



MAY

# NOW IN PAPERBACK



## Flying Shoes

A Novel, by Lisa Howorth

(Bloomsbury, 9781620403037, \$16)

"As the mystery of the brutal death of a nine-year-old boy unfolds, the reader meets unforgettable characters, most notably Mary Byrd Thornton, a feisty, flawed, and often foul-mouthed wife and mother and the stepsister of the murdered child, who very reluctantly revisits the event after 30 years. *Flying Shoes* artfully steers the reader through some of the idiosyncrasies of life in a Southern town and deals with social and racial issues with the honesty and humor that only an insider can offer."

—Cathy Langer, Tattered Cover Book Store, Denver, CO



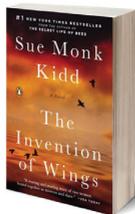
## Herbie's Game

A Junior Bender Mystery, by Timothy Hallinan

(Soho Crime, 9781616955403, \$15.95)

"Amiable burglar Junior Bender is forced to chase down a stolen list of names before everyone on it ends up dead. First to fall is Junior's mentor and surrogate father, Herbie, who stole the list in the first place. This delightful mystery poses the question: Do we ever really know the people we love, and do we need to know everything in order to love them?"

—Lisa Wright, Oblong Books & Music, Millerton, NY



## The Invention of Wings

A Novel, by Sue Monk Kidd

(Penguin Books, 9780143121701, \$17)

"Kidd gives us an outstanding view into the lives of two women whose reaction to slavery is the same—it must not continue. Loosely based on real-life abolitionist and women's rights activist Sarah Grimke, *The Invention of Wings* reveals how an intelligent woman of privilege was just as much a prisoner of her times as the

slave girl, Hetty, who was given to Sarah as a birthday gift when she was 11 years old. Kidd juxtaposes the lives of these two women to show how each became an activist and how they eventually helped each other escape the claws of the South that wanted to destroy them. As always, Kidd offers rich, well-developed characters that readers think about long after the book is closed."

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



## Last Night at the Blue Angel

A Novel, by Rebecca Rotert

(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062315298, \$14.99)

"The life of a sultry jazz singer in 1965 Chicago is beautifully evoked in this touching novel. Rotert alternates her narrative between Naomi, the singer, detailing how she got to Chicago in the 1950s, and the singer's somewhat neglected 10-year-old daughter, Sophia. Sophia finds a

paternal figure in Naomi's most enduring suitor, the photographer Jim. Their makeshift family, along with a runaway nun, a transvestite, and a Polish émigré, try forge an existence while chasing stardom, but Naomi's past keeps dragging them down. Rotert's vivid descriptions of the tawdry jazz clubs and the deserted buildings that Jim photographs bring a sense of immediacy to this tale."

—Arsen Kashkashian, Boulder Book Store, Boulder, CO



## Leaving Time

A Novel, by Jodi Picoult

(Ballantine Books, 9780345544940, \$16)

"Jenna Metcalf was born into what should have been an idyllic life in a sanctuary where her mother studied grief in elephants. When Jenna was very young, a tragic event occurred and her mother disappeared. As a teenager, Jenna tries to reclaim her past by attempting to discover both who her mother was and what happened to her.

She gains help from two unlikely allies: a former psychic who specialized in missing persons and a failed detective who was originally involved with investigating the tragedy. Together they follow the trail, finding transformation and connection in the race to discover the truth. Emotionally wrenching, with an unexpected but transcendent conclusion, this is a great read!"

—Deb Fliegel, River Lights Bookstore, Dubuque, IA



## A Man Called Ove

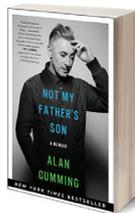
A Novel, by Fredrik Backman

(Atria Books, 9781476738024, \$16)

"A *Man Called Ove* by Swedish blogger and columnist Backman is one of those books you read and then want everyone else to read, too. It is also one of those books where you don't dare go into detail about the main character, the setting, or the plot because that would ruin the experience for others. Suffice it to say that the

man whose name is Ove is a curmudgeon. He's grumpy. He's cantankerous. And he is a delight! Long may he harrumph!"

—Rene Kirkpatrick, Eagle Harbor Book Company, Bainbridge Island, WA



## Not My Father's Son

A Memoir, by Alan Cumming

(Dey Street Books, 9780062225078, \$15.99)

"Every so often reading a memoir feels like a conversation rather than a strict narrative or—the death knell for memoir—a self-indulgent romp down memory lane. Cumming's memoir is a gorgeous, intimate conversation and it reads beautifully. Cumming's early life was a struggle and he hardly shies from relating details, but the

driving force behind this book is the demonstration of the many ways one can bring oneself to peace after hardship."

—Demi Marshall, Park Road Books, Charlotte, NC



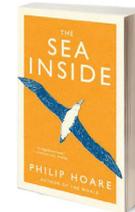
## The Queen of the Tearing

A Novel, by Erika Johansen

(Harper Paperbacks, 9780062290380, \$12.99)

"*The Queen of the Tearing* has everything—magic, high adventure, mystery, and romance. Kelsea Raleigh Glynn, who was raised in exile, must reclaim her mother's throne and learn to be a ruler despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles: the Red Queen, a powerful monarch in a neighboring kingdom; the Caden, a group of assassins tasked to destroy Kelsea; and her own Uncle Thomas, Regent of Tearing, who will do anything to stay in power. Kelsea must earn the trust and loyalty of her subjects and those who would protect her, and learn to use the Tearing sapphire, a jewel of immense power."

—Jerry Brown, The Bookstore, Radcliff, KY



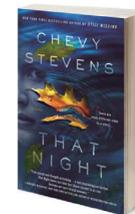
## The Sea Inside

by Philip Hoare

(Melville House, 9781612194363, \$17.95)

"Part poetic introspective, part elegy, laced with a slow sense of wonder, Hoare's new book is a uniquely refreshing work. In some ways it is a memoir; in others a naturalistic account of travel and contemplation. The result, however, is neither autobiography nor another volume in environmentalist polyphony, but the genuine and comfortably deliberate thoughts of a man who, in our age, still looks to the sea and its myriad life forms with the wonder of an explorer of old. It is bracing to discover a voice that conjures the magic of nature without the heavy hand of dogma."

—Brian Boeckl, Between the Covers, Harbor Springs, MI



## That Night

A Novel, by Chevy Stevens

(St. Martin's Griffin, 9781250066831, \$15.99)

"What happens if you are a teenager accused of a murder you didn't commit, the town considers you no good, and your parents agree with them? For Toni Murphy the nightmare is only beginning. She is now out on parole and with the help of her boyfriend is looking for her sister's killers. This book is a rollercoaster of suspense and when the truth is finally revealed it is a relief, but then there is yet one more unexpected twist. What a ride!"

—Janice Hunsche, Kaleidosaurus Books, Metamora, IN



## We Are Called to Rise

A Novel, by Laura McBride

(Simon & Schuster, 9781476738970, \$15)

"Bashkim, Avis, Roberta, and Luis introduce us to a Las Vegas not apparent to the casual tourist. Beyond being residents of the same city, it is hard to imagine what could possibly link a third grade Albanian immigrant, a middle-aged woman on the brink of divorce, a dedicated volunteer in the Child Advocacy

System, and a young Mexican war veteran recovering from physical and mental trauma. Through their stories, we see tragedy and hardship, and, ultimately, what the human heart is capable of and the inseparable link between being human and making humane choices for ourselves and others."

—Andrea Avantaggio, Maria's Bookshop, Durango, CO



## Wonderland

A Novel, by Stacey D'Erasmus

(Mariner Books, 9780544483897, \$14.95)

"With a voice as raw and lively as an amplifier crackling to life, *Wonderland's* Anna Brundage is the perfect rock-and-roll narrator. D'Erasmus explodes the tropes of coming-of-age stories, presenting a woman coming into her own at 44, seven years after her spectacular rise and fall on the indie scene. Back with a new band, a new album, and one last chance to make it as a musician, Anna's journey is a wonderful meditation on music, the creative spirit, and the highs and lows of an unconventional life."

—Josh Christie, Sherman's Books & Stationery, Bar Harbor, ME