Fountain Bookstore

The quirkiest, heartwarmingest bookstore on the planet.

WARNING: May Contain Snails

KELLY LOVES
The Collapsing Empire
by John Scalzi
There are few writers I love more than John Scalzi. He gives me everything: adventure, big ideas, and even bigger belly laughs. His newest delivers on all fronts! A newly crowned emperor, a scientist, and a starship captain are in a race against time to discover what, if anything, can be salvaged from an interstellar empire on the edge of collapse. It’s a bawdy, cacophony of a space opera. Suitable for long time sci-fi fans and those unfamiliar with the genre. Genius! Tor $25.99.

CARL DIGS
The River of Kings: A Novel
by Taylor Brown
Sometimes a place becomes part of you, providing and teaching you everything you know. Sometimes you find that you don’t know a place as well as you think. Taylor Brown’s second novel follows two brothers returning their father’s ashes to the river that they were raised on. But the river contains dark secrets lurking underneath, secrets that may be related to the death of their father. The Altamaha River in southeast Georgia plays the main character with the narrative jumping between present day, the father’s struggles of the past, his devotion to the river, and a struggling colony of French settlers in 1564. River of Kings is full of heart, strength, struggle, history, and danger, as any important piece of Southern literature should be. St. Martin’s $25.99.

KELLY FANCIES
Escargot
by Dashka Slater, illus. by Sydney Hanson
What a treat: this book! A charming, funny, interactive picture book that is ideal for picky eaters and animal lovers alike. Bonjour! Escargot is a beautiful French snail who wants only two things: 1. To be your favorite animal. 2. To get to the delicious salad at the end of the book. But when he gets to the salad, he discovers that there’s a carrot in it. And Escargot hates carrots. But when he finally tries one—with a little help from you!—he discovers that it’s not so bad after all. Best read in a horrible French accent. Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR) $16.99. Avail. 4/11

KATIE CELEBRATES
The Book of Mistakes
by Corinna Luyken
A beautiful children’s book that shows how mistakes help make us who we are. Gorgeous illustrations and a message that we all need to hear—mistakes can lead to something amazing. I can’t wait to share this book with my nieces and nephews (and to be quite honest, my own shelf). Dial $18.99. Avail. 4/18

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Howdy!

I’ve been thinking a lot about the theme of “growing” lately. (It is an unseasonably warm February morning as I write this, and I have spring fever looking at the daffodils blooming in my yard).

If you have noticed I’ve been out of the shop a lot lately, you’re not alone. People have been asking where I’ve been, and this always surprises me as I’m working more now than I ever have. So, where am I? When not at the shop, I’m usually one of three places:

1. At a conference trying to become a better bookseller.
2. Working in a place with few distractions on things that require full concentration. (Being in the shop is deliciously distracting! I would much rather be hanging out with you!) These tasks include: a) Stuff I ain’t too good at like The Maths and The Webs. b) Visualizing the future, because you can’t get there if you can’t see there.
3. And this is my favorite of the three: I’m selling books somewhere else!

No question: selling books at the shop is my favorite thing about bookselling. But selling books “offsite” jerks me out of my comfort zone, putting me with people I would have otherwise never met. I dig that. Some of the places I have sold books in the last few years: public parks, private clubs, million dollar homes, underfunded public schools, museums, convention centers, libraries, country clubs, churches, a barn, a beachside hotel….

Speaking of hotels: I believe I have sold books in almost every hallway of any given metro Richmond hotel. Can you answer a question for me, Hotel-People? Do you want me to freeze to death???? Seriously, I feel like I’ve always been very nice—even the ones at the gigs I might have dreaded based on my personally biased notions of the group. And, let’s face it, we all have preconceived ideas about others even if we try not to. Getting out of the shop and doing these events helps me shatter my assumptions. It makes me grow. And that is good.

Cheers,
Kelly

GET OUT!

Big Dreams, Small Garden
by Marianne Willburn
Creating a spectacular garden is challenging when you thought you’d be living somewhere else by now. How do passionate gardeners struggling with limited resources manage to put aside feelings of inadequacy and envy and begin to create an oasis in the midst of numerous obstacles? Why should they even try? In her debut book, Big Dreams, Small Garden: A Guide to Creating Something Extraordinary in Your Ordinary Space, columnist and blogger Marianne Willburn presents a comprehensive step-by-step plan for creating an ideal garden in less-than-ideal circumstances—encouraging the discouraged to pick up their trowels, put on their gloves, and get on with it. We love it! Skyhorse $17.99.

Sunshine Spaces
by Beci Orpin
Make and create a range of fun homewares and other fabulous ideas for your outdoor space, including outdoor entertaining as well as how to bring a little of the outdoors inside your home! Inspired by the color and beauty of nature, projects include planter pots and hanging pots, picnic blanket and outdoor cushions, hammock and swing, sun umbrella and many more. Using a range of easily accessible materials including wood, flowers and plants, fabric, rope and string, concrete and some recycled products, Beci shows you everything you need to know about bringing the sunshine into your life and home in Sunshine Spaces: Naturally Beautiful Projects to Make for Your Home & Outdoor Space. Hardie Grant $24.99. Avail. 4/11

Barbecue Sauces, Rubs, and Marinades—Bastes, Butters & Glazes, Too
by Steven Raichlen
We are still licking our chops from the dinner we did with this author a while back! Steven Raichlen, America’s “master griller” (Esquire), has completely updated and revised his bestselling encyclopedia of chile-fired rubs, lemony marinades, buttery bastes, pack-a-wallop sauces, plus mops, slathers, sambals, and chutneys. It’s a cornucopia of all the latest flavor trends, drawing from irresistible Thai, Mexican, Indian, Cajun, Jamaican, Italian, and French cuisines, as well as those building blocks from America’s own barbecue belt. There are over 200 recipes in all, including a full sampler of dinner recipes using the sauces. And the book now has full-color photographs throughout. Great gift! (2nd Edition) Workman $17.95. Avail. 5/2

Gardening in the South
by Mark Weathington
As a devotee of low input gardening, Mark Weathington searches for ornamental plants that provide beauty and utility to the garden without needing a surplus of time, energy, or chemicals to grow and thrive. Gardening in the South: The Complete Homeowner’s Guide is comprehensive, enthusiastic, and accessible to gardeners of all levels. It features information on site and plant selection, soil preparation and maintenance, and basic design principles. Plant profiles highlight the region’s best perennials, annuals, trees, shrubs, and bulbs. Color photographs throughout show wonderful examples of southern garden style. Timber $24.95. Avail. 5/3
Dramatic New Fiction

A Piece of the World
by Christina Baker Kline
From the author of the bestseller Orphan Train, a stunning novel of friendship, passion, and art, inspired by Andrew Wyeth's iconic painting Christina's World. "Later he told me that he'd been afraid to show me the painting. He thought I wouldn't like the way he portrayed me: dragging myself across the field, fingers clutching dirt, my legs twisted behind." Kline interweaves fact and fiction to imagine the life of the woman behind the portrait and her special bond with one of our greatest modern artists. William Morrow & Co. $27.99.

Girl in Disguise
by Greer Macallister
Kate Warne is a penniless widow in 1856 Chicago. But with a knack for manipulation and an unusually quick mind, Kate makes a bold move, and convinces the legendary Allan Pinkerton to hire her as a detective. Kate immerses herself in the life of an operative, tackling some of the agency's toughest investigations. But is the woman she's become—capable of lies, easily swapping identities—the true Kate? Or has the real disguise been the good girl she always thought she was? Inspired by a true story. Sourcebooks Landmark $25.99.

Mississippi Blood
by Greg Iles
The endgame is at hand for Penn Cage, his family, and the enemies bent on destroying them in this revelatory volume in the epic trilogy set in modern-day Natchez, Mississippi. With piercing insight, narrative prowess, and a masterful ability to blend history and imagination, New York Times bestselling author Greg Iles illuminates the brutal history of the American South in a highly atmospheric and suspenseful novel that delivers the shocking resolution his fans have eagerly awaited. William Morrow & Co. $28.99.

Exit West
by Mohsin Hamid
Named one of the most anticipated books of 2017 by the New York Times, Washington Post, The Huffington Post and Time. In a country on the brink of civil war, sensual, independent Nadia meets gentle, restrained Saeed. Their furtive love affair becomes cloistered in a premature intimacy by the city's unrest. As familiar streets devolve into bomb blasts, they hear whispers about doors that can whisk people away, if perilously and for a price. And as the violence escalates, Nadia and Saeed find a door and step through…. Riverhead $26.

American War
by Omar El Akkad
Sarat Chestnut is only six when the Second American Civil War breaks out in 2074. Oil is outlawed, Louisiana is half underwater, and unmanned drones fill the sky. When her father is killed, her family is forced into Camp Patience for displaced persons. But not everyone at the camp is who they seem. Sarat is befriended by a mysterious functionary and turned into an instrument of war. The decisions that she makes will have consequences for her family and her country, rippling through generations of strangers and kin alike. Knopf $26.95. Avail. 4/4

The Devil and Webster
by Jean Hanff Korelitz
Naomi Roth is the first female president of Webster College, a school known for producing fired-up, progressive graduates. So Naomi isn’t alarmed when students, including her daughter Hannah, hold a protest regarding a professor's denial of tenure. But then a charismatic Palestinian student with a devastating personal history emerges as the group’s leader, and the demonstration destabilizes the college. As the crisis intensifies, Naomi must protect her friends, colleagues, and family from an unknowable adversary. Grand Central $27.

All Grown Up
by Jami Attenberg
Who is Andrea Bern? She knows what to say to her therapist: she’s a designer, friend, daughter, sister. But what Andrea leaves unsaid—she’s alone, a drinker, a former artist—feels the most true. Everyone around her has different ideas of what it means to be an adult: Indigo is getting married; her brother and sister-in-law are having a baby; Matthew devotes himself to art. But when Andrea’s niece arrives with a heartbreaking ailment, the Bern family must reexamine what matters. Will this tear them apart? Houghton Mifflin $25.
Thrillers

The Dime
by Kathleen Kent
Dallas, Texas is not for the faint of heart. Good thing for Betty Rhzyk she’s from a family of take-no-prisoners Brooklyn police detectives. But her Big Apple wisdom will only get her so far in The Big D, where Mexican drug cartels and cult leaders, deadbeat skells and society wives all battle for sunbaked turf. Betty is tough, but she’s deeply shaken when her first investigation goes sideways. Combining the pyrotechnics of Breaking Bad with the best of the gritty crime genre, The Dime is Kathleen Kent’s brilliant mystery debut. Mulholland $26. ★

Ill Will
by Dan Chaon
A psychologist in Cleveland, Dustin receives news that his adopted brother, Rusty, is being released from prison after serving thirty years of a life sentence for the massacre of Dustin’s family. Dustin and his cousin’s accusations were key to the conviction. Now, DNA analysis has overturned it, and Dustin braces for a reckoning. Meanwhile, one of Dustin’s patients has concerns over a series of college student deaths. They investigate, and Dustin becomes obsessed, crossing professional boundaries, and putting his family in harm’s way. Ballantine $28. ★

The Burial Hour
by Jeffery Deaver
NYT bestselling author Jeffery Deaver returns to forensic detective Lincoln Rhyme in his most harrowing case yet. A businessman snatched in broad daylight. A miniature hangman’s noose left at the scene. A nine-year-old girl, the only witness to the crime. Lincoln Rhyme and Amelia Sachs are called in to investigate, and then a recording surfaces of the victim being slowly hanged, his desperate gasps the backdrop to an eerie piece of music. The video is marked as the work of The Composer.... Grand Central $28. Avail. 4/11

Universal Harvester
by John Darnielle
Jeremy, who works at the Video Hut in Iowa, begins receiving complaints that his rented movies are altered with additional footage. He brings the films home to take a look, and finds that in the middle of each, the movie is replaced by a few minutes of jagged, poorly lit home video. The scenes are odd and sometimes violent. And there are some recognizable landmarks—these have been shot just outside of town—and the once placid Iowa fields become sinister and imbued with loss and profound foreboding. Farrar, Straus and Giroux $25. ★

Fantasy/Sci-Fi

Winter of the Gods
by Jordanna Max Brodsky
Winter in New York: snow falls, lights twinkle, and a disgruntled Selene DiSilva prowls the streets, knowing that trouble always finds her. When a dead body is discovered sprawled atop Wall Street’s iconic Charging Bull statue, it’s up to Selene to hunt down the perpetrators. Her ancient skills make her the only one who can track a conspiracy that threatens the very existence of the gods, Selene—once known as Artemis—among them. Winter of the Gods is the much-anticipated new novel from the author of The Immortals. Orbit $26. ★

A Conjuring of Light
by V. E. Schwab
Londons fall and kingdoms rise while darkness sweeps the Maresh Empire, and the fraught balance of magic blossoms into dangerous territory while heroes struggle. The direct sequel to A Gathering of Shadows, and the final book in the Shades of Magic epic fantasy series, A Conjuring of Light sees the newly minted New York Times bestselling author V. E. Schwab reach a thrilling conclusion concerning the fate of beloved protagonists—and old foes. “Compulsively readable... her characters make the book.”—NPR. Tor $25.99.

New York 2140
by Kim Stanley Robinson
A new vision of the future from the New York Times bestselling author of science fiction masterworks such as the Mars trilogy, 2312, and Aurora. The waters rose, submerging New York City. But the residents adapted and it remained the bustling, vibrant metropolis it had always been, though changed forever. Every street became a canal. Every skyscraper an island. Through the eyes of the varied inhabitants of one building, Robinson shows us how one of our great cities will change with the rising tides. And how we too will change. Orbit $28.

A story is a letter that the author writes to himself, to tell himself things that he would be unable to discover otherwise.

— Carlos Ruiz Zafón
The Shadow of the Wind
**Hot New Picks in YA**

**Strange the Dreamer**
by Laini Taylor

The dream chooses the dreamer, and Lazlo Strange, war orphan and junior librarian, has always feared that his dream chose poorly. Since he was five years old he’s been obsessed with the mythic lost city of Weep. When the opportunity to find the city presents itself in a person called the Godslayer and a band of warriors, he seizes his chance to lose his dream forever. But why was Weep cut off from the world? What did the Godslayer actually slay? And what is the mysterious problem he now seeks help in solving? Little, Brown BYR $18.99. ★ ★★★

**Daughter of the Pirate King**
by Tricia Levenseller

Sent on a mission to retrieve an ancient map to a legendary treasure trove, seventeen-year-old pirate captain Alosa deliberately allows herself to be captured by her enemies, giving her the perfect opportunity to search their ship. More than a match for the ruthless pirate crew, Alosa has only one thing standing between her and the map: her captor, the unexpectedly clever and unfairly attractive first mate Riden. But Alosa has a few tricks up her sleeve, and no lone pirate can stop the Daughter of the Pirate King. Feiwel & Friends $17.99. ★☆☆☆

**Freya**
by Matthew Laurence

There’s more to Sara Vanadi than meets the eye. In her prime, she was Freya, the Norse goddess of love, beauty, war, and death—though that past matters little now. For an ancient goddess in the 21st century, true believers are hard to find. But when a new, rising power threatens to remake the world by bending the divine to its will, Sara realizes her days of hiding have ended, and a chance to claw her way out of the history books has arrived. She’ll just need new clothes and a manicure before she gets started. Imprint $17.99. ★★★

**The Inexplicable Logic of My Life**
by Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Award-winning author and poet Benjamin Alire Sáenz’s gorgeous novel is set on the American border with Mexico, exploring family and friendship, life and death, and one teen struggling to understand what his adoption does and doesn’t mean about who he is. Sal used to know his place with his adoptive gay father, their loving Mexican American family, and his best friend, Samantha. But it’s senior year, and suddenly Sal is questioning everything. This humor-infused, humane look at belonging is a triumph. Clarion $17.99. ★★★☆☆

**The Best We Could Do**
by Thi Bui

Exploring the anguish of immigration and the effects that displacement has on a child and her family, Bui documents in graphic novel form the story of her family’s escape from South Vietnam in the 1970s, and the difficulties they faced building their new lives. At the heart of Bui’s story is a universal struggle of learning to be a parent—the sacrifices, unnoticed gestures, and depths of unspoken love. With haunting writing and breathtaking art, she examines family, identity, and the meaning of home. Abrams Comicarts $24.95. ★☆☆☆☆

**The Beast is an Animal**
by Peternelle van Arsdale

Alys was seven when the soul eaters came to her village. These soul eaters, twin sisters who were abandoned by their father and who morphed into something not quite human, devour human souls. Alys and the other children were spared and sent to live in a neighboring village. There, fear of the soul eaters—and of the Beast they believe guides them—rules village life. But the Beast is not what they think it is. And neither is Alys, who feels connected to the soul eaters, and maybe even to the Beast itself. Margaret K. McElderry $17.99.

**Goodbye Days**
by Jeff Zentner

Carver Briggs can’t stop blaming himself for the text that caused a fatal crash, killing his three best friends, Mars, Eli, and Blake. Now a judge is pushing for a criminal investigation. Luckily, Carver has some unexpected allies: Eli’s girlfriend; his therapist; and Blake’s grandmother, who asks Carver to spend a “goodbye day” together to say a proper farewell. Soon the other families are asking for goodbye days, but Carver is unsure of their motives and is afraid they will bring a complete breakdown or even prison. Crown Books for YR $17.99. ★ ★☆☆

**Frogkisser**
by Garth Nix

Poor Princess Anya. Forced to live with her evil stepmother’s new husband, her evil stepstepfather. Plagued with an unfortunate ability to break curses with a magic-assisted kiss. And forced to go on the run when her stepstepfather decides to make the kingdom his own. Aided by a talking dog, a thief trapped in the body of a newt, and some mischievous wizards, Anya sets off on a Quest to free her land—and will learn about the use of power, the effectiveness of a well-placed pucker, and the finding of friends. Scholastic $18.99. ★★☆☆☆
**Feminist Baby**
*by Loryn Brantz*

Feminist Baby likes pink and blue. Sometimes she'll throw up on you! Feminist Baby chooses what to wear and if you don't like it she doesn't care!


**Be Quiet!**
*by Ryan Higgins*

All Rupert the mouse wants is to star in a beautiful, wordless picture book. One that's visually stimulating! With scenic pictures! And style! He has plenty of ideas about what makes a great book, but his friends just WON'T STOP TALKING. Of course the project marches right off a cliff, but watching it go is entertainment gold. The story's backdrops are as polished as the characters, Higgins breathes emotional life into his characters, and his smart, laugh-out-loud comedy is expertly paced. Disney-Hyperion $17.99. Ages 2-5. Avail. 4/4

**Ellie in Concert**
*by Mike Wu*

Since Ellie saved her home with her wonderful paintings, the zoo is back in business and the animals are more energetic than ever—all except for Lucy the giraffe, who hasn't been able to sleep with all the noise. Determined to help her friend, Ellie tries to tone down the ruckus and organizes the animals into an orchestra. But is it possible to conduct the cacophony of the zoo into beautiful music? “Every vignette is expertly framed for a chuckle, an ‘Awww,’ or both.” — *Publishers Weekly*. Disney-Hyperion $16.99. Ages 3-6. Avail. 4/4

**Rabbit Stew**
*by Wendy Wahman*

Fox brothers Rusty and Rojo work in their vegetable garden all summer until they're ready to make their splendid rabbit stew. Then they begin to pick colorful ingredients, from lean, green runner beans to crunchy orange carrots. Meanwhile, their pet rabbit watches with his bunny family, worried about what's coming next. But in a surprise ending, the foxes serve their concoction to their favorite rabbit, Stew! And his family, too. The artwork is filled with clever details, and every spread creates a search-and-find element. Boyds Mills $16.95. Ages 3-7.

**Mommies are Amazing**
*by Meredith Costain*

**illus. by Polona Lovšin**

Mommies are clever, they know when you're sad. They'll hug you and kiss you when you're feeling bad. In this companion to *Daddies Are Awesome*, mommy cats and kittens take the spotlight, celebrating moms of all kinds. Loving and thoughtful, playful and daring, cuddly and caring—mommies are amazing. The gentle rhyming text celebrating the special bond between mother and child and the adorable mommy cat and kitten illustrations make this a charmingly perfect book for Mother's Day! Henry Holt & Co. BYR $16.99. Ages 4-8. Avail. 4/4

**Noisy Night**
*by Mac Barnett, illus. by Brian Biggs*

It's a noisy night in this city building! The residents of each floor can hear their neighbors above them, and are wondering what's going on above their heads. Climb floor by floor to find out whose singing, dancing, cheering, and cooing are keeping a grumpy old man awake. With innovative split-level spreads that offer the feeling of climbing an apartment building, this clever and colorful collaboration between Mac Barnett and Brian Biggs offers an irresistible investigation of one noisy night. Roaring Brook $16.99. Ages 4-8.

**The Dragon Hunters**
*by James Russell, illus. by Link Choi*

Living on an island means life is full of adventure for brothers Flynn and Paddy. So when a dragon swoops out of the sky and nabs their beloved dog, Coco, Flynn and Paddy know it's up to them to bring her home. That night, they pack their bags, make some terrible sandwiches, and set off on an epic adventure…. Featuring interactive apps to allow readers to explore the book's map and to see and hear dragons fly, geyser gush, and the characters in action! Sourcebooks Jabberwocky $16.99. Ages 4-8. Avail. 4/4

**Princess Cora and the Crocodile**
*by Laura Amy Schlitz*

**illus. by Brian Floca**

Princess Cora is sick of boring lessons. She's sick of running around the dungeon gym. She's sick of taking three baths a day. But when she writes to her fairy godmother for help, she doesn’t expect that help to come in the form of an unruly crocodile. With perfectly paced dry comedy, children's book luminaries Laura Amy Schlitz and Brian Floca send Princess Cora on a delightful outdoor adventure while her alter ego wreaks utter havoc inside the castle, obliging one pair of royal parents to reconsider their ways. Candlewick $16.99. Ages 6-8.
Amina’s Voice
by Hena Khan
Amina is Pakistani American, doesn’t like the spotlight, and is happy just hanging out with her friend, Soojin. But now in middle school, things feel different. Soojin is hanging out with one of the “cool” girls, and is talking about changing her name to something more “American.” Should Amina start changing too? While she grapples with these questions, she is devastated when her local mosque is vandalized. And now she must use her voice to bring a diverse community together. Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster BYR $16.99. Ages 8-12.

The Goldfish Boy
by Lisa Thompson
Matthew Corbin has severe obsessive-compulsive disorder. He hasn’t been to school in weeks. His hands are cracked and bleeding from cleaning. He refuses to leave his bedroom. To pass the time, he observes his neighbors from his bedroom window. And when a toddler goes missing, Matthew realizes he was the last person to see him alive. Matthew is the key to figuring out what happened and potentially saving a child’s life... but to do so, he’ll have to expose his own secrets, and step out from the safety of his home. Scholastic $16.99. Ages 9-12.

The Star Thief
by Lindsey Becker
Honorine’s work as a maid at the Vidalia mansion is rather dull, until the day she sees two sailors ransacking Lord Vidalia’s study, and then follows a mysterious girl with wings into the night. Honorine is whisked into a battle between a spectacular steamship crew and a band of mythical constellations, which have come to life. To her surprise, Honorine is the crux of it all, the center of a clash between magic and science. But can she bring both sides together before they unleash an older, evil power? Little, Brown BYR $16.99. Ages 9-12. Avail. 4/11

Armstrong and Charlie
by Steven Frank
Charlie isn’t looking forward to sixth grade. If he completes the grade, he’ll grow older than the brother he recently lost. Armstrong isn’t looking forward to sixth grade, either—his parents have signed him up for Opportunity Busing to a white school in the Hollywood Hills. When these two land at the same desk, it’s the Rules Boy next to the Rebel, a boy who lost a brother with a boy who longs for one. Set in 1970s Los Angeles, this is a tale of two boys from opposite worlds, Different, yet the same. HMH BYR $16.99. Ages 10-12.

The Playbook
by Kwame Alexander
Illustrated with photographs by Thai Neave, The Playbook offers inspiration on the court of life. Each rule contains wisdom from inspiring athletes and role models such as Nelson Mandela, Serena Williams, LeBron James, Carli Lloyd, Steph Curry and Michelle Obama. Kwame Alexander also provides his own poetic and uplifting words, as he shares stories of overcoming obstacles in this motivational and inspirational book just right for graduates of any age and anyone needing a little encouragement. HMH BYR $14.99. Ages 10-12.

Secrets & Sequences
by Gene Luen Yang
illus. by Mike Holmes
Stately Academy was once home to an elite institute where teachers, students, and robots worked together to unravel the mysteries of coding. Hopper, Eni, and Josh won’t rest until they’ve learned the whole story, but they aren’t the only ones interested in the school’s past. Principal Dean is hot on their trail, demanding the coders turn over their most powerful robot. Dean may be a creep, but he’s nothing compared to the guy who’s really in charge: a green-skinned coding genius named Professor One-Zero. First Second $10.99. Ages 8-12.

The Son of Neptune
by Rick Riordan
and Robert Venditti
illus. by Antoine Dodé
and Orpheus Collar
Percy is confused. When he woke after his long sleep, he didn’t know much more than his name. His brain-fuzz is lingering, even after the wolf Lupa told him he is a demigod and trained him to fight. Somehow Percy manages to make it to the camp for half-bloods, but the camp doesn’t ring any bells with him…. Featuring a faithful adaptation by Robert Venditti, and artwork by Antoine Dodé and Orpheus Collar, Rick Riordan’s blockbuster book comes to life in The Son of Neptune, The Graphic Novel. Disney-Hyperion $12.99. Ages 9-12.

Fish Girl
by David Wiesner
and Donna Jo Napoli
David Wiesner’s first graphic novel, with text by acclaimed author Donna Jo Napoli, is a beautiful, engaging, and frequently funny coming-of-age tale that begins underwater. A young mermaid, called Fish Girl, in a boardwalk aquarium has a chance encounter with an ordinary girl. Their growing friendship inspires Fish Girl’s longing for freedom and a life beyond the aquarium tank. Sparkling with humor and brilliantly visualized, Fish Girl’s story will resonate with young people facing the challenges and rewards of growing up. Clarion $25. Ages 10-12.
New in Paperback

**Everybody’s Fool**  
by Richard Russo  
Richard Russo returns to North Bath, first brought to life in *Nobody’s Fool*. Now, ten years later, Doug Raymer is chief of police and tormented by the death of his wife and his failure as a husband. Sully has come into a small fortune, but gets a life expectancy prognosis of only a year or two. We are also reunited with Sully’s son and grandson, with Ruth, the married woman with whom he carried on for years, and with the hapless Rub Squeers. Filled with humor and heart, *Everybody’s Fool* is Russo’s crowning achievement. Vintage $16.95.

**Lab Girl**  
by Hope Jahren  
Geobiologist Hope Jahren has spent her life studying trees, flowers, seeds, and soil. *Lab Girl* is her treatise on plant life—but also a celebration of the curiosity, humility, and passion that drive every scientist. Hope takes us back to her childhood, where she played in her father’s college laboratory. There she found a sanctuary in science, performing lab work “with both the heart and the hands.” She extends the mantle of scientist to her readers, inviting us to join her in observing and lovingly protecting our environment. Vintage $16.

**Library of Souls**  
by Ransom Riggs  
Like its predecessors, *Library of Souls* blends fantasy with extraordinary vintage photography. A boy with unusual powers. An army of deadly monsters. An epic battle for the future of peculiardiom. The adventure that began with *Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children* comes to a thrilling conclusion, as Jacob discovers a powerful new ability, and dives through history to rescue his peculiar companions from a guarded fortress. It’s a place where the fate of peculiar children everywhere will be decided once and for all. Quirk $11.99. Avail. 4/11

**The Woman in Cabin 10**  
by Ruth Ware  
Lo Blacklock, a journalist who writes for a travel magazine, has the assignment of a lifetime: a week on a luxury cruise with only a handful of cabins. At first, Lo’s stay is nothing but pleasant: plush cabins, sparkling dinner parties, and elegant guests. But as the week wears on, Lo witnesses a terrifying nightmare: a woman being thrown overboard. The problem? All passengers remain accounted for—and so the ship sails on, despite Lo’s attempts to convey that something (or someone) has gone terribly wrong…. Gallery/Scout $16. Avail. 4/11

**The Orphan’s Tale**  
by Pam Jenoff  
Sixteen-year-old Noa was forced to give up her baby after becoming pregnant by a Nazi soldier. When Noa discovers a boxcar containing Jewish infants bound for a concentration camp, she snatches one of the babies and flees. Noa finds refuge with a German circus, learning the flying trapeze act to blend in. She forges a bond with the lead aerialist, Astrid. But soon the façade proves tenuous, and Noa and Astrid must decide whether their friendship is enough to save one another. Simultaneous release in hardback and paperback. Mira $26.99/$15.99.

**The Chilbury Ladies’ Choir**  
by Jennifer Ryan  
As England becomes enmeshed in World War II and the men are away fighting, the women of Chilbury village forge an uncommon bond. They defy the Vicar’s stuffy edict to close the choir and instead “carry on singing,” resurrecting themselves as the Chilbury Ladies’ Choir. An enchanting ensemble story that shuttles from village intrigue to romance to the heartbreaking matters of life and death, Jennifer Ryan’s debut novel thrillingly illuminates the true strength of the women on the home front in a village of indomitable spirit. Crown $26.

**Blitzed**  
by Norman Ohler  
The Nazi regime preached purity. But Norman Ohler reveals that Germany was a pharmaceutical powerhouse, and companies such as Merck and Bayer cooked up cocaine, opiates, and methamphetamines for civilians and soldiers. The drug-induced feelings of invincibility even help to explain certain German military victories. Hitler also became dependent on a cocktail of drugs, including a form of heroin. Carefully researched, *Blitzed: Drugs in the Third Reich* sheds new light on the Third Reich and WWII. Houghton Mifflin $28.

WWII Spotlight

**All the Light We Cannot See**  
by Anthony Doerr  
Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. From the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, the stunningly beautiful instant *New York Times* bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, Doerr illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another. “Hauntingly beautiful.”—Janet Maslin, *The New York Times*. Scribner $17. Avail. 4/4

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A Colony in a Nation
by Chris Hayes
America likes to think itself as postracial, yet measures of unemployment, incarceration, wealth, and school segregation all reveal that racial inequality has barely improved since 1968. Chris Hayes contends our country has fractured in two: the Colony and the Nation. In the Colony, we venerate the law. In the Colony, we obsess over order. With empathy, Hayes explores the challenges of policing communities haunted by guns. And he shows that a more democratic justice system already exists—in a place we least suspect. W.W. Norton $26.95.

The New Urban Crisis
by Richard Florida
In recent years, the young, educated, and affluent have surged back into cities, reversing decades of suburban flight and urban decline. Yet the forces that power the growth of the world's superstar cities also generate challenges: gentrification, unaffordability, inequality, and segregation. Meanwhile, many cities still stagnate, and middle-class neighborhoods are declining. The New Urban Crisis offers a compelling diagnosis of our economic ills and a prescription for more inclusive cities ensuring growth and prosperity for all. Basic $28. Avail. 4/11

Phenomena
by Annie Jacobsen
For more than forty years, the U.S. government has used extrasensory perception in attempts to locate hostages and secret bases, to divine other nations' secrets, and to predict threats to national security. The intelligence agencies and military services involved include CIA, DIA, NSA, DEA, the Navy, Air Force, Army, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Now, Phenomena: The Secret History of the U.S. Government's Investigations Into Extrasensory Perception and Psychokinesis tells the story of these radical programs. Little, Brown $28.

Mercies in Disguise
by Gina Kolata
In Mercies in Disguise: A Story of Hope, a Family's Genetic Destiny, and the Science That Rescued Them, Gina Kolata tells the story of the Baxleys, a family that is struck one by one with an inscrutable illness. When they discover the cause, they are told of a blood test that would reveal who carried the gene for the disease and who did not. A work of narrative nonfiction, this is the story of a family that took matters into its own hands when the medical world abandoned them, and of a young woman who faced the future head on. St. Martin's $25.99.

Homo Deus
by Yuval Noah Harari
Over the past century humankind has managed to do the impossible and rein in famine, plague, and war. Today, more people die from eating too much than too little; more people die from old age than from diseases; and more people commit suicide than are killed by soldiers, terrorists, and criminals combined. What will we now strive for? Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow explores how we will shape the twenty-first century. Where do we go from here? And how will we protect this world from our own destructive powers? Harper $35.

The Death and Life of the Great Lakes
by Dan Egan
The Great Lakes hold 20 percent of the world’s supply of surface fresh water and provide sustenance, work, and recreation for tens of millions of Americans. But they are under threat, and their problems are spreading across the continent. The Death and Life of the Great Lakes is prize-winning reporter Dan Egan’s compulsively readable portrait of an ecological catastrophe, blending the story of the lakes with an examination of the perils they face and the ways we can restore and preserve them for generations to come. W.W. Norton $27.95.

Why I March
by Abrams Books
On January 21, 2017, five million people in 82 countries and on all seven continents stood together in 673 sister marches. The Women’s March began with one cause, women’s rights, but became a movement around the many issues debated during the 2016 U.S. presidential race—immigration, health care, the environment, and equal rights, among others. Abrams Image presents Why I March: Images from the Women’s March Around the World; all royalties will be donated to nonprofit organizations affiliated with the March. Abrams Books $14.95.

“I’m not a stranger,” I said, and pointed to his book. “I’m someone who reads the same authors you do.”

— Lemony Snicket

When Did You See Her Last?
The Rules Do Not Apply
by Ariel Levy
When thirty-eight-year-old New Yorker writer Ariel Levy left for a reporting trip to Mongolia in 2012, she was pregnant, married, and successful on her own terms. A month later, none of that was true. Levy hurls you through the story of how she built an unconventional life with untraditional rules about work, love, and womanhood, and then watched it all fall apart. Levy’s profound memoir reveals a portrait of the shifting forces in our culture, of what has changed—and of what is eternal. Random House $27.

The Stranger in the Woods
by Michael Finkel
Many people dream of escaping modern life, but most never act on it. The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit is the remarkable true story of Christopher Knight, who lived alone in the woods of Maine for 27 years, without speaking to another human. Based on interviews with Knight, this is a vividly detailed account of his secluded life and the challenges he has faced since returning to the world. It is a story of survival that asks questions about solitude, community, and what makes a good life. Knopf $25.95.

South and West
by Joan Didion
South and West: From a Notebook, compiles excerpts from two notebooks of legendary writer Joan Didion. The first traces a road trip she took through three southern states in June 1970 with musings on the heat, the people, and the preoccupation with race, class, and heritage. The second is from the “California Notes” that began as an assignment on the Patty Hearst trial of 1976. Though Didion never wrote the piece, the experience triggered thoughts about the city, the Hearsts, and her own Sacramento upbringing. Knopf $21.

Perfect Strangers
by Roseann Sdoia
As Roseann Sdoia waited at the finish line of the 2013 Boston Marathon, she had no idea she would soon be on the sidewalk, burned and deaf, staring at her detached foot, and screaming. In the chaos, three strangers saved her life and got her to safety. The third, firefighter Mike Materia, held her hand all the way to the hospital, and today they are planning their life together. Perfect Strangers: Friendship, Strength, and Recovery After Boston’s Worst Day is about choosing joy, human connection, and recovery. PublicAffairs $26.

The Leap
by Steve Taylor
What does it mean to be enlightened or awakened? In The Leap: The Psychology of Spiritual Awakening, Steve Taylor shows that this state is more common than is generally believed. He shows that ordinary people can and do regularly “wake up” to a more intense reality, even if they know nothing about spiritual practices and paths. Drawing on his years as a psychologist and on his own experiences, Taylor reminds us that wakefulness is our most natural state—accessible to us all, anytime, anywhere. New World Library $16.95.

The Airbnb Story
by Leigh Gallagher
The Airbnb Story: How Three Ordinary Guys Disrupted an Industry, Made Billions… and Created Plenty of Controversy is the story of the online lodging platform that has become the world’s largest provider of accommodations. At first just a wacky idea of the three cofounders, Airbnb now has a $30 billion valuation. The platform is beloved by the millions of its hosts and travelers. And yet, even as the company has blazed its unexpected path, this is the first book solely dedicated to successes and controversies. Houghton Mifflin $28.

You Are Here
by Jenny Lawson
When Jenny Lawson is anxious, one of the things she does is draw. Elaborate doodles, beautiful illustrations, often with captions that she posts online. You Are Here: An Owner’s Manual for Dangerous Minds is a combination of inspiration, therapy, coloring, humor, and advice—filled with Jenny’s illustrations, all on perforated pages that can be torn out, hung up, and shared. Some of the material is dark, some is light; some is silly and irreverent. Gathered together, this is life, happening right now, in its messy glory. Flatiron $15.99.

Only connect!
— E.M. Forester
Howard’s End
**KATIE’S YOUNG ADULT PICKS**

**The Takedown**
by Corrie Wang

*Mean Girls* meets *Minority Report*—*The Takedown* is unputdownable! I blazed through the book because I couldn’t stop until I knew who was behind Kyla’s take down. Wang’s take on the not-too-distant future seems all too possible, and she’ll keep you guessing whodunit with her complex characters and their multiple motives. Kyla is refreshingly flawed and fierce. Full of tangled relationships, helpful frenemies, hackers, hecklers, and haters, the pages will practically flip themselves in this thriller! Freeform $17.99. Avail. 4/11

**The Bone Witch**
by Rin Chupeco

Chupeco scared me in *The Girl From the Well* and in *The Suffering*, but she has completely enchanted me in *The Bone Witch*. The magic and world building is amazing. From the first pages when Tea accidentally resurrects her first dead body, to the end where she has fully embraced being a bone witch, the reader is immersed in the world of the asha—a world of magic, fighting, dancing, and politics. I’m really hoping Chupeco is a Bone Witch herself, because the wait for the second book might kill me! Sourcebooks Fire $17.99.

**Alex and Eliza: A Love Story**
by Melissa de la Cruz

Hungry for Hamilton? For the reader who can’t get enough of Alexander Hamilton, this is the YA book we’ve been waiting for. The Schuyler sisters step into the spotlight for this one—Angelica, Eliza, and (finally) Peggy! Melissa de la Cruz brings the romance, but she also captures the excitement, anticipation, and action of pre-revolutionary New York City. I can’t wait to share this book with my Hamilton-obsessed niece (whom I introduced to the musical), because she is going to love it. If you don’t want to throw away your shot, you can always pre-order! G.P. Putnam’s Sons BYR $17.99. Avail. 4/11

**Grendel’s Guide to Love and War**
by A. E. Kaplan

This is hands down one of my favorite YA books this season or maybe ever. Tom Grendel is going to steal the heart of every reader who picks up this book, guaranteed. On the surface, this is a hilarious romp featuring a prank-war and the ultimate battle of wills between two houses full of unsupervised teens. Beneath the surface is a poignant coming of age story that explores love, loss, and discovering oneself. Virginia author and setting. Knopf BYR $17.99. Avail. 4/18

**MORE FOUNTAIN FAVORITES**

**MAUREEN RECOMMENDS:**

**HEX**
by Thomas Olde Heuvelt

The town of Black Spring has existed peacefully under a 300-year-old curse. The Black Rock Witch wanders the town, the woods, and the interiors of homes with her eyes and mouth sewn shut, and residents of Black Spring, once established, can never leave. Ever. The town elders have established elaborate protocols and high-tech surveillance both to monitor the witch’s movements, and to ensure that the secret of her existence is kept. But when a group of teenagers begins to test the boundaries of both the rules and the witch herself, the careful web of deception is the least of what is threatened. Heuvelt’s masterfully frightening debut will haunt the reader for days afterward. I’m still not over it. Tor $15.99. Avail. 4/4

**KELLY RECOMMENDS:**

**Often I Am Happy: A Novel**
by Jens Christian Grøndahl

This lyrical and thoughtful little novel opens with our 70 year old narrator Ellinor adjusting to the recent passing of her husband Georg. She is compelled to share thoughts she has never uttered before and chooses an unusual audience: Anna, her long-dead best friend and Georg’s first wife. This meditation on identity, happiness, love, and the definition of family can be read in a sitting or two and is equal parts wry and melancholy. Just right for a rainy day. Twelve $23. Avail. 4/11

**Freeman’s Home:**

**The Best New Writing on Home**
by John Freeman

John Freeman is dear to me and the Freeman’s anthologies (this is the third) are his most ambitious and accessible projects to date. If you currently read *Best American Short Stories* or Pushcart Prize anthologies, stretch your wings a bit and try this dazzlingly international collection. The new issue spotlights never-before-published stories, essays, and poetry by Edwidge Danticat, Herta Müller, Juan Gabriel Vásquez, Gregory Pardlo, Kay Ryan, Aleksandar Hemon, Viet Thanh Nguyen, and many more. Grove $16. Avail. 4/4

**CARL RECOMMENDS:**

**Mighty, Mighty Construction Site**
by Sherri Duskey Rinker, illus. by Tom Lichtenheld

For the crew of *NYT* Bestseller *Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site*, there’s nothing like a good day of honest, hard work. It’s a brand new job they’ll start today, they cannot wait to get underway! The plans are huge, the biggest they’ve ever seen, will it be too much work for this five-truck team? But they don’t have to work alone today, there’s always help available on the way! This extra help could be the missing link, these men and women work well in sync! The project is moving along fine, but will they get it done on time? We have a few copies here on the shelf, you’ll have to read it for yourself. Chronicle $16.99. Ages 2-5.
Tuesday, April 18, 6:30 pm
Julie Lekstrom Himes
Mikhail and Margarita

We are sooooo pleased to be included on this tour. This novel is something truly special, and Himes is the talk of the publishing world right now! And she’s charming to boot! I had the pleasure of meeting the author at a bookseller dinner recently and am overjoyed to be able to share her and her marvelous new novel with you. You can order a signed copy online by dropping your book in the cart and typing “signed” in the comments field with any other instructions. –Kelly “Adeptly details brutality and betrayal as well as creativity and the uncertainties of censorship…” –Publishers Weekly

Wednesday, April 19, 12:30 pm
Grammartopia
RVA and Book Launch
Location: 200 West Marshall Street, Gallery5

Who says conversations about language use have to be boring? Grammartopia—RVA marks the launch of the Grammartopia series with an all-star panel of contestants: National Book Award finalist Meg Medina, New York Times bestseller David L. Robbins, and Book Riot co-founder Rebecca Joines Schinsky. This unique event celebrates the launch of the book, Get a Grip on Your Grammar: 250 Writing and Editing Reminders for the Curious or Confused by Kris Spisak. Watch our contestants battle it out over pop culture, trivia, and grammar concerns. Prizes include: Fountain gift certificates, full manuscript copyedits or proofreads, signed books from local authors, and more! Career $14.99. Avail. 4/17

Saturday, April 22, 5 pm
RVA Lit Crawl with Sisters In Crime

Join us for an afternoon/evening with marvelous mystery authors! Featuring:

- Mary Burton
  The Dollmaker and The Hangman
- Maggie King
  Murder at the Moonshine Inn
- Mary Miley
  The Impersonator
- Fiona Quinn
  Strike Force and Panther Force
- LynDee Walker
  Lethal Lifestyles
- Heather Weidner
  Secret Lives and Private Eyes
- Rosemary Shomaker
  Short stories in Virginia is for Mysteries and A Shaker of Margaritas
- Kristin Kisska
  Short mystery story, “The Sevens” in Murder under the Oaks

Thursday, May 4, 6:30 pm
Cory Doctorow
FEATURE EVENT Walkaway

So very, VERY excited to welcome Cory Doctorow to Fountain for the first time! Due to Cory Doctorow’s popularity, we are giving preference to our customers. The event is free for anyone to attend, but purchase of at least one of Doctorow’s books from Fountain is required to get your books signed. You can also order a signed copy online by dropping your book in the cart and typing “signed” in the comments. Thank you for your support of this phenomenal author and our Fountain events programming!

Cory Doctorow is a science fiction author, activist, journalist, and blogger—the co-editor of Boing Boing, and the author of the YA graphic novel In Real Life, the nonfiction business book Information Doesn’t Want to Be Free, young adult novels like Homeland and Little Brother, and novels for adults like Rapture of the Nerds. Walkaway is Doctorow’s first adult novel in eight years: an epic tale of revolution, love, post-scarcity, and the end of death. Tor $26.99. Avail. 4/25

Thursday, May 11, 6:30 pm
Michelle Gable
The Book of Summer

It’s Book Club Giveaway Frenzy Night yet again and we welcome special guest NYT Bestselling Author Michelle Gable! Bring your book club or fly solo to this event to meet your fellow book lovers. We’ll be giving away lots of fun prizes including lots of books! Order a signed copy online by dropping your book in the cart and typing “signed” in the comments field with any other instructions. When not dreaming up fiction on the sly, Gable currently resides in Cardiff by the Sea, California, with her husband, two daughters, and one lazy cat. Thomas Dunne $25.99. Avail. 5/9

Thursday, May 18, 6:30 pm
Fact Into Fiction

Two Bestselling Authors Discuss Reinventing Historical Events

Join us for an interactive evening of discussion about the methods and madness that go into creating great historical fiction. Sonja Yoerg earned her Ph.D. in Biological Psychology and published a nonfiction book about animal intelligence, Clever as a Fox. Her new novel, All the Best People is forthcoming in May. Raised in the Midwest, Greer Macallister is a poet, short story writer, playwright and novelist. Her debut novel The Magician’s Lie has been optioned for film. Her new novel Girl in Disguise, is about America’s first female private detective. All the Best People, Berkley $15. Avail. 5/2. Girl in Disguise, Sourcebooks Landmark $25.99.