, where they meet on the shore and later discover how different yet troubled in similar ways their family lives are. Ultimately, the voice

and thoughts of Anthony will slowly compel each of them to make a change that is positive. Unforgettable."

—Kathleen Dixon, Islandtime Books and More, Washington Island, WI



Some Assembly Required

A Journal of My Son's First Son,

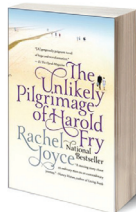
by Anne Lamott with Sam Lamott

(Riverhead Trade, 9781594486678, \$16)

"In a brilliant return to memoir, Ms. Lamott shares her ongoing story of motherhood and now unexpected grandmotherhood. You'll laugh out loud as Anne and Sam share the trials and terrors this life-altering event brings. Knowing someone as accomplished as Lamott still struggles

daily to be good, to tame her controlling streak and her chocolate consumption is a true comfort. That she does so with the help of faith, humor, reflection, and a circle of friends is truly inspiring."

—Christine Grabish, MacDonald Book Shop, Estes Park, CO



The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

A Novel, by Rachel Joyce

(Harper Perennial, 9780061976230, \$15.99)

"He walked so surely, it was as if all his life he had been waiting to get up from his chair." Recently retired Harold Fry receives an unsettling letter from a co-worker from years past. Queenie is dying in hospice and when

Harold sets out to post a return letter, he is seized by the idea that if he keeps walking, Queenie will live. So begins a pilgrimage of personal transformation for Harold—and quite possibly for the reader as well. Insightful and touching, this journey will stay with readers for quite some time."

—Julia MacDonald, The Yankee Book Shop, Woodstock, VT



Vengeance

A Novel, by Benjamin Black

(Picador, 9781250024183, \$16)

"If you haven't yet discovered Benjamin Black (a.k.a. John Banville) and his marvelous creation, Dr. Quirke, then you are missing some first-rate writing and entertainment. *Vengeance* is the fourth in a series set in Dublin in the late 1950s featuring the good doctor, a somewhat grumpy pathologist, and his drinking and

sleuthing companion Inspector Detective Hackett. Quirke is a flawed man of many weaknesses, yet he manages to be in a state of permanent self-deprecation that he takes as a sign of virtue, and that makes him an irresistible and believable character."

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



The Watchers

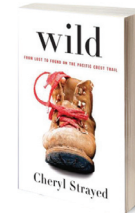
The Angelus Trilogy, by Jon Steele

(Signet, 9780451416797, \$9.99)

"Set in the gothic Lausanne Cathedral, this is a haunting and beautiful tale of fallen angels, the innocents and the not-so-innocent who fall prey to them, and those who are there to defend against evil. Steele offers a terrifyingly suspenseful yet mystical and extremely tender story, and the reader will wonder who and

what are real and who and what they can trust."

—Lynn Pellerito Riehl, Nicola's Books, Ann Arbor, MI



Wild

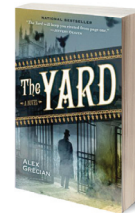
From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail, by Cheryl Strayed

(Vintage, 9780307476074, \$15.95)

"The inspiring story of Strayed's solo journey on the Pacific Crest Trail snags you from the beginning and keeps you engaged the whole way through. It was a bold move considering that she had no backpacking experience prior to her trip, but in the years following her mother's death and

the subsequent dissolution of her family, Strayed was no stranger to bold moves. The challenges, both external and internal, that she endures while on the trail are balanced with stories about her life leading up to her brave decision to hike alone for months in the rugged Western wilderness. This is a story of survival in every sense of the word, and one that will stick with you long after you finish reading."

—Deborah Castorina, Waucoma Bookstore, Hood River, OR



The Yard

A Novel, by Alex Grecian

(Berkley Trade, 9780425261279, \$16)

"Hard on the heels of the failure of the Metropolitan police to catch Jack the Ripper, a London bobby is found murdered in a horrific fashion. With a style that is light and witty, juxtaposed with the grimness of the underbelly of 19th century London, Grecian has concocted a delightful recreation of the early days of

Scotland Yard. Action, suspense, with characters both unsavory and sympathetic—this is a joy to read!"

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