



APRIL '14

NOW IN PAPERBACK

The Ashford Affair

A Novel, by Lauren Willig

"This is a convincing portrayal of 1920s English society and a family history artfully hidden from the current generation. Snippets of information dropped at her grandmother's 99th birthday celebration start Clemmie on a search for the truth about her grandmother. Rich details, realistically flawed characters, and a narrative that travels from England to the high life of the ex-pat community in Kenya and finally to present day Manhattan make this a book to remember."

—Nicola Rooney, Nicola's Books, Ann Arbor, MI



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The Burgess Boys

A Novel, by Elizabeth Strout

"Relationships between Burgess siblings from Shirley Falls, Maine, have always been as tempestuous as a North Atlantic storm. When Susan's teenage son instigates a racial incident in the town, she turns to her two lawyer brothers, Jim and Bob, for help. The resulting reluctant partnerships inflame old resentments and the revelation of a dark and terrible secret. Strout creates a memorable story. A worthy successor to the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Olive Kitteridge*."

—Alden Graves, Northshire Bookstore, Manchester Center, VT



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Burial Rites

A Novel, by Hannah Kent

"Set against the desolate fire-and-ice landscape of 19th century Iceland, *Burial Rites* is a brilliant, multifaceted novel that traverses dark psychological terrain while providing pitch-perfect historical detail. Debut author Hannah Kent is equally skilled at delving into the mind of Agnes Magnúsdóttir—a servant woman convicted of murder and condemned to beheading—as she is at rendering the domestic life of the poor farmers charged with sharing their tiny hovel with her, as there are no prisons in Iceland. Superbly entertaining."

—Keaton Patterson, Brazos Bookstore, Houston, TX



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Eighty Days

Nellie Bly and Elizabeth Bisland's History-Making Race Around the World, by Matthew Goodman

"Do you want to take a trip around the world without leaving your favorite chair? This is your chance! Goodman has created a vivid picture of the race to circumnavigate the globe made by two women journalists who were determined to turn Jules Verne's fictional journey into a reality. This one has it all—a race between two formidable adventurers, visits to foreign lands, encounters with nature's foibles, and 19th century society in all of its glory, full of hope and clamoring for recognition. A wonderful read!"

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



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Fever

A Novel, by Mary Beth Keane

"This is the story of Mary Mallon - the infamous 'Typhoid Mary' - who carried the typhus disease to an epidemic level among New York City residents during the first decade of the 1900s. Although perfectly healthy, it was believed that Mary was manufacturing typhoid bacilli inside her body and infecting those with whom she came in contact. She was forcibly hospitalized for three years until being released by the court under the condition she would never cook for hire again. Her Irish upbringing and talent as a cook caused her to defy that order, and she risked a return to the hospital. This is an intimate story and a compelling read."

—Carol Hicks, The Bookshelf, Truckee, CA

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Flora

A Novel, by Gail Godwin

"In the last months of America's war with Japan, ten year old Helen is left in the care of a relative from Alabama one summer while her father leaves to work on a secret government project. A polio scare soon quarantines the two women at home. Finn, a former mental patient who delivers food to the house, soon becomes the object of attention for both women. The trouble, as Helen sees it, is that she is the most mature female in the house, and feels she is the one in control, until tragedy strikes on a deserted road one evening and she discovers the truth. A clever, heart-felt, and often funny tale. Highly recommended."

—Hunter Coleman, The Alabama Booksmith, Birmingham, AL

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Gulp

Adventures on the Alimentary Canal, by Mary Roach

"Roach has explored the 'life' of a cadaver and everything you'd want to know about sex, and has taken us into space. Now, she takes us on an uproarious tour of the last bodily frontier. Think eating is a simple process? Or the process of elimination? From spit to farts—which have more scientists studying them than you'd imagine—and with Elvis and his colon thrown in, you'll dive into those gastric juices and just go with the flow."

—Rosemary Pugliese, Quail Ridge Books & Music, Raleigh, NC

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Leaving Everything Most Loved

A Maisie Dobbs Novel, by Jacqueline Winspear

"In this, her 10th Maisie Dobbs novel, Winspear gives us all that we have come to expect and more. More time with our favorite characters, more insight into British society post-World War I, and more of Maisie as she struggles to make her way in the world and to always do what is right by those whom she loves. A wonderful new edition to this beloved series."

—Lorna Ruby, Wellesley Bookshop, Wellesley, MA

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Mrs. Poe

A Novel, by Lynn Cullen

"Readers who enjoyed imagining the private lives of famous figures in *Loving Frank* and *The Paris Wife* will savor the behind-the-scenes peek into the intimacies of Edgar Allen Poe, his infirm young wife, and Frances Osgood, the writer who stole his heart. As compulsively readable—and often as dark—as Poe's works, *Mrs. Poe* is a well-researched and detailed novel whose supporting cast of characters include Margaret Fuller, Horace Greely, and other literati of mid-19th century New York."

—Cheryl McKeon, Book Passage, San Francisco, CA

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The Returned

A Novel, by Jason Mott

"What would you do if someone you loved, someone who meant the world to you, who made your life complete...died? What would you do if fifty years later that person showed up on your doorstep—never having aged, without any recollection of where they had been? This is the question that faces the world in Jason Mott's *The Returned*. Part science fiction, part family drama, part philosophical treatise on human nature, *The Returned* delves deep into groupthink and the human psyche without forsaking a genuinely riveting story. *The Returned* keeps you on your toes, and further, stimulates in a way that goes beyond the intellectual, touching your heart and moral soul. This is one book that is guaranteed to get you thinking and talking, and will leave your breathless in the end."

—Heather Christman, Warwick's, La Jolla, CA

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The River of No Return

A Novel, by Bee Ridgeway

"This romp in time has it all! There's a dashing hero, several feisty heroines, some really nasty bad guys, plenty of mystery, suspense, humor and romance as Ridgeway navigates her eminently plausible route along the River of Time filled with paradoxes and switchbacks. Shelve this alongside Gabaldon's *Outlander*, and Harkness' *Discovery of Witches*."

—Annie Leonard, The Next Chapter, Knoxville, IA

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Woke Up Lonely

A Novel, by Fiona Maazel

"*Woke Up Lonely* is a wild thing of genius, so funny and so smart. Maazel presents us with a warped mirror of our country and the time we live in. The Helix, a cult of the lonely, and its founder, Thurlow Dan, along with his ex-wife, Esme, and their daughter, Ida, head a superb cast of characters. The story unfolds in a winding, fun-house fashion, sporting locales from Washington, D.C. to North Korea to Cincinnati. I envy those who are about to read this truly one-of-a-kind work of fiction."

—Cody Morrison, Square Books, Oxford, MS

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