



The Age of Miracles

A Novel, by Karen Thompson Walker

"The end of the world does not come with a bang but with a whisper in Walker's wonderful debut novel. Earth's rotation is slowing, the days are becoming longer, gravity mutates, radiation spikes, but still, life must go on. The narrator is 12-year-old Julia, and she chronicles everything she sees happening in the world around her, from shock and panic to people desperate to maintain normal routines. This is not a flashy, bombastic, apocalyptic novel, but rather the story of how a family manages through unimaginable circumstances."

—Jason Kennedy, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI



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The Angel Makers

by Jessica Gregson

"Sari is a compassionate but not always moral protagonist with a fierce will to survive. The reader is fascinated by her journey as she finds friendship among the village women while the men are off fighting. When the men return, Sari and the other women are faced with a choice: Give up the freedoms they've learned to hold dear, or fight back in the only way they can think of. *The Angel Makers* poses hard questions, never makes excuses for its characters' actions, and is a great choice for book clubs."

—Kristen Eaton, Phoenix Books, Essex Junction, VT



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Believing the Lie

An Inspector Lynley Novel, by Elizabeth George

"Once again George has provided us with a great mystery involving favorite characters from past works, Inspector Lynley and Sgt. Havers. The subplots are as engrossing as we've come to expect, and this story offers some new elements as well in both the humorous descriptions of Havers' 'makeover' and the choice of a remarkably beautiful and haunting setting in the Lake District of Cumbria. Yet another exciting page-turner from an accomplished master of the genre."

—Jeanne Regentin, Between the Covers, Harbor Springs, MI



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The Dressmaker

A Novel, by Kate Alcott

"A young housemaid quits her job and is chosen at the last minute to accompany a great fashion designer on the ill-fated voyage of the Titanic. They both survive the sinking, but the designer and her husband make questionable choices in their lifeboat, which are not well received in the public eye. The reader can't help but think, 'What would I have done in that situation?'"

—Beth Carpenter, The Country Bookshop, Southern Pines, NC



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Drop Dead Healthy

One Man's Humble Quest for Bodily Perfection, by A.J. Jacobs

"Anyone yearning to pursue a healthier lifestyle should read this book first! Jacobs spent two years on a quest to improve his health, one body part at a time. Besides being very funny—who knew there was a surgical procedure to change the timbre of your farts?—this book is a fount of useful information as Jacobs tries out all of the crazy medical advice so you don't have to. PS: Laughing at this book will make you healthier. (See Chapter 10.)"

—Susan Taylor, Market Block Books, Troy, NY



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The 500

A Novel, by Matthew Quirk

"Wow, can Quirk write an intense thriller! Mike Ford is a reformed confidence man—which makes him perfectly suited to be a junior member of a Washington strategic consulting firm. Perfectly suited, that is, until his conscience gets the best of him and his bosses try to set him up to take a fall. Quirk knows just how to build up suspense with the right mix of insider knowledge, procedural description, and school-of-hard-knocks action, and the reader ends up rooting for the anti-Boy Scout to take down the big dogs."

—Nichole McCown, Bookshop Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA



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From the Memoirs of a Non-Enemy Combatant

A Novel, by Alex Gilvarry

"This is a bold book! What happens to those falsely accused or mistakenly detained when the remedies of the American criminal justice system are unavailable to them? How does one prove one's innocence when the system is set up to prove one's guilt? Gilvarry skillfully navigates the space between black comedy and farce without delivering a polemic and instead gives us a novel that is delightful without being light."

—Catherine Weller, Weller Book Works, Salt Lake City, UT



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Gypsy Boy

My Life in the Secret World of the Romany Gypsies, by Mikey Walsh

"Growing up, I envied the culture of freedom and adventure amid a free-spirited Gypsy life. *Gypsy Boy* both dispels and confirms some of the myths that surround this world. We are given a rare view into the hostile, secretive, and protective bonds that have allowed the Gypsies to continue their way of life in the modern world. While Walsh endures a harsh life filled with abuse, at the same time he experiences enduring love and protection from his mother and sister, even after his decision to leave the tribe. Difficult to read, but even more difficult to put down, Mikey's transformation and ultimate happiness with his life will have you cheering."

—Susan Schlesinger, Books on the Square, Providence, RI



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The Lifeboat

A Novel, by Charlotte Rogan

"Grace is the 22-year-old narrator of this terrifying, tightly told tale of the sinking of an ocean liner crossing the Atlantic from England in 1914. Few escape onto the small overcrowded lifeboats, Grace being one. With little food and drink, paranoia and power struggles surface, and *The Lifeboat* becomes a study of human nature and who has a stronger will to survive under extreme conditions. As Rogan writes in the end, 'It was not the sea that was cruel, it was the people.' A brilliant and harrowing story of a struggle for survival as well as a profound look at the complexities of human nature at its core."

—Annie Philbrick, Bank Square Books, Mystic, CT

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The Partnership

Five Cold Warriors and Their Quest to Ban the Bomb,
by Philip Taubman

"Nuclear war continues to be an apocalyptic threat for America and other countries. Five men, members of the Cold War brain trust, have campaigned to challenge the United States and other nations to reconsider their strategic policies regarding nuclear arsenals. *The Partnership* gives us an intimate look at these men—Henry Kissinger, George Schultz, Sam Nunn, Bill Perry, and Sidney Drell—their origins, their work together, and their dealings with Barack Obama and other world leaders. Meticulously researched and compellingly told."

—Sue Fleming, The King's English, Salt Lake City, UT

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Stone of Kings

In Search of the Lost Jade of the Maya, by Gerard Helferich

"In the spirit of Indiana Jones, author Helferich takes us on an amazing journey through history and through the mountains of Guatemala in search of the lost jade of the Maya. If you relish great fireside tales of adventure or going into the jungles from your armchair, you'll enjoy this book. By the way, you may be surprised to learn that jade comes in more colors than just green—especially the good stuff!"

—Linda Bond, Auntie's Bookstore, Spokane, WA

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Waiting for Sunrise

A Novel, by William Boyd

"This time master storyteller Boyd takes us from London to Venice at the height of Freudian psychotherapy and the eve of WWI. The story of Lysander Rief, a young English actor in Vienna seeking help with a sexual problem, takes a turn when a romantic relationship leads to betrayal and he is framed for a crime he didn't commit. Boyd's intriguing, intelligent characters, unusual plots, and fine understanding of the human psyche make for an engaging read."

—Barbara Sieper, The Cottage Bookshop, Glen Arbor, MI

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