



THE OCTAVIAN

Octavia Books' bi-monthly newsletter for booklovers

June / July 2011



OCTAVIA BOOKS

513 Octavia Street
New Orleans, LA 70115
504-899-READ (7323)
octaviabooks.com
bookworm@octaviabooks.com

STORE HOURS

Open 10 am - 6 pm
Monday - Saturday
Sunday 12 Noon - 5 pm



Located in uptown New Orleans
at the corner of Octavia
and Laurel Streets between
Magazine and Tchoupitoulas.

INDIE BOUND
Celebrating the
spirit of inde-
pendents and
the vitality of
our community.

Let your imagination run wild.

New Stories from Favorite Authors

Caleb's Crossing

Pulitzer Prize winner Geraldine Brooks takes a remarkable shard of history – Caleb Cheeshahteumauck becoming the first Native American to graduate from Harvard College in 1665 – and brings it to vivid life. *Caleb's Crossing* (\$26.95, Viking, 978-0-670-02104-8) is set in Martha's Vineyard, where 12-year-old Bethia Mayfield, a minister's daughter, encounters Caleb, the young son of a chieftain, and the two forge a tentative secret friendship that draws each into the alien world of the other. Bethia's father takes on a project to educate Caleb, and a year later, Caleb is in Cambridge, studying among the colonial elite. There, Bethia, who yearns for an education closed to her by gender, finds herself reluctantly indentured as a professor's housekeeper, and closely observes Caleb's crossing of cultures from his world into hers. This thoroughly researched and beautifully written story further establishes Brooks as one of our most acclaimed novelists.

Dreams of Joy

Lisa See has brilliantly written of the potent bonds of mother love, romantic love, and love of country. Now, in *Dreams of Joy* (\$26, Random House, 978-1-400-06712-1), she continues the story of sisters Pearl and May from *Shanghai Girls*, and Pearl's strong-willed nineteen-year-old daughter, Joy. Reeling from newly uncovered family secrets, Joy runs away to Shanghai in early 1957 to find her birth father – with whom both May and Pearl were once in love. Devastated by Joy's flight and terrified for her safety, Pearl is determined to save her daughter, no matter the personal cost. Yet even as their separate journeys converge, a tragic episode in China's



history threatens their very lives. With richly drawn characters and vivid storytelling, Lisa See once again renders a family challenged by tragedy and time, yet ultimately united by the resilience of love.

The State of Wonder

Ann Patchett brings us a provocative and ambitious novel set deep in the Amazon jungle. In *The State of Wonder* (\$26.99, Harper, 978-0-062-04980-3), Dr. Marina Singh, a research scientist with a Minnesota pharmaceutical company, is sent to Brazil to track down her former mentor, Dr. Annick Swenson, who seems to have all but disappeared while working on what is destined to be an extremely valuable new drug. Once found, Dr. Swenson, now in her seventies, is ruthless and uncompromising; she dominates her research team and the natives she is studying with the force of an imperial ruler. Sacrifices must be made and Marina may be unable to live up to her teacher's expectations. Replete with poison arrows, devouring snakes, and a neighboring tribe of cannibals, *The State of Wonder* is a tale that leads us into the very heart of darkness, then reveals what lies on the other side.

PRSRRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FRANKLIN, TN
PERMIT NO. 357

513 Octavia Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70115
OCTAVIA BOOKS



DOING OUR PART TO KEEP AMERICA INTERESTING

Dear Local Booklover,

INDIE
BOUND



Isn't it wonderful to welcome summer? There's no other season that offers such a sense of freedom, playfulness, and fun.

What will you read and do this summer? It's clear that this will be a stellar season for new releases. It's been a long wait for a new book by Ann Patchett, and we're always ready for something

new from Geraldine Brooks and Lisa See. There are so many novels you'll enjoy reading and will especially want to present to members of your book group. If losing yourself in a page-turning thriller is what you're in the mood for, Pete Hamill has a new book, and we think you'll also enjoy meeting Jo Nesbø, a bestselling Norwegian writer with a bone-chilling story of a serial killer.

Father's Day is June 19th and you'll find lots of great gift ideas throughout this issue of the newsletter. Erik Larson (*Devil in the White City*) returns with *In the Garden of Beasts*, a remarkable story set during Hitler's rise to power. Mitchell Zuckoff traces the fascinating story of a plane crash in the jungles of Dutch New Guinea in *Lost in Shangri-La*. This year also marks the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, and we have new titles to highlight the occasion.

Is there a new graduate in your life? Celebrate by picking up a book of inspiration for life transitions. For those going off to college, choose a book of coupons that may come in handy when a feeling of being homesick strikes.

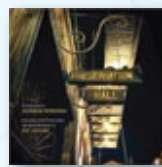
How about trying some easy recipes for homemade popsicles? Or you might recall your own childhood by reading about E.B. White's in *The Story of Charlotte's Web*. For the kids, there are new releases in popular series and charming picture books, like *Me...Jane*, the story of young Jane Goodall and her special toy chimpanzee. You'll have just plain fun reading these with a child — try *Hide and Sheep* and *Meow Said the Cow*. And we have more!

Summer is a season to savor. We hope you'll stop by Octavia Books soon to find reasons to put your feet up this summer, take a break from the real world, and simply enjoy all that life — and our bookstore — has to offer.

When you find some worthy reads in this newsletter or when browsing the store, we thank you for buying from us. When you do, you affirm the value of indie bookstores in our community, help support the local economy, and sustain the vibrancy of our writing and publishing communities. Here's to summer! Happy reading!

Judith A. Rafetto Thomas P. Soumbrou

LOCAL FLAVORS



Preservation Hall

New Orleans photographer Shannon Brinkman and audio documentarian Eve Abrams capture the rhythm and cool of this historic club with both a pulsating array of images and the heartfelt words of band members in *Preservation Hall* (\$24.95, LSU Press, 978-0-8071-3726-0).



Acadiana: Louisiana's Historic Cajun Country

With stunning photographs and riveting narrative, Carl Brasseaux and Philip Gould celebrate the Acadian resilient and vibrant way of life in *Acadiana: Louisiana's Historic Cajun Country* (\$45, LSU Press, 978-0-8071-3723-9).



Shadows on the Gulf: A Journey Through Our Last Great Wetland

Rowan Jacobsen, the James Beard Award-winning author of *A Geography of Oysters*, takes us on a journey through the Gulf's wetlands, and reveals, in the wake of the oil spill, how the wetlands are being damaged by what experts call a 100-year catastrophe in *Shadows on the Gulf* (\$25, Bloomsbury, 978-1-6081-9581-7).



Congo Square: African Roots in New Orleans

Freddie Williams Evans presents a comprehensive look at the African music and dance influence in America in *Congo Square* (\$20, Univ. of LA at Lafayette press, 978-1-9357-5403-9), an exceptional teaching resource for Louisiana history, culture, literature and geography.



New Atlantis: Musicians Battle for the Survival of New Orleans

John Swenson shares his encyclopedic knowledge of the city's unique and varied music scene in *New Atlantis* (\$27.95, Oxford Univ. Press, 978-0-1997-5452-6), a stirring chronicle of the valiant efforts to preserve the culture that gives New Orleans its grace and magic.



Galatoire's: Biography of a Bistro

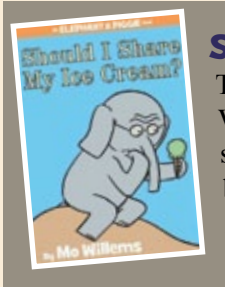
Uncover the secrets of the restaurant's signature dishes. Go backstage with Galatoire family members. Eavesdrop as deals are cut in the glittering downstairs dining room. Marda Burton and Kenneth Holditch take us on a fascinating tour of the renowned restaurant in *Galatoire's* (\$18.95, Garrett County Press, 978-1-8910-5323-8).



Traditional New Orleans Jazz: Conversations with the Men Who Make the Music

Veteran jazz journalist Thomas Jacobsen discusses the musical legacy with Ferbos, Mayfield, and a who's who of the present-day scenes in *Traditional New Orleans Jazz* (\$22.50, LSU Press, 978-0-8071-3779-6).

BOOKS Making a BIG SPLASH



Should I Share My Ice Cream?

Three-time Caldecott Honor winner Mo Willems treats us to a fun new book for summer. Gerald and Piggie are best friends, but they are really quite different animals. In *Should I Share My Ice Cream?* (\$8.99, Disney, 978-1-423-14343-7), Gerald has a big decision to make, but will he make it in time? Come find out! Ages 4-8. Avail. 6/14

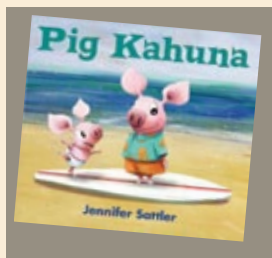


Me...Jane

The *New York Times* bestselling author Patrick McDonnell (*The Gift of Nothing*) has written an inspiring story of the young Jane Goodall and her special childhood toy chimpanzee. With anecdotes taken directly from Goodall's autobiography, McDonnell makes the true story of *Me...Jane* (\$15.99, Little Brown, 978-0-316-0-4546-9) accessible and enjoyable for the very young. Ages 4-6

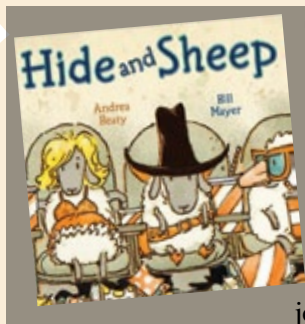
Pig Kahuna

Fergus and his little brother, Dink, love collecting things that wash up on the beach, because it means that Fergus doesn't actually have to go in the water. Then one day, they spy the greatest treasure of all — an abandoned surfboard. When no one comes to claim it, they make it the star of their collection and name it "Dave." But when Dave accidentally (on purpose?) gets cast back into the ocean, can Fergus find the courage to rescue him? Jennifer Gordon Sattler's *Pig Kahuna* (\$14.99, Bloomsbury, 978-1-599-90635-5) is a wonderful story about overcoming your fears. Ages 3-6



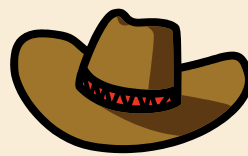
Meow Said the Cow

It's a noisy morning in the barnyard: roosters crowing, cows mooing, mice squeaking! And the farmer's cat has had enough. With a flick of his tail, the cat casts a spell and the barnyard is turned upside-down. Emma Dodd brings her hilarious rhyming text to life with bright, bold illustrations in *Meow Said the Cow* (\$16.99, Arthur A. Levine, 978-0-545-31861-7). Ages 4-8

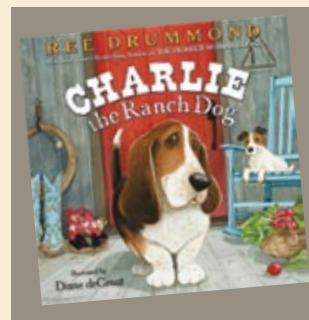


Hide and Sheep

In this rollicking, rhyming read-aloud by Andrea Beaty, Farmer McFitt must round up his escaped sheep — which are hiding everywhere from the circus to the library. The illustrations by Bill Mayer are filled with adventure and plenty of jokes to make *Hide and Sheep* (\$15.99, Margaret K.



McElderry, 978-1-416-92544-6) an entertaining read for kids and adults alike. This is one you'll be reading again and again! Ages 4-8

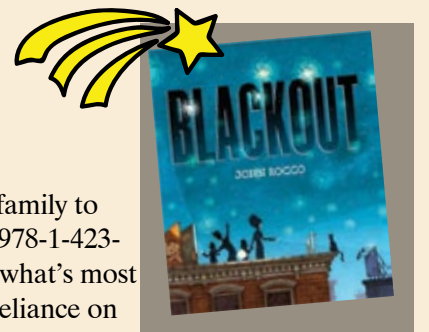


Charlie the Ranch Dog

Ree Drummond, known for her Pioneer Woman blog and books, makes her picture book debut with *h* (\$16.99, HarperCollins, 978-0-061-99655-9). Meet Charlie, the perpetually hungry, self-deluded, always lovable Basset Hound who loves living in the country. You'll love his understated humor and enjoy meeting Suzie, the younger, more energetic dog in the family. Ages 4-7

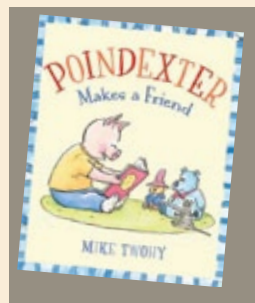
Blackout

One hot summer night in the city, all the power goes out. The TV shuts off and a boy wails, "Mommm!" His sister can no longer use the phone, Mom can't work on her computer, and Dad can't finish cooking dinner. What's a family to do? John Rocco's *Blackout* (\$16.99, Hyperion, 978-1-423-12190-9) is a reminder of how time together is what's most important of all (not to mention how an over-reliance on technology could have far-reaching consequences). Ages 4-8

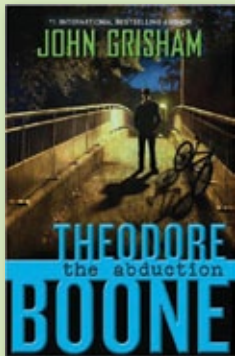


Poindexter Makes a Friend

New Yorker cartoonist Mike Twohy presents *Poindexter Makes a Friend* (\$15.99, S&S, 978-1-442-40965-1), his very first book for children. Poindexter, is a shy, friendly, and perfectly happy pig. There's just one thing. How is a shy, nice, well balanced pig going to make friends? His love of reading leads him to a special surprise — the start of a wonderful friendship. Ages 5-8



Plunge into a GOOD READ



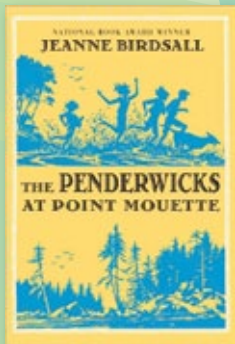
Theodore Boone: The ABduction

The follow-up to John Grisham's #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer*. Just when it seems like life for Theo is back to the status quo, a new legal mystery comes to town — and Theo is the only one who can crack the case. *Theodore Boone: The Abduction* (\$16.99, Dutton, 978-0-525-42557-1) is the perfect companion for a lazy summer afternoon. Ages 8-12



Aliens on Vacation

Scrub isn't happy about leaving his friends to summer with his crazy grandmother in the "Middle-of-Nowhere." It turns out that her Intergalactic Bed & Breakfast, where each room in the inn is an off-earth portal and his grandma the gate-keeper, allows aliens to vacation on Earth. Scrub soon learns that Grandma desperately needs his help when the sheriff grows suspicious. Cleto Smith's *Aliens on Vacation* (\$16.99, Hyperion, 978-1-423-13363-6) is so much fun, you won't want to stop reading! Ages 9-12



The Penderwicks at Point Mouette

When summer comes around, it's off to the beach for Rosalind . . . and off to Maine with Aunt Claire for the rest of the Penderwick girls, as well as their old friend, Jeffrey. That leaves Skye as OAP (oldest available Penderwick) — a terrifying notion for all, but for Skye especially. The summer is filled with adventures in *The Penderwicks at Point Mouette* (\$16.99, Knopf, 978-0-375-85851-2), a story by Jeanne Birdsall filled with laughs and joyful tears. Ages 8-12



A Tale of Two Castles

Newbery Honor author Gail Carson Levine (*Ella Enchanted*) weaves a spellbinding tale about a clever heroine, a dragon detective, and a shape-shifting ogre in *A Tale of Two Castles* (\$16.99, HarperCollins, 978-0-061-22965-7). Newly arrived in the town of Two Castles, Elodie unexpectedly becomes the assistant to a brilliant dragon named Meenore, and together they solve mysteries. Their most important case involves a cast of characters that includes a greedy king, a giddy princess, and a handsome cat trainer — and is a reminder that you can find friendship where you least expect it. Ages 9-12

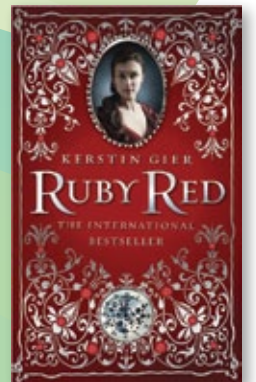
Throne of Fire, #2

What a perfect beginning to summer . . . the second installment of Rick Riordan's three-book series. In Book 2, *Throne of Fire* (\$18.99, Hyperion, 978-1-423-14056-6), Carter and Sadie, offspring of the brilliant Egyptologist Dr. Julius Kane, embark on a world-wide search for the Book of Ra, but the House of Life and the gods of chaos are determined to stop them. Ages 10-13



Ruby Red

Sixteen-year-old Gwyneth lives with her extended — and eccentric — family in London. The time-traveling gene that runs through the female half of her family supposedly has skipped over her. So it comes as a surprise when Gwen starts taking sudden leaps into the past. Travel back to the 18th century in *Ruby Red* (\$16.99, Holt, 978-0-805-09252-3), an amazing adventure first written in German by Kerstin Gier and now translated by Anthea Bell. Ages 12+



The Warlock

In the fifth installment of the *Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel* series by Michael Scott, the twins of prophecy have been divided, and the end is finally beginning. With Scatty, Joan of Arc, Saint Germain, Palamedes, and Shakespeare all in Danu Talis, Sophie is on her own with the ever-weakening Nicholas and Perenelle Flamel. She must depend on Niten to help her find an immortal to teach her Earth Magic. The surprise in *The Warlock* (\$18.99, Delacorte, 978-0-385-73533-9) is that she will find her teacher in the most ordinary of places. Ages 11-15

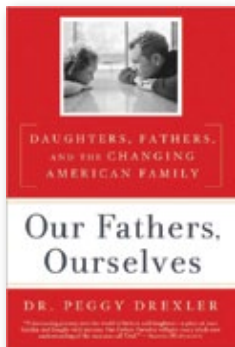


The Midnight Palace

When a mysterious threat reenters the lives of twins Ben and Sheere, separated as babies and reunited as teenagers in 1930s Calcutta, the siblings must confront an unspeakable terror, with the help of their secret society of fellow orphans. *The Midnight Palace* (\$17.99, Little Brown, 978-0-316-04473-8) by Carlos Ruiz Zafon offers moments of genuine horror and expert plot twists!

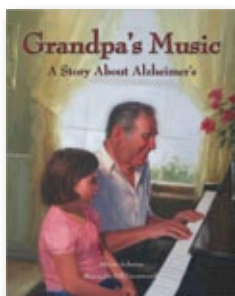


Being Family



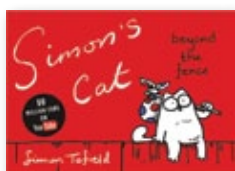
Our Fathers, Ourselves

There's no denying that a woman's relationship with her father is one of the most important in her life. Whether the relationship is good, bad, or something else, it affects daughters in profound ways. In *Our Fathers, Ourselves* (\$24.99, Rodale, 978-1-605-29360-8), Dr. Peggy Drexler looks at ways the father-daughter bond impacts women and offers helpful advice for creating a better, strong, and more rewarding relationship. An important work on understanding our fathers and finding ways that lead to a closer connection.



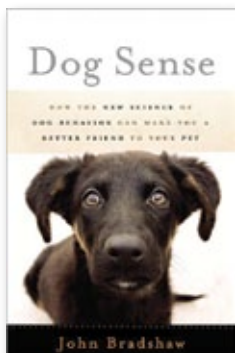
Grandpa's Music

Understanding dementia and Alzheimer's disease is difficult for all of us who see a loved one affected. In *Grandpa's Music* (\$16.99, Albert Whitman, 978-0-807-53052-8), Alison Acheson's thoughtful storytelling and Bill Farnsworth's touching paintings portray a family that learns to adapt with the challenges. Callie's grandfather has difficulty remembering things, so Callie takes on a special task to help him enjoy playing the piano and singing favorite songs. Ages 6-9 Avail. 4/5



Simon's Cat: Beyond the Fence

Simon Tofield's hilarious animations have taken YouTube by storm and we've come to love the relationship between the demanding feline and his exasperated, but doting human. With a copy of *Simon's Cat: Beyond the Fence* (\$13.99, Grand Central, 978-0-446-56007-8), you'll have the funny illustrations at your fingertips — reminding you of all the ways our cats entertain us with their various antics. Avail. 6/2



Dog Sense

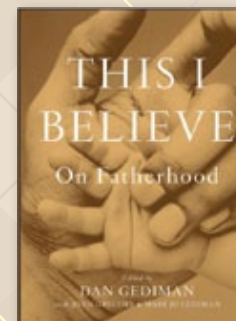
Renowned anthrozoologist Dr. John Bradshaw believes that although dogs have been mankind's faithful companions for years, they often are either treated as pack-following animals or furry humans — but they are neither. In *Dog Sense* (\$25.99, Basic, 978-0-465-01944-1), Dr. Bradshaw draws on the latest research for insights on how we can live in harmony with — not just dominion over — our dogs. You'll learn about guiding behavior to understanding your dog's personality in this thoughtful and wise book.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

This I Believe: On Fatherhood

We love this series from the popular NPR radio show. In *This I Believe: On Fatherhood* (\$19.95, Jossey-Bass, 978-0-470-87647-3), you'll read thought-provoking reflections and sentiments on one of the most fundamental of human relationships — fatherhood. It is a relationship filled with joy and heartbreak, love and anger, lessons learned, and opportunities missed. Some stories are reverential and loving; some are sad and clouded by yearning, loss, and regret. All are engaging and meaningful.



A Father's Day Thank You

Harvey doesn't know what to get his father for Father's Day. It's especially hard when his older sisters and brother seem so sure that their presents are his favorites. The night before Father's Day, Harvey remembers all of the nice things his dad helped him with that week. He picks up a crayon and starts to draw and decides that thanking his dad is the best gift of all. We think *A Father's Day Thank You* (\$6.99, Albert Whitman, 978-0-807-52292-9) by Janet Nolan and illustrated by Kathi Ember might just be the most treasured present this Father's Day!



Familyhood

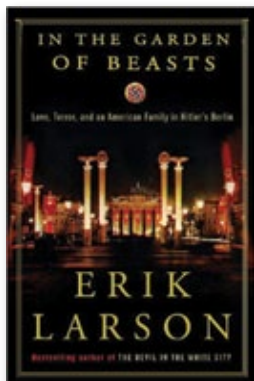
In keeping with the theme of his two previous *New York Times* bestsellers, *Couplehood* and *Babyhood*, actor and stand-up comedian Paul Reiser brings his trademark warmth and razor-sharp wit to bear on observations about parenting, marriage, and midlife in his latest work, *Familyhood* (\$25.99, Hyperion, 978-1-401-32432-2). Highly recommended as a gift for Father's Day.



Shop Locally
Nurture Your Community



Global Perspective

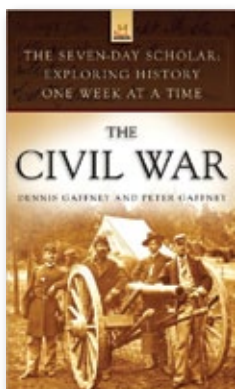
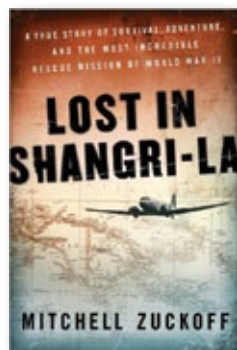


In the Garden of Beasts

Bestselling non-fiction writer Erik Larson (*Devil in the White City*) turns his hand to a remarkable story set during Hitler's rise to power. Suffused with the tense atmosphere of the period, and with unforgettable portraits of bizarre leaders, *In the Garden of Beasts* (\$26, Crown, 978-0-307-40884-6) lends an eyewitness perspective to events as they unfold in real time, revealing why the world did not recognize the grave threat posed by Hitler until Berlin – and much of Europe – was awash in blood and terror.

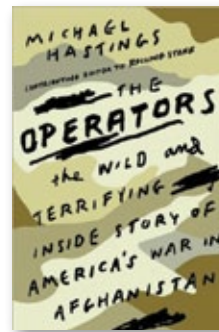
Lost in Shangri-La

On May 13, 1945, an American transport plane carrying 24 servicemen and women crashed into a mountain in the jungles of Dutch New Guinea (now Papua), leaving three survivors. Emotionally devastated, badly injured, and vulnerable to the hidden dangers of the jungle, the trio faced man-eating headhunters and enemy Japanese. Mitchell Zuckoff captures the unforgettable battle for survival in *Lost in Shangri-La* (\$26.99, Harper, 978-0-061-98834-9).



The Civil War

In partnership with the History Channel, Hyperion's Seven-Day Scholar series brings to life the significant moments in our nation's history. Marking the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, Dennis Gaffney offers forty-five chapters consisting of seven one-page narrative entries that cover the fascinating episodes of the tragedy. *The Civil War: Exploring History One Week at a Time* (\$24.99, Hyperion, 978-1-401-32374-5) reads like historical fiction, covering the crucial political decisions, unforgettable people, key battlefield moments and more.

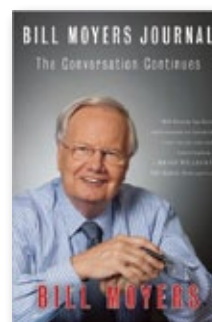
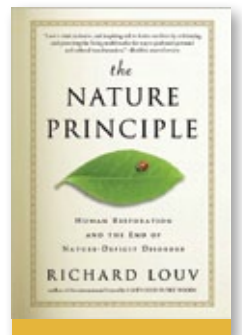


The Operators

In June 2010, Michael Hastings's extraordinary, uncensored *Rolling Stone* article shocked the world and led to the resignation of General Stanley McChrystal. Now, *The Operators: The Wild and Terrifying Inside Story of America's War in Afghanistan* (\$17.99, Little Brown, 978-0-316-17625-5) reveals a sobering analysis of the war, its politics, its major players, and the United States involvement in Afghanistan in vivid, unforgettable detail.

The Nature Principle

Richard Louv makes a convincing case that through a nature-balanced existence — driven by sound economic, social, and environmental solutions — the human race can and will thrive. In *The Nature Principle* (\$24.95, Algonquin, 978-1-565-12581-0), Louv brings us down to earth, stating that we have developed an out-sized faith in technology, but can still tap into the restorative powers of the natural world to build smarter and more sustainable businesses, communities, and economies. This timely, inspiring, and important work challenges us to discover the power for personal and cultural transformation.



Bill Moyers Journal

Over the years, Bill Moyers has hosted conversations on PBS with luminaries ranging from “The Wire” creator David Simon, anthropologist Jane Goodall, food journalist Michael Pollan, and many others. Now, you can delve into the best of the debates, the intellectual and cultural currents, and above all the fascinating people that have so powerfully shaped our times in *Bill Moyers Journal: The Conversation Continues* (\$29.95, New Press, 978-1-595-58624-7).

The Next Convergence

With the British Industrial Revolution, part of the world's population started to experience extraordinary economic growth, yet this pattern of divergence reversed after World War II. Today the developing world is experiencing accelerated growth, posing new challenges that are set to reshape the world. Michael Spence, winner of the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, explains the dramatic shift in the prospects of the five billion people who live in developing countries in *The Next Convergence: The Future of Economic Growth in a Multispeed World* (\$27, FSG, 978-0-374-15975-7). An important look at the unprecedented challenges in governance, international coordination, and ecological sustainability that are now unfolding.



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper with soy ink.

A Good Life

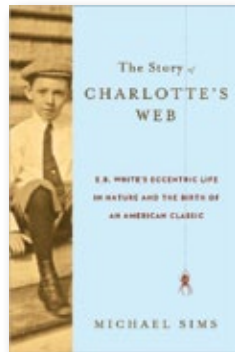


Unfinished Business

After losing his job, Lee Kravitz — a man who had always worked too hard and too much — took stock of his life and decided to spend an entire year making amends and reconnecting with the people and parts of himself he had neglected. In *Unfinished Business* (\$16, Bloomsbury, 978-1-608-19463-6), Kravitz shares his journeys and what he learned along the way: the things we let slip are exactly those that have the power to transform, enrich, enlarge, and complete us.

The Story of Charlotte's Web

Helpless pigs, silly geese, clever spiders, greedy rats — E.B. White knew all of these characters in the barns and stables where he spent his favorite hours. Painfully shy his entire life, White once wrote of himself, “This boy felt for animals a kinship he never felt for people.” With meticulous research, Michael Sims brings to life the life of a writer who was able to translate his own passions and contradictions, delights and fears, into an all-time classic that has touched the hearts of generations of readers in *The Story of Charlotte's Web* (\$25, Walker, 978-0-802-77754-6).

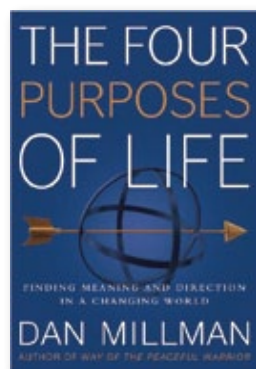


The Tao of Travel

Prolific travel writer Paul Theroux celebrates 50 years of wandering the globe by collecting the best writing on travel from the books that shaped him — as a reader and a traveler — in *The Tao of Travel: Enlightenment from Lives on the Road* (\$25, HMH, 978-0-547-33691-6). In one volume, you'll find excerpts from the best of Theroux's work interspersed with selections from travelers both familiar and unexpected: Vladimir Nabokov, J.R.R. Tolkien, Samuel Johnson, Eudora Welty, Evelyn Waugh, Mark Twain, and others.

The Four Purposes of Life

Summer is such a perfect time to sit with a glass of lemonade, take a deep breath, and stop the busyness of daily life. Bestselling author Dan Millman (*The Life You Were Born to Live*) distills years of his research and work to help provide a map for anyone seeking deeper insight into themselves and their lives, but especially for those at a crossroads, facing a challenge or change, when past approaches no longer work in *The Four Purposes of Life* (\$17, H.J. Kramer, 978-1-932-07349-2).

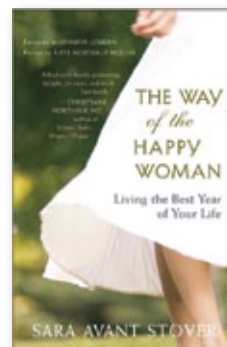
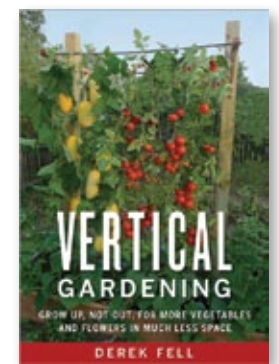


Perfect Pops

Just looking at this cover gets us all talking about our favorite popsicle flavors! Whether you're looking for things to do with kids or interested in concocting a spiked pop for your next dinner party, Charity Ferreira serves up plenty of fun and flavorful recipes in *Perfect Pops* (\$16.95, Chronicle, 978-1-452-10192-7). Striped, swirled, layered or creamy — you'll find the recipes easy and the results delicious!

Vertical Gardening

If the gardener in you wants to find a way to keep up with your garden throughout the season, look to Derek Fell's *Vertical Gardening* (\$23.99, Rodale, 978-1-605-29083-6) with simple advice: keep things on a small scale and think “up”. With trellises, topsy-turvy planters, raised beds, and string supports, the vertical garden system will reduce the amount of work, increase yields, and can be used in the smallest of spaces.



The Way of the Happy Woman

When we honor spring's seedlings, summer's vibrancy, fall's harvest, and winter's quietude, we harmonize our inner and outer worlds. Sara Avant Stover believes that modern life has moved us away from living in accordance with nature and the rhythms of life, but we can reconnect with a few simple practices. *The Way of the Happy Woman: Living the Best Year of Your Life* (\$15.95, New World Library, 978-1-577-31982-5) is a lovely reminder to stop, question, and be mindful in our lives. A wonderful gift for anyone who is stressed and wants to be happier, healthier, and more balanced in life.

Lies That Chelsea Handler Told Me

It's no lie: Chelsea Handler loves to smoke out “dumbassness,” the condition people suffer from that allows them to fall prey to her brand of complete and utter nonsense. In *Lies That Chelsea Handler Told Me* (\$24.99, Grand Central, 978-0-446-58471-5), you'll laugh through the stories of friends, family, and co-workers who've all been tricked by Chelsea into believing stories of total foolishness.



BOOK CLUBS

Octavia Books Book Club

~ Meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:30 am ~

Saturday, June 18, 10:30 am

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet



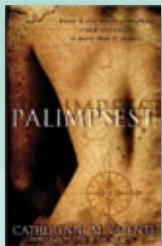
Set during one of the most conflicted and volatile times in American history, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* (\$15, Ballantine, 978-0-3455-0534-7) is an extraordinary story of commitment and enduring hope. In Henry and Keiko, Jamie Ford has created an unforgettable duo whose story teaches us of the power of forgiveness and the human heart.

Saturday, July 16, 10:30 am

Selection TBA - Visit us online at OctaviaBooks.com for details.

Octavia Books Science Fiction Book Club

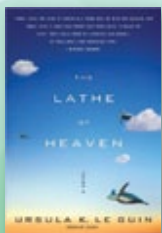
~ Meets the 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:30 am



Saturday, June 11, 10:30 am

Palimpsest

Catherynne Valente (*The Orphan's Tales*) shares an erotic and exotic tale of four lost souls mapping a fantastical city in *Palimpsest* (\$15, Spectra, 978-0-5533-8576-2).



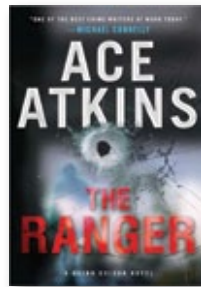
Saturday, July 9, 10:30 am

The Lathe of Heaven

Ursula K. Le Guin's classic science fiction novel, *The Lathe of Heaven* (\$15, Scribner, 978-1-4165-5696-1), offers "a rare and powerful synthesis of poetry and science, reason and emotion" (*The New York Times*). In the year 2002, George Orr discovers his dreams can — and do — change the world.

MAY WE RECOMMEND

Douglas Westgate recommends:



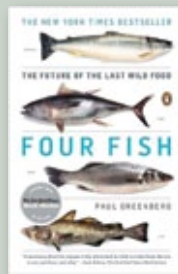
The Ranger

Ace Atkins has a winner with *The Ranger* (\$25.95, Putnam, 978-0-399-1-5748-6). Army Ranger Quinn Colson arrives back in his home town in North Mississippi for the funeral of his uncle, the county sheriff. He finds that the county has been taken over by meth cooks and dealers and that the good ole boy network is alive and well.

Aby assisted by deputy sheriff Lillie Virgil and his old friend Boots, an ex-army amputee, he sets about cleaning up the corruption and getting rid of the methamphetamine dealers. Atkins knows Mississippi; his descriptions are right on the mark, the story is well written and fast moving. I do hope that we get to read more about Quinn Colson and his two sidekicks.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT OCTAVIA

(Continued on page 12)



Paul Greenberg

Four Fish

Thursday, June 2, 6 pm

In recent years, large-scale commercial fishing and questionable environmental standards have severely distressed water ecosystems, bringing many fish populations to the brink of extinction. *Four Fish* (\$16, Penguin, 978-0-1431-1946-3) examines the state of our oceans and explains how we can prevent mass extinction and boost wild and farmed fish populations in a way that is both environmentally and economically sound.



Building Community: The Work of Eskew + Dumez + Ripple

Thursday, June 9, 6-7:30PM

Featuring the works of leading New Orleans-based design firm Eskew + Dumez + Ripple, *Building Community* (\$65, ORO Editions, 978-0-9826226-2-9) pursues the role of the architect as community builder and shaper of human experience in addition to their influence on the built landscape. A first monograph for the firm, the book introduces the studio's unique, personal and careful approach to the design of buildings of their own time and place within the culturally rich environment of New Orleans and the greater Gulf South region.

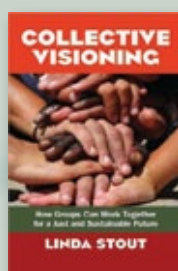


Sarah Gran

Claire DeWitt and the City of the Dead

Saturday, June 11, 6-7:30 pm

Claire DeWitt is not your average private investigator. She has brilliant deductive skills and is an ace at discovering evidence. But Claire also uses her dreams, omens, and mind-expanding herbs to help her solve mysteries, and relies on "Detection" -- the only book published by the late, great, and mysterious French detective Jacques Silette. Claire follows the clues, finding old friends and making new enemies in *Claire DeWitt and the City of the Dead* (\$24, HMH, 978-0-5474-2849-9).



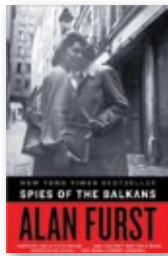
Linda Stout

Collective Visioning and Feet to the Fire

Tuesday, June 14, 6-7:30 pm

In far too many meetings, factors such as race, class, and personal history too often inhibit open dialogue within and among groups, which can lead to a sense of disenfranchisement within the organization, and subsequently, disillusionment with the movement. In *Collective Visioning: How Groups Can Work Together for a Just and Sustainable Future* (\$17.95, Berrett-Koehler, 978-1-6050-9882-1), Linda Stout shows how mindfulness of the diversity helps open dialogue. There will also be a signing for *Feet to the Fire: The Rethinkers' Guide to Changing Your School* (\$12, The Rethinkers) which includes a chapter on Stout's work.

Upcoming Events at Octavia Books



Alan Furst
Spies of the Balkans

Monday, June 20, 6–7:30 pm

Alan Furst joins us for paperback release of *Spies of the Balkans* (\$15, Random House, 978-0-8129-7738-7), a stunning novel about a man who risks everything to fight back against the world's evil.

Greece, 1940. In the port city of Salonika, with its wharves and brothels, dark alleys and Turkish mansions, a tense political drama is being played out. As Adolf Hitler plans to invade the Balkans, spies begin to circle — and Costa Zannis, a senior police official, must deal with them all.

ALA WEEKEND

The American Library Association, the first to hold its convention in New Orleans after Katrina, returns this weekend. Mark your calendars as we'll have a parade of bestselling authors visit us at Octavia Books.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25 — YOUNG ADULT AUTHORS

1-2 pm — Sarah Dessen

What Happened to Goodbye

New York Times bestselling young adult novelist Sarah Dessen joins us with her 10th novel, *What Happened to Goodbye* (\$19.99, Viking, 978-0-6700-1294-7), a beautifully written, irresistible story of self-discovery. Since her parents' bitter divorce, McLean and her dad have been on the move — four towns in two years. Each new place gives her a chance to try out a new persona: from cheerleader to drama diva. But now, for the first time, McLean discovers a desire to stay in one place and just be herself, whoever that is.



5-6:30 pm — Cassandra Clare & Ellen Hopkins

Cassandra Clare made her fiction debut with *The Moral Instruments* series, which then made a number of bestseller lists. Clare is now back with *City of Fallen Angels* (\$19.99, Margaret K. McElderry, 978-1-4424-0354-3). As mysterious murders threaten the new peace between Shadowhunters and Downworlders, only Simon, the Daylighter vampire, can help bring both groups together.

Ellen Hopkins, *The New York Times* bestselling author of *Crank*, *Burned*, *Impulse*, *Glass*, *Identical*, *Tricks*, and *Fallout*, joins us to discuss her writing and the issues she addresses in her novels.

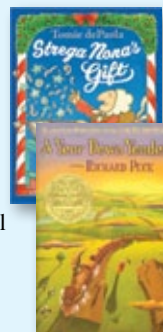


SUNDAY, JUNE 26 — CHILDREN'S AUTHORS & ILLUSTRATORS

Noon-1 pm — Tomie De Paola & Richard Peck

Join us to meet **Tomie De Paola**, one of the most popular children's book authors and illustrators of our time. Tomie De Paola will discuss his latest book, *Strega Nonna's Gift* (\$17.99, Nancy Paulsen, 978-0-399-2-5649-3) where the village is preparing a holiday feast. We'll have plenty of De Paola's cherished books on hand for you to have signed by the author.

Author **Richard Peck** has written over 18 novels for young readers and has won numerous awards for his works, including the prestigious Newbery Medal for *A Year Down Yonder* (\$16.99, Dial, 978-0-8037-2518-8). Peck writes novels "that ask honest questions about serious issues" he said. "A novel is never an answer; it's always a question."



1–2 pm — Kate DiCamillo

Kate DiCamillo is the author of award-winning and best-selling books for middle grade readers, including *The Tale of Despereaux*, which received a Newbery Medal; *Because of Winn-Dixie*, which was a Newbery Medal Honor book; *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, which was a Boston Globe-Horn Book Award winner and others.

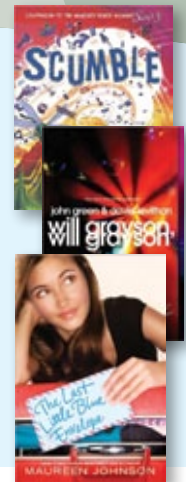


2–3 pm — Book Signings with Ingrid Law, John Green & Maureen Johnson

Ingrid Law joins us with *Scumble* (\$16.99, Dial, 978-0-8037-3307-7), a coming of age story rich with imagery and filled with delightful characters for ages 8 to 12.

John Green signs copies of the young adult novel he wrote with David Levithan, *Will Grayson, Will Grayson* (\$8.99, Speak, 978-0-1424-1847-5). One night two teens with the same name — who run in two very different circles — suddenly find their lives going in new and unexpected directions.

Maureen Johnson joins us to sign copies of her breakout hit *13 Little Blue Envelopes* and the irresistible sequel, *The Last Little Blue Envelope* (\$16.99, Harper Teen, 978-0-0619-7679-7), another fun, romantic, and hilarious European adventure.



Tom Franklin & Laura Lippman
Monday, June 27, 6-7:30 pm

Tom Franklin, author of the critically acclaimed *Hell at the Breech*, will read and sign copies of his latest novel, *Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter* (\$14.99, HarperPerennial, 978-0-0605-9467-1), about two men in a small Mississippi town torn apart by circumstance and reunited by tragedy.

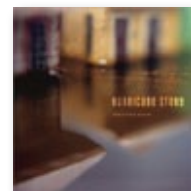
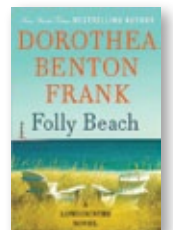
Bestselling and award-winning author **Laura Lippman** joins us with the new paperback release of *I'd Know You Anywhere* (\$14.99, Wm. Morrow, 978-0-0620-7075-3), an edgy, page-turning tale of psychological manipulation.



Dorothea Benton Frank
Folly Beach

Tuesday, June 28, 6-7:30 pm

New York Times bestselling author Dorothea Benton Frank continues her beloved Lowcountry series with *Folly Beach* (\$25.99, Wm. Morrow, 978-0-0619-6127-4) where a woman returns to the past to find her future. Folly Beach is a funny, heart-warming story of loss, acceptance, family, and love.



Jennifer Shaw
Hurricane Story

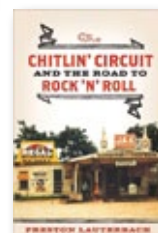
Thursday, July 7, 6-7 pm

Join us to listen to local fine art photographer Jennifer Shaw discuss *Hurricane Story* (\$18, Chin Music Press, 978-0-9844-5763-2) considered a "children's book for grown-ups". Told in first-person narrative and illustrated with photos taken from an inexpensive camera, Shaw tells the true tale of her evacuation from New Orleans, including the dramatic birth of her first son on the very day that Hurricane Katrina made landfall, the stress and pressures on her family, and their eventual return for Mardi Gras.

John Thompson
The Reservoir

Tuesday, July 19, 6-7:30 pm

Debut novelist John Thompson based *The Reservoir* (\$15.95, Other Press, 978-1-5905-1444-3) on a true story: a guilty and passionate love triangle composed of two very different brothers and one young, naive girl hiding an unspeakable secret.



Preston Lauterbach

The Chitlin' Circuit: And the Road to Rock 'n' Roll
Wednesday, July 27, 6-7:30 pm

Come listen to the fascinating story of the birth of rock 'n' roll in black America. Combining firsthand reporting with historical research, Lauterbach has created a major force in American musical history with *The Chitlin' Circuit: And the Road to Rock 'n' Roll* (\$26.95, Norton, 978-0-3930-7652-3).

Shop for Google eBooks locally at OctaviaBooks.com!