“Susannah Cahalan, the bestselling author of Brain on Fire, is back with another riveting truth of study of madness and the mental health system. In 2000, Dr. David Rosenhan and his team of non-sick subjects posed healthy people in mental hospitals for a year and documented the systemic failure of the mental health system in America. In this riveting and profoundly vulnerable look at our own voices, I think this is one of the most powerful things about this book. The literary world has already likened it to Maggie Nelson’s The Argonauts and Mary Oliver’s Devotions for its engaging, hard-hitting, and moving storytelling style. “The Accidentals” is a unique and extraordinary book.”

—Jaquira Díaz, (Algonquin Books, 9781616209131, $26.95)

“Running With Sherman is one of those special books that just make you happy. Sherman, an absurdly funny dog adopted by Christopher McDougall and family, needs a walk and not one to turn him loose in the World Championship of barn dances.”

—Jackie Willey, Fiction Addiction, Greenville, SC

“Get a Life, Chloe Brown is one of those special books that just make you happy. Sherman, an absurdly funny dog adopted by Christopher McDougall and family, needs a walk and not one to turn him loose in the World Championship of barn dances.”

—Jenna Schenk, BookTowne, Manasquan, NJ

“The Deep: A Novella”

By Rivers Solomon, Daveed Diggs, William Hutson, Alfred A. Knopf

Soilene is perfectly suited to expand the concept of a civilization of mark—those whose origins were born in the presence of progeny African women—out into the vessels of white slave traders. The Deep focuses on Nile, whose role as historian is to be individually honored with six ceremonies of memory of all the wajus, and the consequence when she abducts her responsibility. With shades of Hans Christian Andersen, Soilene’s descriptions of romance and betrayal, war and peace, politics and power, are masterfully woven into an intricate tapestry of historical fiction that is both compelling and thought-provoking. The story is told from the perspectives of Nike and Lewis, two former slaves who have been bought by the same owner and are forced to work together to escape their captors. Osheen is a doozy of a story to tell, as she is 14 years old when her book is set. We hear how she has teamed up to change the course of her life. This novel feels unabashed, a wild story of love, sex, and danger, of the beauty of the natural world and the strength of the human spirit. The Deep: A Novella is a powerful, thought-provoking novel that explores themes of identity, resilience, and hope. It will leave readers with a deep appreciation for the complexities of African history and the ways in which it continues to shape the world today.”

—Jason Foose, Changing Hands, Tempe, AZ

“The Accidentals: A Memoir”

By Carmen Maria Machado (Graywolf Press, 9781644450031, $26)

“The Accidentals” is a doozy of a story to tell, as she is 14 years old when her book is set. We hear how she has teamed up to change the course of her life. This novel feels unabashed, a wild story of love, sex, and danger, of the beauty of the natural world and the strength of the human spirit. The Deep: A Novella is a powerful, thought-provoking novel that explores themes of identity, resilience, and hope. It will leave readers with a deep appreciation for the complexities of African history and the ways in which it continues to shape the world today.”

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—Sally Wizik Wills, Beagle and Wolf Books & Bindery, Park Rapids, MN

“All This Could Be Yours: A Novel”

By Jami Attenberg (Graywolf Press, 9781555978095, $26)

“I am in love with Jami Attenberg’s writing, and was spellbound by All This Could Be Yours from the opening sentence. The book is a story of family, secrets, and lies, as well as the power of love and forgiveness. It is a story of a family’s struggle to come to terms with their past. I was engaged from beginning to end, and the book left me with a sense of hope and closure.”

—Leah Atlee, Bright Side Bookshop, Flagstaff, AZ

“The Family Upstarts: A Novel”

By Lyssa Kay Adams

(St. Martin’s Press, 9781250192157, $26.99)

“Just having children gives me a reason to make you a parent, and that truth is apparent in the pages of this book. A beautiful family drama that teaches us to have everything in great doses, private schools, orchestras in the preseason—can make the heartache and the joy of parenting feel small and easy. This book has a gift for exploring the nerves and small epiphanies lurking beneath the surface of our daily lives. Her words ooze with a strange kind of urgency, normal and yet true, like late-night phone calls when the rest of the world is awake, I didn’t feel like I was reading a book as much as observing a person’s internal thoughts. In the Dream House is unique, poignant, and funny.”

—Jason Foss, Changing Hands, Tempe, AZ

“The Deep: A Novella”

By Joseph Kanon

(Two Roads, 9780812992022, $26.95)

“Joseph Kanon has produced his book yet again, bringing to us a story that is both suspenseful and riveting. With a great character development, the book is a great read.”

—Michael Donahue, The New Yorker

“The Crying Book”

By Hannah Gadsby (Knopf, 9781982151086, $28)

“’To be a writer is to be in constant awe and in constant state of anxiety. I don’t believe there is anything in the world that is more powerful than a story. The Crying Book is not told in prose, but it is a story. It is a story that is deeply emotional and beautifully written.”

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

“The Accidentals: A Memoir”

By Carmen Maria Machado

“From the moment I picked up The Accidentals, I was hooked. Machado’s writing is so vivid and evocative, it felt like I was right there in the midst of the action.”

—Sally Wizik Wills, Beagle and Wolf Books & Bindery, Park Rapids, MN