Betty: A Novel
By Tiffany McDaniel
(Vintage, 9781984897947, $16, Fiction)
“Betty walks us through a childhood filled with good and evil, and shows us that one can survive and come out the other side in one piece, fractured and whole at the same time.”
—Annie Philbrick, Bank Square Books, Mystic, CT

Milk Fed: A Novel
By Melissa Broder
(Orion, 9781930403236, $17, Fiction)
“When calorie-obsessed Rachel, an unlikely but irresistible heroine, meets Miriam at the yogurt shop, sparks (and sprinkles!) fly. Unflinchingly honest, unexpectedly moving—’I couldn’t put it down.’
—Kristen Iskandrian, Thank You Books, Birmingham, AL

Confessions on the 745: A Novel
By Lisa Unger
(Park Row, 9780778389293, $16.99, Fiction)
“Lisa Unger is amazing at writing twisted thrillers that could pretty much be happening to someone you know. Confessions on the 7:45 may be my favorite one of her books yet.”
—Laura Taylor, The Oxford Exchange, Tampa, FL

Universe of Two: A Novel
By Stephen P. Kiernan
(William Morrow Paperbacks, 9780062878458, $16.99, Fiction)
“This finely crafted love story weaves a well-researched history of the shrouded creation of the atomic bomb with the blossoming love of two people.”
—Renee Reiner, Phoenix Books Essex, Essex Junction, VT

Impersonation: A Novel
By Heidi Pitlor
(Algonquin Books, 9781643751443, $16.95, Fiction)
“Struggling ghostwriter and solo mom Allie is trying to do everything right but inevitably failing as though she’s getting it all wrong. I couldn’t stop turning the pages to see how far she’d go to survive.”
—Hannah Hallow, Book Shop of Beverly Farms, Beverly, MA

White Ivy: A Novel
By Susie Yang
(Simon & Schuster, 9781982100605, $17, Fiction)
“Ivy Lin’s unassuming looks and demeanor hide a dark side: She is obsessed with the wealth and privilege she sees around her and will cross boundaries to get what she needs.”
—Pamela Klenger Horn, Excelsior Bay Books, Excelsior, MN

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(Feynman, 9781621446411, 328, Fiction)
“In this debut set in a Pacific Northwest logging town, Ash Davidson has immediately established herself as a true voice of the American experience, in all its potential for self-discovery and disaster.”
—Josh Popkin, Odyssey Bookshop, South Hadley, MA

Afterparts: Stories by Anthony Veaosa Sco (Hugo, 9781646114227, 328, Short Stories)
“These stories of the members of a compact Cambodian-American community, from the refugees to the business owners to the gay teenagers, seamlessly balance humor with hardship.”
—Sofia Silva Wright, Phoenix Books, Burlington, VT

All’s Well: A Novel by Mona Awad
(Black & White, 9781529040919, 277, Fiction)
“Gloriously bananana, dark, and weird, and so, so good. AFS’s WV is a big, meaty, strange journey about chronic pain, Shakespeare, friendship, mental health, witchcraft, and work.”
—Rachel Barry, NYSID Bookstores, Brooklyn, NY

She Who Became the Sun: A Novel by Shelley Parker-Chan
(The Books, 9781250358710, 327-9, Fiction/Historical Fiction)
“Zhu’s tooth-and-nail fight for her power is a rallying point of epic fantasy.”
—Danielle Raub, Itinerant Literate Books, Charleston, SC

We Are the Brennans: A Novel by Tracey Lange
(Goodean, 9781250763225, 224, Fiction)
“Tracy Lange has created some truly memorable characters and a wonderfully moving experience in seeing this tight-knit family cope with conflicts, setbacks, and the disclosure of long-buried secrets.”
—John Lys, The Kennett Bookshop, Kennett Square, PA

Mrs. March: A Novel by Virginia Feito
(Lyceum, 9781646156319, 328, August 12, 2021, Fiction/Thriller)
“Virginia Feito has effectively updated the comedy of manners in this droll, funny mystery. This book will haunt you until you reach the breathtaking conclusion, and you will remember Mrs. March for a long time to come.”
—Gloria Edmunds-Diaz, Boulder Book Store, Boulder, CO

Radiant Fugitives: A Novel by Nawaz Ahmed
(Gray & Green, 9781646156044, 277, Fiction)
“Two sisters and their mother are revealed as the eldest sister is about to give birth, but they struggle to find common ground. Brilliantly told through the voice of the unicorn child, love, loss, politics, faith, sexuality, and war intersect across decades and continents.”
—Ben Platt, Jackson Hole Book Trader, Jackson, WY

Once There Were Wolves: A Novel by Charlotte McNiclag
(Harper, 9780062930414, 277, Fiction)
“Telling of the reintroduction of wolves to the Scottish highlands, once there were wolves affirms the importance of our connections to the human and more-than-human worlds that sustain us, worlds we savory at our own peril.”
—Ben Platt, Jackson Hole Book Trader, Jackson, WY

The Manningtree Witches: A Novel by A.K. Blakemore
(Ecco, 9780062930415, 328, August 18, 2021, Fiction/Thriller)
“A brilliant story set in 17th-century England about a women’s community of the margins and the constant dangers of religious fervor. Dark, unsettling, and highly entertaining.”
—Silvia Mehta, Brazos Bookstores, Houston, TX

Applesled: A Novel by Matt Bell
(Pantheon, 9780593155970, 279, Fiction)
“This cross between a Shakespearean drama and a Grimm fairy tale is unputdownable, attention-grabbing, and thought provoking in the way stories do so well because often falls a powerful read!”
—Mellen Edly, The Book Shoppe, Boone, IA

If the Shoe Fits: A Meant to Be Novel by Julie Murphy
(HarperTeen, 9780062930388, hardcover, 224, August 24, 2021, Fiction/Romance)
“These simply aren’t enough words in my vocabulary to explain how beautifully Julie Murphy is able to craft such sweet stories. If the Shoe Fits to the Cinderella twist readers have been waiting decades for….”
—Hannah Oslie, Mystery to Me, Madison, WI

Clark and Division: A Novel by Naomi Hirahara
(Holt, 9780805092480, 279, Fiction/Mystery)
“Clark and Division is a propulsive mystery and a heart-wrenching examination of Japanese American internment and relocation in the 1940s. Hirahara beautifully weaves history and injustice into this fascinating and compelling crime novel.”
—Julie Jarema, Avid Bookshop, Athens, GA

Where the Truth Lies: A Novel by Anna Bailey
(Warner Books, 9780525614135, 277, Fiction/Thriller)
“You’ll feel yourself invested in and rooting for each of the young people in this book as they navigate secrets and guilties to unravel the mystery of what happened to their sister and friend—and why.”
—Alana Hake, Schulter Books, Grand Rapids, MI

The Turnout: A Novel by Megan Abbott
(Henry Holt Books, 9780525621677, 328, August 10, 2021, Fiction)
“The Turnout is a deliciously unforgettable story from the author of the critically acclaimed novel ‘Dinner’ to the uneasy dynamics of sisterhood and the tension when someone new intrudes on their domain.”
—Lexi Beach, The Atria Bookshop, Astoria, NY

The Union of Synchronized Swimmers: A Novella by Cristina Sandu
(Two Dollar Radio, 9781953387042, 115, Fiction)
“Through Lacey Stewart’s wry, forceful, and intense narrative, these stories feel like the business end of the rebellion, thoughtful, and forgiving for not bringing up your own expectations when adulthood isn’t at all that you’d imagined.”
—Julie Jarema, Avid Bookshop, Athens, GA

Made in China: A Memoir of Love and Labor by Anna Qu
(Crown, 9781642032054, 256, August 3, 2021, Memoir)
“Made in China is an emotionally wrenching and engrossing memoir about abuses, immigration, and the American dream. Qu’s pain is raw and unfolded, but her resilience and grit are unforgettable.”
—Marie Chichester, Greenlight Bookstore, Brooklyn, NY

The Reading List: A Novel by Sara Nisha Adams
(Hachette, 9780399582688, 279, Fiction)
“A beautifully written novel about people connected by a local library and an amazing reading list. As the characters’ lives are revealed through interwoven storylines, readers will root for them, cry for them, and celebrate their victories.”
—Lisa DiBianco, Hockoson Book Shelf, Hockoson, DE

Goldenrod: Poems by Maggie Smith
(Atria/One Signal Publishers, 9781982157166, 279, Poetry)
“Maggie Smith is the kind of poet who can make a poem breathe and sing. Goldenrod readers the poem reader as though the poet has gently struck their heart with a mallet, sending vibrations echoing throughout for them for all time!”
—Stephanie Arrache, Waterwheel Gifts and Books, Clark and Division, WY

Goldenrod: Poems by Maggie Smith
(Scribner, 9781982144401, 28, Fiction)
“Virginia Feito has effortlessly developed a poem that can make a poem breathe and sing. Goldenrod readers the poem reader as though the poet has gently struck their heart with a mallet, sending vibrations echoing throughout for them for all time!”
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It’s Not What You Thought It Would Be by(Photo: April Reign)

The Book of Accidents: A Novel by Chuck Wendig
(Youthwater, 9780593155837, 329, Fiction)
“Despite the classically creepy content of a true horror tale, I found myself devouring these pages before midnight, with heart and soul, and waking them up again first thing in the morning, nightmares be damned.”
—Sara Knight, Mario’s Bookshop, Durango, CO

The Hunter and the Old Woman’s Dance: A Novel by Pamela Korgenski
(Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 9781643080023, 176, Fiction/historical fiction)
“In this beautifully written tale of nature and humanity, we follow two young lovers from birth to death, while the man hunting Cougar is drawn in by the echoing call of the forest and the stories told by the man of his town.”
—Lily Hartley, Skylark Books, Columbia, MO

It Happened One Summer: A Novel by Tessa Bailey
(Atria Books, 9781643080023, 15, Fiction/Romance)
“This story opened its broad arms and admitted me into the recharging station that I needed as early as 2021. It was cute. It was sweet. It was heartbreaking. It was steamy. It was everything!”
—Stephanie Arrache, Waterwheel Gifts and Books, Clark and Division, WY

Bindery: A Novel by Julie Murphy
(Hyperion Avenue, 9781368050388, 328, Fiction)
“The characters’ lives are revealed through interweaving storylines, readers will root for them, cry for them, and celebrate their victories.”
—Lisa DiBianco, Hockoson Book Shelf, Hockoson, DE

Once There Were Wolves: A Novel by Charlotte McNiclag
(Harper, 9780062930414, 277, Fiction)
“Telling of the reintroduction of wolves to the Scottish highlands, once there were wolves affirms the importance of our connections to the human and more-than-human worlds that sustain us, worlds we savory at our own peril.”
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