

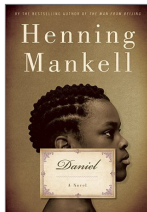


# NOTABLES

NOVEMBER '10



## FICTION



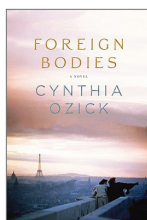
### Daniel

**A Novel, by Henning Mankell**

(New Press, 9781595581938, \$26.95)

"Mankell jumps across genres to give us this haunting and heartbreaking novel of an African boy ripped from his Kalahari desert homeland and taken to Sweden in the late 19th century. Only if Daniel can learn to walk on water can he realize his hope to get home. An amazingly original, meritorious novel."

—Deal Safrit, Literary Book Post, Salisbury, NC



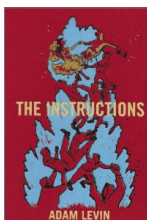
### Foreign Bodies

**A Novel, by Cynthia Ozick**

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 9780547435572, \$26)

"I can't recall reading *The Ambassadors* by Henry James in college, but familiarity with that novel is not necessary to enjoy this 'retelling' of the tale in contemporary form. The protagonist, Bea Nightingale, is an intriguing character, and the story is an engaging one, with emotional family entanglements handled brilliantly by a masterful storyteller."

—Betsey Detwiler, Buttonwood Books & Toys, Cohasset, MA



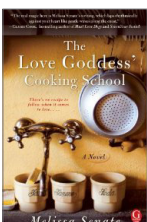
### The Instructions

**by Adam Levin**

(McSweeney's, 9781934781821, \$29)

"The Instructions is a brilliant, virtuoso literary performance that is wildly entertaining from beginning to end—from page one to page 1,024! It is ambitious, provocative, touching, hilarious and sad, which leads to an exhilarating and extremely powerful reading experience."

—Ed Conklin, Chaucer's Books, Santa Barbara, CA



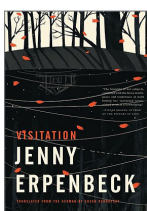
### The Love Goddess' Cooking School

**A Novel, by Melissa Senate**

(Gallery, 9781439107232, paper, \$15)

"I actually live on two different islands and really enjoyed the fictional life depicted on Blue Crab Island, Maine. Melissa Senate has captured the voices and unique community of 'Camilla's Cucinotta' with all of the quirks of family, love, and friendship. I wish Holly Maguire was available to come on over with her grandmother's wisdom, her joy of cooking, and her recipes, which are included in this delightful book!"

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



### Visitation

**by Jenny Erpenbeck, Susan Bernofsky (Trans.)**

(New Directions, 9780811218351, paper, \$14.95)

"A spare, exquisite gem of a novel, Jenny Erpenbeck's *Visitation* stopped me cold. The story follows the life of one house on the banks of a Brandenburg lake, outside of Berlin, and the inhabitants who reside there over the course of one hundred years. A fierce and wildly intelligent

look at how we live our lives, both in respite and in duress, which things have meaning, and what we need to call a place a home. *Visitation* is a biography of a place, a story of displacement and irreparable loss, and an intimate and deeply personal exploration of the private places we cultivate to house our souls. This book will change you."

—Rachel Meier, The Booksmith, San Francisco, CA

## NONFICTION



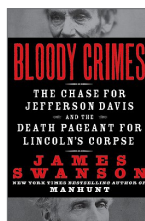
### And the Pursuit of Happiness

**by Maira Kalman**

(Penguin Press, 9781594202674, \$29.95)

"Maira Kalman loves America and so do I. It's hard not to be warmed from the inside out when reading her latest poetic installment of art and prose, the story of democracy and our Founding Fathers. This book is beautiful, optimistic, and inspiring. Benjamin Franklin would be proud."

—Rachel Haisley, The King's English, Salt Lake City, UT



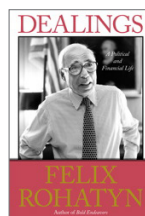
### Bloody Crimes

**The Chase for Jefferson Davis and the Death Pageant for Lincoln's Corpse, by James Swanson**

(Morrow, 9780061233784, \$27.99)

"Bloody Crimes relates the gripping stories of President Lincoln's funeral and the hunt for Confederate President Jefferson Davis. Since the grief-stricken nation largely believed that Davis had masterminded Lincoln's murder, the two events are closely linked. Swanson, an acknowledged expert on Lincoln's assassination, writes with passion and authority, offering a powerful story enriched with vivid details that sweeps readers back to the dark, uncertain days of late April 1865. A triumph!"

—Christopher Rose, Andover Bookstore, Andover, MA



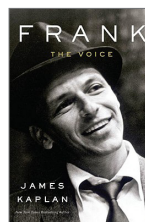
### Dealings

**A Political and Financial Life, by Felix Rohatyn**

(Simon & Schuster, 9781439181966, \$27)

"Rohatyn knows what readers are most interested in, and in *Dealings* he sticks to the deal-making, keeping the story both entertaining and sprinkled with life lessons. There are more than a few moments in his life when he was the subject of bad press, but there's very little in the way of revenge. Concerning the most recent financial collapse, Rohatyn posits that the government needs to return to the regulation safeguards that have been dismantled since the Reagan years. A fun and informative read."

—Daniel Goldin, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI



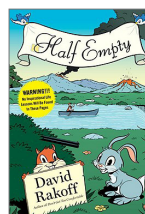
### Frank

**The Voice, by James Kaplan**

(Doubleday, 9780385518048, \$35)

"True cultural icons are extremely rare, but Frank Sinatra was certainly one for the 20th century and his voice will be attached to memories for decades to come. As mythical as the voice, so was the man, but James Kaplan strips away the facade to reveal a conflicted, contentious soul whose genius always battled his worse elements. This is a fascinating biography, written in a jaunty, swinging style that evokes the image Sinatra came to personify."

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



### Half Empty

**by David Rakoff**

(Doubleday, 9780385525244, \$24.95)

"This newest collection of essays by the acerbic Rakoff is both canny and thought provoking. He challenges assumptions and is withering in his criticisms, but he also reveals his own foibles, personal sorrows, and afflictions. Enlightening, unforgettable, and heart wrenching."

—Tova Beiser, Brown University Bookstore, Providence, RI

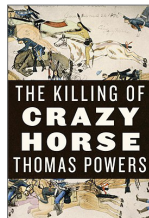


# NOTABLES

NOVEMBER '10



## NONFICTION (CONTINUED)



### The Killing of Crazy Horse

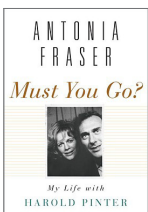
by Thomas Powers

(Knopf, 9780375414466, \$30)

"Thomas Powers has poured his heart and soul into this book, and the reader will do the same. It is a sad tale masterfully told as Powers weaves exhaustive research into the spellbinding story of Crazy Horse, the great Sioux warrior and leader, a little-discussed and often misunderstood player in American History. This book

possesses the kind of immediacy only seen in the very best narrative nonfiction, and will become an important source for years to come."

—Sheryl Coteleur, Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA



### Must You Go?

My Life With Harold Pinter, by Antonia Fraser

(Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, 9780385532501, \$28.95)

"They met after a dinner party and carried on an affair even though they were both married to others. Madly in love for over three decades until the day Pinter died of cancer, theirs was a life focused on the theater, their respective children, and each other. They travelled the world, lived cushioned by luxury, and met and entertained everyone

from royals to radicals. Charming, funny, sad, fascinating, and beautifully written, this tale will find you wishing for just such a relationship."

—Kathy Ashton, The King's English, Salt Lake City, UT



### Travels in Siberia

by Ian Frazier

(FSG, 9780374278724, \$30)

"This may be my favorite travel book. Period. Ian Frazier is a magnificently gifted writer who makes every single word interesting and takes the reader with him across the landscape, through history, and into the present. He keeps the reader close by his side through all manner of experiences, and the reader's heart soars and stomach

turns along with his own. Frazier has traveled to the ends of the earth, and I am happy to feel that I have gone with him."

—Linda Ramsdell, Galaxy Bookshop, Hardwick, VT



### You Don't Look Like Anyone I Know

A True Story of Family, Face-Blindness, and Forgiveness, by Heather Sellers

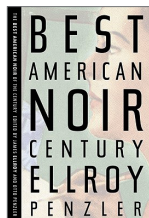
(Riverhead, 9781594487736, \$25.95)

"This is an astonishing memoir by a young woman who has prosopagnosia, commonly known as face-blindness. Some may dismiss it as yet another story about a bad childhood, but it is much more than that. Even though both of Sellers' parents battled mental illness, the love they have

for their daughter is strong and shines through the pages of this book. A triumphant story!"

—Rhoda Wolff, Schuler Books & Music, Grand Rapids, MI

## MYSTERY/THRILLER



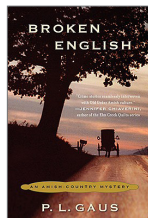
### Best American Noir of the Century

Otto Penzler and James Ellroy (Eds.)

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 9780547330778, \$30)

"This is an amazingly delicious and dark collection. Every decade from the 1920s forward is represented by at least one classic selection, with many from the last 20 years included. These stories invariably end in a nastier manner than you'd first suspect. I hope a second volume is considered very soon!"

—Carl Hoffman, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI



### Broken English

An Amish-Country Mystery, by P.L. Gaus

(Plume, 9780452296619, paper, \$13)

"A mystery man, rumored to have been trained by the U.S. military to kill, has settled in the Amish community and attempts to find peace there. When his only daughter is killed and the suspect is arrested, a wave of violence descends on the peaceful community and threatens to test the limits of friendship between the sheriff, Pastor Troyer, and Professor Branden. Another excellent addition to this series."

—Betty Barnes, River Reader, Lexington, MO



### Christmas Mourning

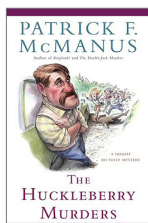
A Deborah Knott Mystery, by Margaret Maron

(Grand Central Publishing, 9780446555807, \$25.99)

"Judge Deborah Knott returns in a solid outing with a theme torn from local headlines. As Deborah and Dwight prepare for the holidays and their first anniversary, they find themselves drawn into community tragedies that go deeper than they know. A big pleasure of the series is meeting Deborah's large extended family, whose many younger

members make their debut here. You'd love to have this clan as your neighbor!"

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



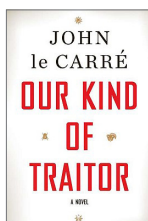
### The Huckleberry Murders

A Sheriff Bo Tully Mystery, by Patrick F. McManus

(Simon & Schuster, 9781439190845, \$25)

"Idaho Sheriff Bo Tully wanted to spend the day picking huckleberries for a pie. Instead, he has three dead bodies in a huckleberry patch and a thorny murder to investigate. A pretty FBI agent gets into the action since the murders took place in a national forest. While Bo likes the ladies, he is not overly fond of the FBI, and part of the fun is watching these two struggle to become a team and go after the bad guys."

—Deon Stonehouse, Sunriver Books, Sunriver, OR



### Our Kind of Traitor

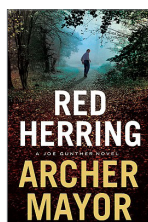
A Novel, by John le Carré

(Viking, 9780670022243, \$27.95)

"Adapting to the changing times, John le Carré long ago abandoned the Cold War for more relevant milieus. This time the subject is the frightening world of the Russian Mob and high-stakes, global-reaching money laundering. Inspired by a newspaper clipping, it is a story of loyalties, altruism, defections, and collapsing ethics, where high-ranking

schemers enrich themselves by leaving the service to rub shoulders with the element upon which they formerly spied."

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



### Red Herring

A Joe Gunther Novel, by Archer Mayor

(Minotaur, 9780312381936, \$24.99)

"Archer Mayor works part-time with the medical examiner in Vermont and makes good use of some special knowledge in this new Joe Gunther case, where the calling card of an apparent serial killer is a drop of blood glistening at each crime scene. None of the victims are related, and each has died in a way that evokes memories of terrible tragedy in

his or her life. Another suspenseful entry in this very popular series."

—Barbara Peters, The Poisoned Pen, Scottsdale, AZ