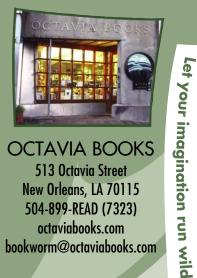




Locally Owned

February / March 2020

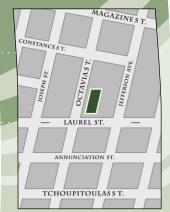


OCTAVIA BOOKS

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 10 am - 5 pm



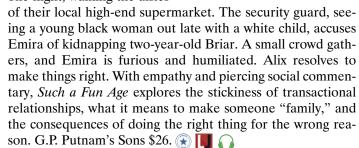
Located in uptown New Orleans at the corner of Octavia and Laurel Streets between Magazine and Tchoupitoulas.



A Place to Belong

Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid

Alix Chamberlain is a woman who gets what she wants and has made a living showing other women how to do the same. So she is shocked when her babysitter, Emira Tucker, is confronted while watching the Chamberlains' toddler one night, walking the aisles



American Dirt

by Jeanine Cummins

Lydia Quixano Pérez runs a bookstore in the M Acapulco. She lives with her young son Luca band, who is a journalist. While local drug carte

ment of danger, her life is fairly comfortable. But when Lydia's husband publishes a profile of Javier, the newest drug cartel's iefe, their lives are forever changed. Forced to flee, Lydia and Luca are instantly transformed into migrants, and they make their way toward the United States—the only place Javier's reach doesn't extend. As they join others trying to reach el norte, Lydia soon sees that everyone is running from something. But what exactly are they running to? American Dirt is already being hailed as "a Grapes of Wrath for our times" and "a new American classic." Flatiron \$27.99. B 😠 📗 🛨 🎧



A Long Petal of the Sea

by Isabel Allende

In the late 1930s, civil war grips Spain and thousands are forced to flee. Among them is Roser, a pregnant young widow, who finds her life intertwined with that of Victor Dalmau, the broth-

er of her deceased love. In order to survive, the two must unite in an undesired marriage. Together with two thousand other refugees, they embark on a ship chartered by the poet Pablo Neruda, to Chile: "the long petal of sea and wine and snow." Their trials just beginning, they embrace exile while Europe erupts in world war, sustained by their hope of returning to Spain. But Roser and Victor find that home might have been closer than they thought all along. A masterful work of historical fiction about hope, exile, and belonging. Ballantine \$28. **B**



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Dear Booklover,



If thinking about the sheer potential of the year we've entered gets you excited, you should know that we feel this way too when looking at all the fantastic stories we get to share to help make your dreams come true. There are so

many adventures to take! New perspectives, countries, and cultures to step into. And even murders to solve. 2020 is going to be an amazing year from start to finish. We are here to help make it happen.

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins and featured on our front page is being hailed as the book of the year "a Grapes of Wrath for our times for our times" (Don Winslow). Read this with your friends, your family, your community, and use the book to inspire conversation about the human con-dition, immigration, the power of love, and how we treat each other. This is a book worth sharing and talking about.

And so are the many others we've selected for this edition. Every book in our newsletter is painstakingly chosen for its wisdom, its insight, its humor, intelligence, and discussion-worthiness. We think about the themes for each season as we create these issues, and for this edition, we give a nod to Valentine's Day, and President's Day, offering books about love (check out the adorable *Snug* by Catana Chetwynd on page 10) and a fun presidents' highlight on page 9.

We are also excited to share a new paperback edition of the biography *Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom* by David Blight just in time to honor Black History Month (you can find it on page 5). And if historical fiction is more your style, don't miss *Remembrance* by Rita Woods on page 4.

What do you want to explore? What new ideas and adventures would you like to take on in this new decade? We want to hear about it, because we want to know what inspires you. We also know we'll have just the right book to help you make this year one to remember. See you soon at Octavia Books!

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BOOK CLUBS

OCTAVIA BOOKS SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB

Second Saturday at 10:30 am



Saturday, February 8, 10:30 am

The Seep
by Chana Porter

Trina is a trans woman whose life is irreversibly altered in the wake of a gentle—but world-changing—invasion by an alien entity called The Seep. Trina and her wife, Deeba, live blissfully under The Seep's utopian influence—until Deeba decides to use Seeptech to be reborn as a baby. Deeba moves on to a new existence, leaving Trina devastated. Heartbroken, Trina follows a lost boy she encounters, embarking on an unexpected quest. A strange new elegy of love and loss, *The Seep* explores grief, alienation, and the ache of moving on. Soho \$25.



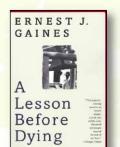


Saturday, March 14, 10:30 am A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court by Mark Twain

When Connecticut mechanic Hank Morgan is knocked unconscious, he wakes not to his 19th-century America but instead to 6th-century Camelot. Confused at first, he soon realizes that his knowledge of the future can transform his fate. Correctly predicting a solar eclipse, he swiftly establishes himself as the most powerful magician in the land, stronger than Merlin and greatly admired by Arthur himself. But the Connecticut Yankee wishes for more than a place at the Round Table; he wants to bring American democratic ideals to Old England. Penguin \$10.

OCTAVIA BOOKS BOOK CLUB

Third Saturday at 10:30 am



Saturday, February 15, 10:30 am A Lesson Before Dying

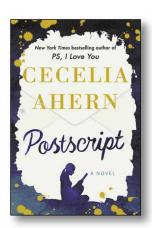
by Ernest Gaines

From the critically acclaimed author of A Gathering of Old Men and The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman comes A Lesson Before Dying—a deep and compassionate novel about a young man who returns to 1940s Cajun country to visit a black youth on death row for a crime he didn't commit. Together they come to understand the heroism of resisting. "This majestic, moving novel is an instant classic, a book that will be read, discussed and taught beyond the rest of our lives." -Chicago Tribune. Vintage \$14.

Saturday, March 21, 10:30 am TBA

COME JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

Exciting New Fiction



Postcript

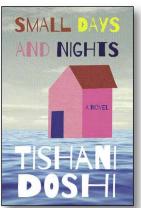
by Cecelia Ahern

In this follow up to PS, I Love You, seven years have passed since the death of Holly's husband—six since she read his final letter. When Holly's sister asks her to tell the story of the "PS, I Love You" letters on her podcast to revisit the messages Gerry wrote before his death to read after his passing—she does so reluctantly, not wanting to reopen old wounds. But after the episode airs, terminally ill people start reaching out, wanting to leave their own missives behind, and Holly finds herself on an incredible, life-affirming journey. Grand Central \$27. Avail. 2/11



Lady Clementine by Marie Benedict

In 1909, Clementine steps off a train with her new husband, Winston. An angry woman emerges from the crowd to attack, shoving him in the direction of an oncoming train. Just before he stumbles. Clementine grabs him by his suit jacket. This will not be the last time Clementine Churchill will save her husband. Lady Clementine is the ferocious story of the woman beside Winston Churchill, the story of a partner who did not flinch through the darkness of war, and who would not surrender either to expectations or to enemies. Sourcebooks Landmark \$26.99.



Small Days and Nights by Tishani Doshi

Escaping her failing marriage in the US, Grace Marisola has returned to Pondicherry to cremate her mother. Once there, she receives an inheritance—a property on the isolated beaches south of Madras—and discovers a sister: Lucia, who has spent her life in a residential facility. Settling into her new life, Grace attempts to leave her old self behind. But she soon discovers the chaos, tenderness, fury, and bewilderment of life with Lucia. In fierce, lyrical prose, Doshi presents an unflinching portrait of contemporary India. W.W. Norton & Co. \$25.95.



Hi Five

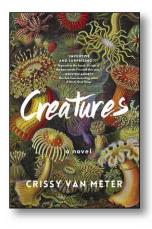
by Joe Ide

IQ is back, working a case that involves more personalities than he expected. Cristiana is the daughter of arms dealer Angus. She's also the sole witness and number one suspect in the murder of her boyfriend. Angus coerces Isaiah Quintabe into taking the case by threatening the PI's new girlfriend. The catch: Christiana has multiple personalities. Five radically different ones. And no one personality saw the entire incident. To find out what really happened, Isaiah must piece together clues from each of the personalities before the cops catch up. Mulholland \$27. B



by Crissy Van Meter

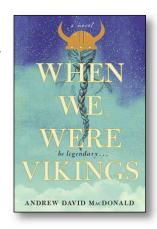
On the eve of Evangeline's wedding, on the shore of Winter Island, a dead whale is trapped in the harbor, the groom may be lost at sea, and Evie's absent mother has shown up out of the blue. From there, the narrative flows back and forth through time as Evie reckons with her complicated upbringing by her father, who raised her with a deep respect for the elements, the sea, and its creatures, but also left her to parent herself. With wit, love, and bracing flashes of anger, Creatures probes the complexities of love and abandonment, guilt and forgiveness. Algonquin \$25.95. 🛞 🎧



When We Were Vikings

by Andrew David MacDonald

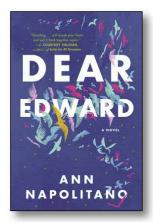
A heart-swelling debut for fans of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time. Zelda is a 21-year-old Viking enthusiast and lives with her older brother, Gert. They live life with some basic rules—about smiles and fistbumps, strangers and tomatoes. But when she finds out that Gert has resorted to some questionable/dangerous methods to make enough money to keep them afloat, Zelda launches her own legendary quest that tests the reach of her heroism, her love for her brother, and the depth of her Viking strength. Because after all... we are legends of our own making. Gallery/Scout \$27.



Dear Edward

by Ann Napolitano

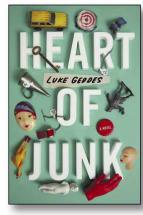
One morning, 12-year-old Edward Adler, his older brother, his parents, and 183 other passengers board a flight in Newark headed for Los Angeles. Halfway across the country, the plane crashes: Edward is the sole survivor. Edward's story captures the attention of the nation, but he struggles to find a place in a world without his family. He feels a part of himself has been left in the sky, tied to the plane and his fellow passengers. Dear Edward is at once a coming-of-age story and a breathtaking illustration of all the ways a broken heart learns to love again. Dial \$27. 🕞 🦳



Heart of Junk

by Luke Geddes

The city of Wichita, Kansas, is panicked over the abduction of toddler pageant princess Lindy Bobo. But the dealers at The Heart of America Antique Mall are consumed by another drama: the plan of antiques television show *Pickin* Fortunes to film an episode at The Heart of America, which may also be the last hope of saving the mall from bankruptcy. Yet the mall and the beauty queen have more to do with each other than the vendors think. Comical and suspenseful, Heart of Junk is also a biting commentary on the Marie Kondo era. Simon & Schuster \$26. \(\bar{B} \rightarrow \hat{\alpha} \)





Adventurous Tales



RIESTESS, ASSASSIN, TRAITOR

THE

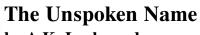
UNSPOKEN

The Vanished Birds

by Simon Jimenez

Nia is a ship captain, drifting through time. Traveling through the stars condenses decades into mere months for her. And then she meets a mute child, burdened with unimaginable power, who falls from the sky; they become family. Fumiko designed the ships that allowed humanity to flee a dying Earth. 1,000 years later, she regrets this. She sees the potential of the child's gifts, and what will happen if the ruling powers discover him. So she sends Nia and the boy to the corners of space as she crafts a plan to redeem her old mistakes. But time is running out. Del Rey \$27.





by A.K. Larkwood

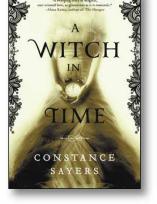
What if you knew how and when you will die? The orc priestess Csorwe does—she will climb the mountain, enter the Shrine of the Unspoken, and gain the most honored title: sacrifice. But on the day of her foretold death, a powerful mage offers her a new fate. Leave with him, and live. Turn away from her destiny and her god to become a thief, a spy, an assassin—the wizard's loyal sword. Topple an empire, and help him reclaim his seat of power. But Csorwe will soon learn—gods remember, and if you live long enough, all debts come due. Tor \$25.99. Avail. 2/11



A Witch in Time

by Constance Savers

In 1895, sixteen-year-old Juliet has a passionate, doomed romance with the married Parisian painter Auguste Marchant. When her mother attempts to cast a curse on Marchant, she unwittingly summons a demon, binding her daughter to Auguste and this supernatural being. Born and re-born, Juliet is fated to live her affair and die tragically across continents and lifetimes. But in present-day Washington D.C., something shifts. In this life, Juliet remembers. And she begins to develop powers that might finally break the spell. Redhook \$26. Avail. 2/11



Followers

by Megan Angelo

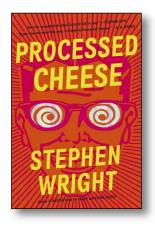
Orla Cadden is a budding novelist stuck in a dead-end job. She meets Floss, who launches them both into the high-profile lives they dream about. So what if Orla and Floss's methods are a little shady? Their legions of followers can't be wrong. 35 years later, in a village where government-appointed celebrities live every moment on camera, Marlow dreams of fleeing the corporate sponsors who keep her on-screen. Orla, Floss, and Marlow wind through time toward each other, and toward an event that sends America into lasting upheaval. Graydon House \$26.99.



Processed Cheese

by Stephen Wright

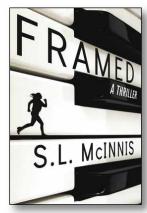
A bag of money drops out of the sky, literally, into the path of a citizen named Graveyard. He carries it home to his wife, and they embark on the adventure of their lives, finally able to have everything they've always deserved: cars, guns, games, jewels, clothes, sex, travel, and time with friends and family. Of course, the bag's owner will do whatever is necessary to get it back. And of course, these riches change everything—and nothing at all. Out of our wealth-obsessed culture, Stephen Wright has woven an inventive funhouse-mirror drama. Little, Brown and Co. \$28.



Framed

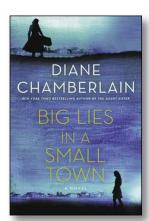
by S.L. McInnis

When news breaks of a quadruple homicide, Beth Montgomery doesn't think to tie the murders to the sudden reappearance in her life of wild, sexy Cassie Ogilvy, the estranged best friend from college. Cassie makes herself comfortable in Beth's guestroom and with her husband as well. But it isn't until Cassie's startling disappearance that Beth begins to understand that her world, as she knew it, is gone forever. Unfurling over three fraught, heart-pounding days, McInnis's suspense debut is fast-paced and diabolically unpredictable. Grand Central \$28. Avail. 2/4



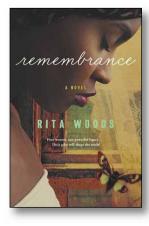
Big Lies in a Small Town by Diane Chamberlain

2018: Aspiring artist Morgan Christopher is released from a correctional facility in exchange for restoring an old post office mural. But the mural reveals a story of madness, violence, and conspiracy. 1940: New Jersey artist Anna Dale wins a contest to paint a mural for the Edenton, NC post office. But she finds herself immersed in a town of prejudices, where being different might be deadly. What happened to Anna Dale? Are the clues hidden in the mural? Can Morgan overcome her demons to discover what exists beneath the layers? St. Martin's \$27.99.



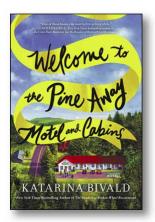
Remembrance by Rita Woods

Perfect for fans of *The Underground Railroad* and *Orphan Train. Remembrance...* A whispered rumor of a hidden stop on the underground road to freedom, protected by more than secrecy... if you can make it there. *Ohio, present day.* An elderly woman warns against rising racism as a young woman grapples with her life. *Haiti, 1791, on the brink of revolution.* The slave Abigail discovers New Orleans has its own powers. *1857 New Orleans—a city of unrest:* House girl Margot is sold just before her promised freedom. Desperate, she escapes and chases a whisper... *Remembrance.* Forge \$27.99.





New in Paperback

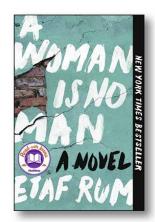


Welcome to the Pine Away **Motel and Cabins**

by Katarina Bivald

The Pine Creek Motel has seen better days. Henny would call it charming, but she's always seen the best in things. Like now, when she's just met an untimely end crossing the road. She's not going to let a tiny thing like death stop her from living fully—not when her friends and family need her. After the funeral is over, her body buried, Henny is still around. And she realizes she has one last opportunity to help her friends discover the happiness they once knew before they lose the motel and cabins they've cherished for years. Sourcebooks Landmark \$16.99.

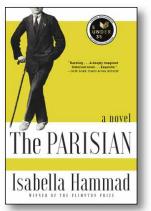
In her debut novel, Etaf Rum tells the story of three generations of Palestinian-American women struggling to express their individual desires within the confines of their Arab culture in the wake of shocking violence in their community. Set in an America at once foreign to many and staggeringly close at hand, A Woman Is No Man follows Isra, her mother-in-law Fareeda, and Isra's oldest daughter Deya in this universal tale about family and the ways silence and shame can destroy those we have sworn to protect. Harper Perennial \$16.99. Avail. 2/4



The Parisian

by Isabella Hammad

Midhat Kamal is the son of a wealthy textile merchant from Nablus, a town in Ottoman Palestine. A dreamer and romantic, in 1914 he leaves to study medicine in France, and falls in love. When Midhat returns to Nablus to find it under British rule and erupting with nationalist fervor, he must find a way to cope with his conflicting loyalties. Against a landscape of political change that continues to define the Middle East, The Parisian explores power and identity, love, and the uncanny ability of the past to disrupt the present. Grove Press \$18. 🛞 📘 🎧



You Were There Too by Colleen Oakley

Mia Graydon's life looks perfect; she has a loving husband, and dreams of starting a family. But she has other dreams too—unexplained, recurring ones starring the same man. When she and her husband relocate to small-town Pennsylvania, she comes face to face with the stranger she has been dreaming about for years. And this man harbors a secret of his own—he's been dreaming of her too. Mia and this not-so-stranger search for answers. But when diving into their pasts begins to unravel her life in the present, a single question emerges—what if? Berkley \$16. R

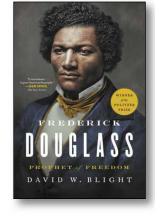
Prophet of Freedom by David W. Blight

Frederick Douglass:

A Woman Is No Man

by Etaf Rum

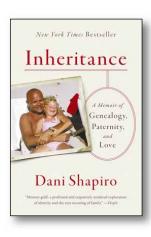
Winner of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in History. As a young man, Frederick Douglass (1818-1895) escaped from slavery in Maryland. Taught to read by his slave owner mistress, he would go on to become one of the major literary figures of his time. His existence gave the lie to slave owners: with dignity and great intelligence he bore witness to the brutality of slavery. In this "cinematic and deeply engaging" (The NYT Book Review) biography, Blight has drawn on new information and recently discovered issues of Douglass's newspapers. Simon & Schuster \$22. 🖪 😥 🔳 🛧 🎧



Inheritance

by Dani Shapiro

In 2016, through a genealogy website, Dani Shapiro received the stunning news that her father was not her biological father. Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love is the story of a woman's urgent quest to unlock the story of her own identity, a story that has been hidden from her for more than fifty years, years she had spent writing brilliantly, and compulsively, on themes of identity and family history. Timely and unforgettable, Dani Shapiro's memoir is a gripping exploration of genealogy, paternity, and love. Anchor \$16.95. **B** 😠 📘 🛨 🎧



Behind Every Lie by Christina McDonald

Eva Hansen wakes in the hospital after being struck by lightning and discovers her mother, Kat, has been murdered. She can't remember what happened, but she is now suspected. Determined to clear her name, Eva heads from Seattle to London—Kat's former home—for answers. But as she unravels her mother's secrets, Eva realizes that someone doesn't want her to know the truth. And with violent memories emerging, Eva doesn't know who to trust. Least of all herself. Told in alternating perspectives from Eva's quest and Kat's past. Gallery \$16. Avail. 2/4



COLLEEN OAKLEY

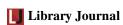
A real choice doesn't have conditions. A real choice is free.

— Etaf Rum







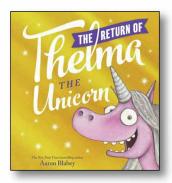








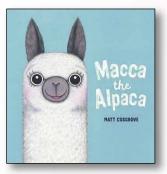
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The Return of Thelma the Unicorn by Aaron Blabey

Thelma the Unicorn is back! The whole wide world was overjoyed! | Her fans all went berserk. | But this time Thelma had her friend | and that's what made it work. The world misses its favorite unicorn, but Thelma is reluctant to don her horn and sparkles. However, with the support of her friend Otis, she realizes the importance of spreading love and joy—

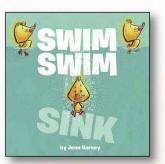
no matter what. This follow-up to *Thelma the Unicorn* will have readers cheering for Thelma and Otis as they learn to love who they are... even if they don't have sparkles. Scholastic \$14.99. Ages 3-5.



Macca the Alpaca by Matt Cosgrove

Macca the alpaca's days were happy and carefree until—drama!—a llama. In this adorable, quirky picture book, Macca the alpaca loves splashing in puddles and gives the best cuddles. But when he bumps into a big bullying llama named Harmer (who's no charmer), Macca must prove the value of smarts and kindness. Matt Cosgrove, lover of words, pictures, and books in general, is the author

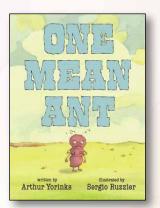
and illustrator of many books, including My Dad Is a Robot, Thanks, Mum!, and the Epic Fail Tales series. Scholastic \$14.99. Ages 3-5. Avail. 2/4



Swim Swim Sink by Jenn Harney

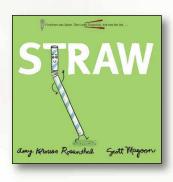
From the author/illustrator of *Underwear! Three tiny ducks*. One straight line. New happy flock. All feeling fine. Until, that is, the last ducking sinks when she should swim. Let's try that again... and again and again. All this sinking is ruining the rhyme! Little ones will love following the antics of these adorable ducklings, and parents will enjoy the way the book goes off the rails halfway through. Everyone will

laugh at the tiny ducky's string of failures and cheer when it comes up with the best solution of all. Disney-Hyperion \$12.99. Ages 3-6.



One Mean Ant by Arthur Yorinks illus. by Sergio Ruzzier

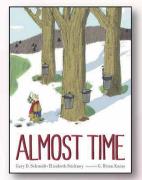
Was there ever an ant as mean as this mean ant? Not likely. This ant is so mean that leaves fall off trees when he walks by. This ant is so mean that grapes shrivel when he looks at them. But when this mean ant finds himself lost in the desert and meets a fly that defies explanation, nothing is the same again. With this first in a planned trilogy, Arthur Yorinks and Sergio Ruzzier team up for a hilariously slapstick tale that will make a raucous read-aloud. Candlewick \$16.99. Ages 3-7. Avail. 2/11



Straw by Amy Krouse Rosenthal illus. by Scott Magoon

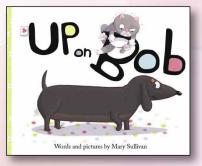
Meet Straw! He's always rushed straight to the finish. But when his speedy streak gets the best of him, it takes a friend to show Straw how to drink in the amazing world around him. A companion to *Spoon* and *Chopsticks*, this delightful story celebrates the joys of taking it slow. Rosenthal is the author of more than 30 picture books, including *Uni*

the Unicorn. Magoon is an author/illustrator and created Linus The Little Yellow Pencil among others. Disney-Hyperion \$16.99. Ages 4-7. Avail. 2/4



Almost Time by Gary Schmidt and Elizabeth Stickney illus. by G. Brian Karas

Eager for maple syrup, Ethan can't wait till sugaring time rolls around. And he can't wait till his loose tooth falls out. But his father keeps telling him it's not time yet, and no matter how hard he tries, he can't make time pass more quickly. The closeness of father and son is evident throughout as they wait and then celebrate the end of waiting. The brief, lyrical text is illuminated by G. Brian Karas's beautifully composed, evocative illustrations. Clarion \$17.99. Ages 4-7.



Up on Bob by Mary Sullivan

Bob the dog doesn't mind hard work when it means he can have a nap. But *Someone* is watching him sleep! Hopefully they will just go away if Bob lies really still. But *Someone*, who happens to be a cat, has other things in mind. *Up on Bob* is a humorous tale about sharing, working hard—and sleeping harder. With irresistible illustrations and perfect pet

dynamics, Geisel Honor-winning author-illustrator Mary Sullivan tells a tale of friendship with a fresh spin on the age-old cat-and-dog rivalry. Houghton Mifflin \$17.99. Ages 4-7. Avail. 2/11



Bedtime for Sweet Creatures by Nikki Grimes illus. by Elizabeth Zunon

It's bedtime. But Mommy's little one is not sleepy. / He growls like a bear, he questions like an owl, he tosses his mane like a lion. He hunts for water like a sly wolf, and hides like a snake. Mommy needs to wrangle her sweet creature

in bed so that the whole family can sleep. From tigers to squirrels to snakes, the little boy dodges around his bedtime, until he is tired enough. His imaginative animal friends weave their way through the illustrations, eventually joining him in curling up for the night. Sourcebooks Jabberwocky \$17.99. Ages 4-8.

KIDS, TWEENS, AND TEENS



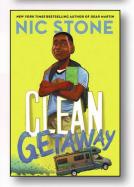
Race to the Sun by Rebecca Roanhorse

Lately, seventh grader Nizhoni Begay has been able to detect monsters, including her dad's new boss. He is alarmingly interested in Nizhoni and her brother, their Navajo heritage, and the legend of the Hero Twins. Nizhoni knows he's a threat, but her father won't believe her. When Dad disappears, leaving behind a message that says "Run!", the siblings and Nizhoni's best friend, Davery, are thrust into a rescue mission that can only be accomplished with the help of Diné Holy People, all disguised as quirky characters. Rick Riordan Presents \$16.99. Ages 8-12. 🛞 🎧



Clean Getaway by Nic Stone

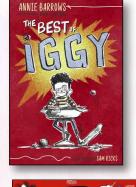
How to Go on an Unplanned Road Trip with Your Grandma: 1) Grab your prepacked suitcase from the CANCELLED spring break trip. 2) Fasten Your Seatbelt. 3) Use G'ma's Green Book; it holds history, memories, and most important, the way home. Set against the backdrop of the segregation history of the American South, take a trip with an elevenyear-old boy who is about to discover that the world hasn't always been a welcoming place for kids like him, and things aren't always what they seem—his G'ma included. Crown BYR \$16.99. Ages 8-12. R



The Best of Iggy

by Annie Barrows, illus. by Sam Ricks

Meet the high-energy, lovable troublemaker, Iggy Frangi. He's not a bad kid. Okay, so he's done a few (up to 100) bad things. And okay, he's not very sorry about most of them. No one got hurt except for that one time when the Best Idea Ever turned into the Worst Idea of All Time. Iggy is really sorry he did it. "For what?" you might ask. Well, you'll have to read to find out. Things Iggy will NOT do in this book: Be the most polite kid ever. Play the cello. Think before acting. Regret his actions. (Most of them, anyway.) G.P. Putnam's Sons BYR \$13.99. Ages 8-12. R



Real Pigeons Fight Crime

by Andrew McDonald, illus. by Ben Wood

This illustrated series is perfect for fans of Dog Man. What do REAL PIGEONS do? They fight crime, of course! What? You didn't know your town is protected by a secret squad of crime-fighting feathered friends? Well, you are about to get schooled. REAL PIGEONS solve mysteries! REAL PIGEONS fight bad guys! And REAL PIGEONS won't stop until your neighborhood is safe and the questions are all answered: Like, why have all the breadcrumbs disappeared? And which food truck smells the best? Random House BYR \$13.99. Ages 8-12.



Jinxed by Amy McCulloch

The Golden Compass for the digital age! Lacey Chu dreams of working for the company behind the "baku"—a customizable "pet" with smartphone capabilities. But when Lacey is rejected by the academy that promises that future, she's crushed. One night, Lacey comes across a broken baku. After she repairs it, the cat-shaped baku she calls Jinx somehow gets her into her dream school. As Lacey settles into her new life, she learns that Jinx is part of a dangerous secret. Can she hold on to Jinx and her dreams for the future? Sourcebooks YR \$16.99. Ages 9-13.



In this new standalone mystery set in the world of Greenglass House, Marzana and her best friend are bored. Even living in a city where normal rules do not apply, nothing interesting ever happens. Nothing, that is, until Marzana's parents are recruited to help solve a crime. She gathers kid detectives with special skills (including a ghost) and together, they explore hidden passages, navigate chang-



ing architecture, and try to identify the kidnappers—and where they're hiding. But will they beat the deadline for an impossible

GRAPHIC NOVELS

The Deep & **Dark Blue**

by Niki Smith

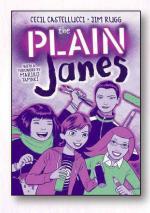
After a political coup usurps their noble house, Hawke and Grayson flee and assume new identities, Hanna and Grayce. Desperation and chance lead them to the Communion of Blue, an order of magical women who spin the threads of reality to their will. As the twins learn more



about the Communion, they hatch a plan to avenge their family and retake their royal home. While Hawke wants to return to his old life, Grayce realizes she wants to stay in the one place that will allow her to finally live as a girl. Little, Brown BYR HC \$24.99/PB \$12.99. Ages 9-12. 🕟

The Plain Janes by Cecil Castellucci illus. by Jim Rugg

When artsy misfit Jane Beckles is forced to a new school, she finds where she belongs: at the cafeteria reject table, along with fellow misfits Brain Jayne, Theater Jane, and sporty Polly Jane. United by a shared name and frustration with the adults around them, the girls form a club dedicated to fighting suburban apa-



thy with guerrilla works of art. With each installment printed in its own distinct color, this volume includes the original three stories—The Plain Janes, Janes in Love, and Janes Attack Back. Little, Brown BYR HC \$26.99/PB \$18.99. Ages 12-15. B \$1.

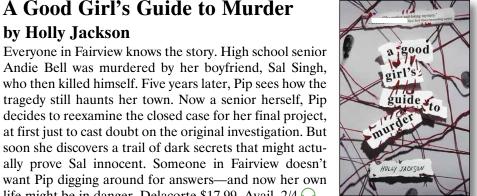
Hot New Picks in YA



Scavenge the Stars

by Tara Sim

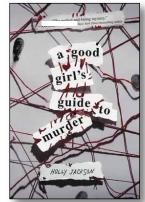
When Amaya rescues a stranger from drowning, she fears her actions have earned her a longer sentence on the debtor ship where is held captive. Instead, the man she saved offers her a new identity, setting Amaya on a perilous course through the city-state of Moray, where oldworld opulence and desperate gamblers collide. Amaya wants one thing: revenge against the man who ruined her family and stole her life. This gender-swapped retelling of The Count of Monte Cristo is the first novel in an epic YA fantasy duology. Disney-Hyperion \$18.99.



The Night Country

by Melissa Albert

In The Night Country, Alice Proserpine dives back into a menacing, mesmerizing world of dark fairy tales and hidden doors. Follow her and Ellery Finch as they learn The Hazel Wood was just the beginning. With Finch's help, Alice escaped the Hinterland and her grandmother's dark legacy. Now she and the rest of the dregs of the fairy tale world have washed up in New York City, where Alice is trying to make a new, unmagical life. But something is stalking the Hinterland's survivors—and she suspects their deaths may have a darker purpose. Flatiron \$18.99. BA



A Heart So Fierce and Broken

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder

by Brigid Kemmerer

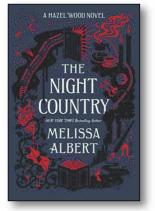
by Holly Jackson

In the sequel to A Curse So Dark and Lonely, the curse is broken, but Prince Rhen faces darker troubles still. Rumors circulate that he is not the true heir, and that forbidden magic has been unleashed in Emberfall. Rhen's guardsman Grey may be the heir, but he doesn't want anyone to know his secret. On the run, he has no desire to challenge Rhen—until Karis Luran once again threatens to take Emberfall by force. The heart-pounding saga continues as loyalties are tested and new love blooms in a kingdom on the brink of war. Bloomsbury YA \$18.99.

soon she discovers a trail of dark secrets that might actu-

want Pip digging around for answers—and now her own

life might be in danger. Delacorte \$17.99. Avail. 2/4



Infinity Son

by Adam Silvera

Growing up in New York, brothers Emil and Brighton always idolized the Spell Walkers—a vigilante group sworn to rid the world of specters. While the Spell Walkers and other celestials are born with powers, specters take them, stealing the essence of magical creatures. Brighton wishes he had a power so he could join the fray. Emil just wants the fighting to stop. Then, in a brawl after a protest, Emil manifests a power of his own—one that puts him in the conflict and sets him up to be the heroic Spell Walker Brighton always wanted to be. Harperteen \$18.99



Dark and Deepest Red

by Anna-Marie McLemore

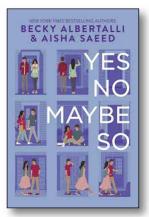
Summer, 1518. A strange sickness sweeps through Strasbourg: women dance in the streets, some until they fall down dead; rumors of witchcraft abound. Five centuries later, a pair of red shoes seal to Rosella Oliva's feet, making her dance uncontrollably. They draw her toward a boy who knows the dancing fever's history well: Emil, whose family was blamed for the fever 500 years ago. But there's more to what happened in 1518 than even Emil knows, and discovering the truth may decide whether Rosella survives the red shoes. Feiwel & Friends \$17.99. **B**



One of Us Is Next by Karen M. McManus

The highly anticipated sequel to One of Us Is Lying! A ton of copycat gossip apps have popped up since Simon died. This time it's not an app, though—it's a game. Truth or Dare. Phoebe's the first target. If you choose not to play, it's a truth. And hers is dark. Then comes Maeve, and she should know better-always choose the dare. But by the time Knox is about to be tagged, things are dangerous. The dares have become deadly, and if Maeve learned anything from last year, it's that they can't count on the police for help. Or protection. Delacorte \$19.99.





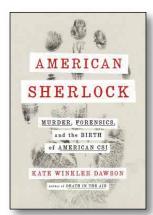
Yes No Maybe So

by Becky Albertalli and Aisha Saeed

Jamie Goldberg is cool with volunteering for his state senate candidate—as long as he's behind the scenes and not knocking on doors. But then he meets Maya. Maya Rehman's having the worst Ramadan ever. Her best friend is too busy, and her parents are separating. Her mother thinks the solution to her problems is political canvassing—with some awkward dude she hardly knows. As the polls get closer, so do Jamie and Maya. Mastering activism is one thing. Navigating a cross-cultural crush is another thing entirely. Balzer & Bray/Harperteen \$19.99. Avail. 2/4 **B**



Exploring Our Past and Present-



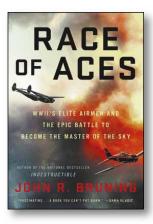
American Sherlock

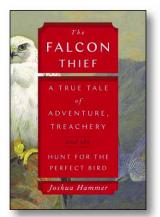
by Kate Winkler Dawson

California, 1933. In a lab filled with beakers, microscopes, Bunsen burners, and books, sat an investigator who would crack at least 2,000 cases. Known as the "American Sherlock Holmes," Edward Oscar Heinrich was one of America's first and greatest forensic scientists. His work, though with serious (some say fatal) flaws, changed the course of criminal investigation. American Sherlock: Murder, Forensics, and the Birth of American CSI captures the life of the man who pioneered the science our legal system now relies upon. G.P. Putnam's Sons \$27. Avail. 2/11

Race of Aces by John Bruning

In 1942, fighter pilot Eddie Rickenbacker offered a bottle of bourbon to the first U.S. fighter pilot to break his record of 26 enemy planes shot down. For the next three years, five pilots riveted the nation as they contended for Rickenbacker's crown. But as their scores mounted, some of the pilots felt the spotlight warped their sense of duty. Race of Aces: WWII's Elite Airmen and the Epic Battle to Become the Master of the Sky explores the boundary between duty, glory, and the human heart. Hachette Books \$30.





The Falcon Thief

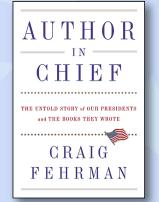
by Joshua Hammer

In 2010, Jeffrey Lendrum was apprehended at an airport, a parcel strapped to his stomach. Inside were rare peregrine falcon eggs snatched from Wales. So begins a tale following the smuggler who captures endangered raptors for royals in the United Arab Emirates and Andy McWilliam of the UK's National Wildlife Crime Unit, who's determined to protect them. The Falcon Thief: A True Tale of Adventure, Treachery, and the Hunt for the Perfect Bird is part true-crime narrative, part epic adventure, and wholly unputdownable. Simon & Schuster \$26. Avail. 2/11

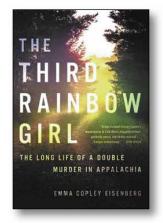
Happy Presidents' Day!

Author-in-Chief by Craig Fehrman

Author in Chief: The Untold Story of Our Presidents and the Books They Wrote tells the story of America's presidents as authors—and offers a window into their lives. Exploring volumes that were lost to history, nearly never published, election influencers, and score-settling presidential memoirs, Fehrman draws on newly uncovered information—including letters from Andrew Jackson, John F. Kennedy, and Ronald Reagan-to cast fresh light



on the drives and self-doubts that fueled our nation's leaders. Avid



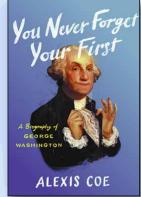
The Third Rainbow Girl

by Emma Copley Eisenberg

West Virginia, 1980: Outsiders Vicki Durian, 26, and Nancy Santomero, 19, were murdered as they were hitchhiking to the Rainbow Gathering festival. During the long investigation, deep suspicion was cast on local residents in the community, depicted as poor, dangerous, and backward. In The Third Rainbow Girl: The Long Life of a Double Murder in Appalachia, Eisenberg follows the threads of this crime through the complex history of Appalachia, forming a searing portrait of America—its divisions of gender and class, and of its violence. Hachette Books \$27.

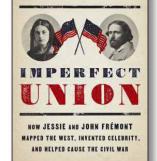
You Never Forget Your First by Alexis Coe

Young George Washington was raised by a single mother, demanded military promotions, caused an international incident, and never backed down-even when his dysentery got so bad he had to ride with a cushion on his saddle. But after he married Martha, everything changed. With style and humor, You Never Forget Your First: A Biography of George Washington combines research and lively storytelling that will have readers—including those who thought presidential biographies were just for dads inhaling every page. Viking \$27. Avail. 2/4



Imperfect Union by Steve Inskeep

In Imperfect Union: How Jessie and John Frémont Mapped the West, Invented Celebrity, and Helped Cause the Civil War, Steve Inskeep tells the story of John and Jessie Frémont, the husband and wife team who in the 1800s were instrumental in the westward expansion of the United States, and became America's first great political couple. Taking advantage of expanding news media, the two linked their names to westward settlement, women's rights, and opposition to slavery. Together, they took parts in events that gave rise to a new, more global America. Penguin \$32.



STEVE INSKEEP

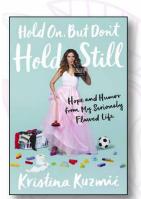
Understanding Our World



Snug

by Catana Chetwynd

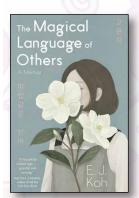
Why bother getting out of bed when you could stay bundled up with that special someone! From the author of the bestselling Little Moments of Love comes Snug: A Collection of Comics about Dating Your Best Friend, perfectly capturing the honest, playful, and relatable snapshots of romantic life. Chetwynd's charming second book includes 50 percent new, never-before-shared comics. Snug is a celebration of the quirks and peculiarities of every one of us—and the magic that happens when we find our matching puzzle piece. Andrews McMeel \$14.99. Avail. 2/4



Hold On, But Don't Hold Still

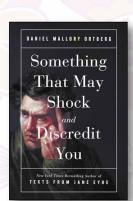
by Kristina Kuzmič

Kristina Kuzmič has made herself a household name, speaking directly to mothers from the trenches of parenthood via her viral videos and social media. With an unpretentious, funny voice, Kuzmič goes behind the scenes to reveal how she went from broke and defeated to grounded and thankful. Hold On, But Don't Hold Still: Hope and Humor from My Seriously Flawed Life is the book every mother needs to reassure her that she's not only fine just as she is, but that she already has more tools and support than she can possibly imagine. Viking \$26. Avail. 2/11



The Magical Language of Others by E.J. Koh

Koh's memoir is a love story in letters, from mother to daughter. After living in America for over a decade, Eun Ji Koh's parents return to South Korea, leaving fifteen-year-old Eun Ji and her brother behind. Overnight, Eun Ji is abandoned in a world made strange by her mother's absence. Her mother writes letters, in Korean, over the years seeking forgiveness—letters Eun Ji cannot fully understand until years later. In *The Magical Language of Others*, Koh weaves a profound tale of selfhood and our bonds to family, place, and language. Tin House \$22.95.



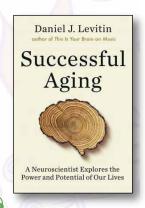
Something That May Shock and Discredit You

by Daniel Mallory Ortberg

Sometimes you just have to yell. *NYT* bestselling author of *Texts from Jane Eyre* Daniel Mallory Ortberg has mastered the art of "poetic yelling," a genre surely familiar to fans of his cult-favorite website *The Toast*. In this irreverent essay collection, Ortberg expands on this concept with in-depth and hilarious studies of all things pop culture, from the high to low brow. From a thoughtful analysis on the beauty of William Shatner to a sinister reimagining of HGTV's *House Hunters*, this is a laugh-out-loud funny and whip-smart collection. Atria \$26. Avail. 2/11

Successful Aging by Daniel Levitin

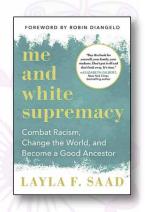
Author of the iconic bestsellers This Is Your Brain on Music and The Organized Mind, Daniel Levitin turns his insights to what happens in our brains as we age, why we should think about health span, not life span, and, based on a rigorous analysis of neuroscientific evidence, what you can do to make the most of your seventies, eighties, and nineties today no matter how old you are now. Successful Aging: A Neuroscientist Explores the Power and Potential of Our Lives inspires a powerful new approach to how readers think about our final decades. Dutton \$30.



Me and White Supremacy

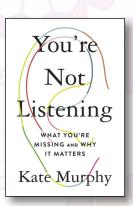
by Layla Saad

Layla Saad began an Instagram challenge called #meandwhitesupremacy, encouraging people to own up and share their racist behaviors, big and small. Thousands of people participated in the challenge, and nearly 100,000 people downloaded the *Me and White Supremacy Workbook*. Expanded from the original workbook, *Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor* adds more historical and cultural contexts, stories, and expanded definitions, examples, and resources. Sourcebooks \$25.99. Avail. 2/4



You're Not Listening by Kate Murphy

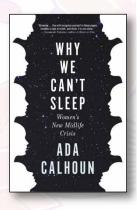
Despite our technology that allows constant communication, it seems no one is really listening or even knows how. And it's making us more isolated and less tolerant. In *You're Not Listening: What You're Missing and Why It Matters*, Murphy makes accessible the psychology, neuroscience, and sociology of listening while introducing us to skilled listeners, including a CIA agent, focus group moderator, bartender, and radio producer. Equal parts cultural observation, scientific exploration, and call to action that's full of practical advice. Celadon \$26.



Why We Can't Sleep

by Ada Calhoun

When Ada Calhoun fell into a midlife crisis, she noticed that other Gen X women were miserable, too. So she spoke with women across America as the generation raised to "have it all." She found that most were overwhelmed, terrified about money, and under-employed. In Why We Can't Sleep: Women's New Midlife Crisis, Calhoun opens the contexts of Gen X's predicament and offers solutions to keep the next generation of women from falling in. The result is essential reading for all middle-aged women, and those who hope to understand them. Grove \$26.



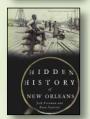
LOCAL FLAVORS



Building on the Past

by Susan Langenhennig, John Pope, and Danielle Del Sol

Residents of New Orleans have come up with innovative ways to rescue, restore, and preserve the historic architecture that creates this city's sense of place. Building on the Past: Saving Historic New Orleans chronicles modern efforts to save the soul of this 300-year-old city. Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans \$60.



Hidden History of New Orleans by Josh Foreman and Ryan Starrett

The history of New Orleans holds many contrasts. A serial-killing axeman threatens to murder anyone not playing jazz. A band of missionary nuns pushes to civilize the frontier. From the streetcar strikers to the unsung heroine of the Battle of New Orleans, Starrett and Foreman offer a colorful dose of history. History \$23.99.



The Second Battle of New Orleans

by Richard O. Baumbach Jr. and William E. Borah

In 1946, a roadway project proposed a ninety-foot-wide interstate highway be built through the French Quarter district, becoming the center of a two-decades-battle that pitted politicians against preservationists. The Second Battle of New Orleans explores the planning processes and the conflicting interests involved. UL Press \$24.95.



The Magic of Marie Laveau by Denise Alvarado

Marie Laveau is one of the most famous American practitioners of the magical arts. She is the subject of legends and the star of New Orleans ghost tours. In The Magic of Marie Laveau: Embracing the Spiritual Legacy of the Voodoo Queen of New Orleans, Alvarado explores her life and work. Weiser \$16.95.



Chasing the Butterfly Man by Cybèle Gontar

In the 20th century, New Orleans collectors identified a group of armoires and named their craftsman the "Butterfly Man" for his use of a butterfly-shaped joint. Chasing the Butterfly Man: The Search for a Lost New Orleans Cabinetmaker, 1810-1825, explores the artist and the search for his identity. Louisiana Museum Foundation \$55.



Lamentations by Tina Freeman

Lamentations pairs photographs from Louisiana wetlands and Arctic and Antarctic glaciers in a series of diptychs that address climate change and ecological balance. The book accompanies an exhibition of the same name, presented at the New Orleans Museum of Art, 9/11/2019–3/22/20. UL Press \$45.



The Eat Fit Cookbook by Molly Kimball

New Orleans has a reputation for guilty pleasures and divine deep-fried delicacies. But The Eat Fit Cookbook: Chef Inspired Recipes for the Home showcases recipes from Louisiana's renowned chefs and intentionally illustrates how to recreate these dishes to be as nutritious as they are delicious. River Road \$34.99.



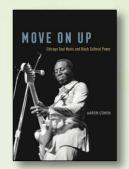
Beignets for Breakfast

by Jeanette Rose Weiland, illus. by Allison Lemon

This playful picture book follows a parent and child reading and enjoying their days in New Orleans: NOLA babies know that Mondays / Include a meal of red beans and rice. | They love beignets for breakfast | And finding a baby in their King Cake slice. Susan Schadt Press \$19.95. Ages 2-7.



— continued from back page —



AARON COHEN Move On Up

Sunday, March 29, 3 pm

Aaron Cohen joins us to share his book Move On Up: Chicago Soul Music and Black Cultural Power that draws on more than 100 interviews and his passion for the unmistakable Chicago soul sound to show us how soul music became the voice of inspiration and change for a city in turmoil. U of Chicago \$20.



DAVE BARRY, ADAM MANSBACH. & ALAN ZWEIBEL

A Field Guide to the Jewish People

Tuesday, March 31, 7 pm **Location: Jewish Community** Center, 5342 St. Charles Avenue

Why are yarmulkes round? Who is "the Golem" and whom do you want it to beat up? These questions and more are answered by comedy legends Dave Barry, Adam Mansbach, and Alan Zweibel. Get ready to laugh as you finally begin to understand the inner-workings of Judaism. Flatiron \$25.99.





by Chana Porter

"A unique take on an alien invasion. The Seep makes everything better, but does it? The Seep helps you see the inner-connectivity of all life, but at what cost? What happens to your individuality and free will in a world where there is no conflict? A great book about how we define ourselves and our humanity." Soho \$25. 🖪 📕 🛨 —James Wilson

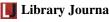
Octavia Books bookseller

Join our February Science Fiction Book Club and read this book together with us! Details on Page 2.









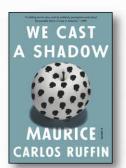






11

Upcoming Events at Octavia Books



MAURICE RUFFIN

in conversation with DANIEL JOSE OLDER

We Cast a Shadow

Tuesday, February 4, 6 pm

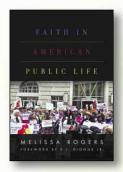
Celebrate the paperback release of *We Cast a Shadow*! In a city plagued by police violence, residents turn to a procedure in which they can bleach their skin and become liberated from being born in a black body. Our narrator wants the best for his biracial son. But how far will he go to protect him? One World \$17.



SHERRI DUSKEY RINKER

Goodnight, Goodnight Construction Site Wednesday, February 5, 4 pm

Bring your young building enthusiasts for a visit with Sherri Duskey Rinker, the author of #1 New York Times bestsellers Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site and Steam Train, Dream Train. Your children will enjoy saying goodnight with the author to all the hardworking trucks! Chronicle \$16.99.



MELISSA ROGERS

Faith in American Public Life

Wednesday, February 5, 5:30-8 pm

Location: Saint Charles Avenue Baptist Church

7100 St. Charles Ave.

Join Melissa Rogers as she shares her expertise on the interplay of religion, law, policy, and politics, having served as Special Assistant to President Barack Obama. 5:30-6:30 Ticketed wine and cheese reception (includes signed copy); 6:30-8pm Free admission to book talk and Q&A (Octavia Books will be on site to sell copies of the book).

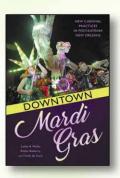


MARIAMA LOCKINGTON

For Black Girls Like Me

Saturday, February 8, 1 pm

In this middle grade story, Mariama J. Lockington draws on her experiences growing up with an adoptive white family. Makeda is eleven, adopted, and black. Her parents and sister are white, and though she loves her family, Makeda wonders what it would feel like to be with a family that looks like her. FSG BYR \$16.99.



ROBIN ROBERTS and LESLIE WADE

in conversation with DIANNE HONORÉ

Downtown Mardi Gras

Monday, February 10, 6 pm

Robin Roberts and Leslie Wade will share a conversation with Dianne Honoré, founder of the Amazons Benevolent Society and the Black Storyville Baby Dolls. Honoré, featured in their book, *Downtown Mardi Gras: New Carnival Practices in Post-Katrina New Orleans*, will discuss her leadership roles and will arrive in costume. UP of Mississippi \$30.



ISAAC FITZGERALD

How To Be a Pirate Friday, March 6, 4 pm

Isaac Fitzgerald is coming to Octavia Books to share his adorable picture book about CeCe, who dreams of being a pirate, but is told that she can't. Luckily, her grandpa knows

something about being a pirate, and as he shares stories of his tattoos, Grandpa and CeCe are transported to adventures together. Bloomsbury \$17.99.

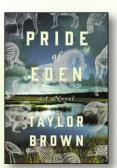


THEA RIOFRANCOS

A Planet to Win: Why We Need a Green New Deal

Wednesday, March 11, 6 pm

A Planet to Win explores the potential of a Green New Deal. It calls for dismantling the fossil fuel industry and building renewable energy, guaranteeing climate-friendly work, no-carbon housing, and free public transit. Join Thea Riofrancos as she explores this new opportunity. Verso \$19.95.



TAYLOR BROWN

Pride of Eden

Tuesday, March 24, 6 pm

Taylor Brown shares the story of Anse Caulfield who rescues exotic big cats, elephants, and other creatures for a wildlife sanctuary near the Georgia coast. But when Anse's prized lion escapes, he becomes obsessed with replacing her—even if the means of rescue aren't exactly legal. St. Martin's \$26.99.



JOHNNIE BERNHARD

Sisters of the Undertow

Thursday, March 26, 6 pm

Celebrate the paperback release of *Sisters* of the *Undertow*, about two sisters in Houston. One "lucky daughter" Kim, is physically and mentally advanced. The other "unlucky" Kathy, delivered at 29 weeks, has cognitive and physical disabilities. But they both have to navigate Hurricane Harvey. Texas Review \$21.95.

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