



THE ACCIDENT MAN, by **Tom Cain** (Viking, \$24.95, 9780670018499/067001849X) “People will always wonder whether Princess Diana’s death was an accident or a conspiracy. The ‘accident man,’ an extremely likeable hit man involved in her death, and this exciting read features chilling interrogation scenes, exciting chases and well-developed, intelligent characters.”—**Susan Wasson, Bookworks, Albuquerque, NM**



ALL SHALL BE WELL; AND ALL SHALL BE WELL; AND ALL MANNER OF THINGS SHALL BE WELL, by **Tod Wodicka** (Pantheon, \$21.95, 9780375424731/375424733) “While it would be tempting to view Tod Wodicka as Berlin’s answer to Michael Chabon and Tom Perrotta, it is better to call him a new and distinct voice in his own right. His novel *All Shall Be Well...* is one of the most moving and inventive debuts that I have read in some time. This marks an auspicious beginning of a promising career.”—**Kester Smith, BookPeople, Austin, TX**



THE BASTARD OF ISTANBUL: A Novel, by **Elif Shafak** (Penguin, \$14 paper, 9780143112716/0143112716) “Set in both the U.S. and Turkey, Elif Shafak’s *The Bastard of Istanbul* is a humorous and powerful tale about identity and colliding cultures.”—**Alice Lee, Book Ends, Winchester, MA**



CHARITY GIRL, by **Michael Lowenthal** (Mariner, \$13.95 paper, 9780618919789/618919783) “*Charity Girl* follows Frieda Mintz, a Jewish 17-year-old bundle wrapper at a department store who spends one reckless night with an infected soldier and is then tracked down and sent to a makeshift detention center. This novel has a great cast of characters, including Frieda, full of moxie and innocence, for whom you’re pulling all the way through.”—**Megan Sullivan, Harvard Book Store, Cambridge, MA**



THE COMMONER, by John Burnham Schwartz (Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, \$24.95, 9780385515719/385515715) "Schwartz tells a bleak tale of an isolated princess, based on the life of the woman who married the crown prince of Japan in 1959. Totally unprepared for the rituals and traditions that govern the lives of the imperial family, Haruko must sever her ties to family, friends, and even her children. A hauntingly beautiful tale."—Ann Carlson, Harborwalk Books, Georgetown, SC



EARTHLY PLEASURES, by Karen Neches (Simon & Schuster, \$14 paper, 9780743292481/743292480) "An inside look at the personal lives of angels—I had no idea that they had so much fun. Love in all of its forms—friends, parents, lovers and, especially, Justin Timberlake—never really dies. And the answers to all life's deep philosophical questions are found in the lyrics of the Beatles. Who knew?"—Iris Cline, The Rediscovered Bookshop, Boise, ID



ELLINGTON BOULEVARD: A Novel in A-Flat, by Adam Langer (Spiegel & Grau, \$24.95, 9780385522052/385522053) "Nothing works better than humor to lift your spirits on a gray winter day. And my new favorite prescription for the blues is *Ellington Boulevard*, a comic tour-de-force regarding the sale of one modest apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side. The schemes and complications pile up like a house of cards, and half the amusement is in anticipating the collapse. But don't worry—no characters were harmed in the writing of this novel."—Daniel Goldin, Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops, Milwaukee, WI



FIVE DAYS IN AUTUMN, by Langston Keane (White Elk Press, \$11.95 paper, 9780977723720/977723720) "This novel about a hard-driving corporate executive who and his encounter with his dying grandfather's journals is a delightfully moving story of loves past and present that provided insight on how the decisions we make in our lives affect us. Set primarily in the beautiful mountains of eastern Tennessee, *Five Days in Autumn* is much more than a love story—it will touch you deeply."—Pam White, Skyland Books, West Jefferson, NC



FEBRUARY **BOOK** Notables
2008 sense

MY REVOLUTIONS, by **Hari Kunzru** (Dutton, \$25.95, 9780525949329/525949321) “Chris Carver seems to be a typical suburban white male: nice home, wife, daughter. However, what nobody knows is that in the ‘60s he was a radical student who briefly turned to terrorism: bombing targets around London. Kunzru’s searingly told new novel shows how easily a pure-hearted activist can gradually step across the line and committing fanatical, destructive acts without consciously embracing a fanatical ideology. This is a must-read novel of great contemporary relevance.”—**Rich Rennicks, Malaprop’s Bookstore/Cafe, Asheville, NC**



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THE SECRET SCROLL, by **Ronald Cutler** (Beaufort, \$24.95, 9780825305153/825305152) “This is a unique, engrossing novel that takes on our beliefs of Jesus and his disciples. What did they want us to know back then, and what are they trying to tell us today? And will we ever know the truth?”—**Vanessa Efferson, The Raven Bookstore, Lawrence, KS**



FEBRUARY **BOOK** Notables
2008 sense

A CHANT TO SOOTHE WILD ELEPHANTS, by **Jaed Coffin** (Da Capo, \$16 paper, 9780306815263/306815265) “This is a wonderful memoir from a young Thai-American about his choice to spend time being a monk in Thailand. Cultural details enhance this everyman’s story, which is more timely than ever in a world where more and more multiethnic people are trying to find their identities.”—**Syrinda Sharpe, University Book Store, Seattle, WA**



FEBRUARY **BOOK** Notables
2008 sense

FLOWER CONFIDENTIAL: *The Good, the Bad, and the Beautiful*, by **Amy Stewart** (Algonquin, \$13.95 paper, 9781565126039/1565126033) “This a fascinating and detailed look at the fresh flower industry. It combines mystery, politics, drama, romance, humor, and heartbreak with meticulous research and great storytelling. Amy Stewart can join the ranks of such nonfiction writers as Eric Schlosser, Susan Orlean, and Mark Kurlansky in my book.”—**Dana Brigham, Brookline Booksmith, Brookline, MA**



THE REASON FOR GOD: *Belief in an Age of Skepticism*, by Timothy Keller (Dutton, \$24.95, 9780525950493/525950494) “This is a carefully documented and intelligently reasoned response to today’s skeptics. *The Reason For God* is remarkable in its breadth. It challenges the intellectual mind and satisfies the searching soul.”—**Jan Owens, Millrace Books, Farmington, CT**



TRAIL THOUGHTS: *A Daily Companion for Your Journey of Faith*, by Eric Kammann (Beaufort, \$14.95 paper, 9780825305801/825305802) “These thoughtful daily meditations are challenging without being strident, and personal enough to ask the reader to grow. Unlike other daily devotional books, *Trail Thoughts* will work for seekers as well as believers.”—**Keri Holmes, The Kaleidoscope: Our Focus Is You, Hampton, IA**



SWIMMING IN A SEA OF DEATH: *A Son’s Memoir*, by David Rieff (Simon & Schuster, \$21, 9780743299466/743299469) “David Rieff, Susan Sontage’s son, has written a brilliant memoir about the last year of his mother’s life. It’s intimate and affectionate and so honest. It serves as a tribute to her life, but in detailing the agony of her death with such insight and affection, it also celebrates the fundamental bond forged by a mother and her son.”—**Mitchell Kaplan, Books & Books, Coral Gables, FL**



ATOMIC LOBSTER, by Tim Dorsey (Morrow, \$24.95, 9780060829698/60829699) “Tim Dorsey has done it again. He has set Serge A. Storms, Florida’s craziest fictional resident, loose on the population again. But... Is he a force for good? A twisted criminal without a conscience? A secret agent? You’ll have to decide for yourself, after reading about his adventures with a retired football hero, a self-help group, a handful of terrorists, and a tight-fisted cruise line.”—**Eric Robbins, Apple Valley Books, Winthrop, ME**



MOONLIGHT DOWNS, by **Adrian Hyland** (Soho, \$24, 9781569474839/1569474834) “Hyland has written a well-told and intriguing mystery featuring the aboriginal people of Australia that will keep you hooked until the end.”—**Donna Plante, Bookin’ It, Little Falls, MN**



OBEDIENCE, by **Will Lavender** (Shaye Areheart Books, \$24, 9780307396105/030739610X) “*Obedience* marks the emergence of a great new voice in mystery. Lavender’s twists and turns combine with an engaging story that will keep you completely invested.”—**Suzanna Hermans, Oblong Books And Music, Millerton, NY**



SINS OF THE ASSASSIN, by **Robert Ferrigno** (Scribner, \$24.95, 9781416537656/1416537651) “Robert Ferrigno’s second book in the Assassin series delivers another fast-paced and gripping adventure. This time Rakkim Epps is sent into the Belt, with the young Leo, whose technologically enhanced brain will be needed to find and destroy the secret weapon hidden deep in a Tennessee coal mine. I love the way Ferrigno paints a chilling post-apocalyptic America, with schisms of a splintered society gone amok.”—**Tammy Domike, Seattle Mystery Bookshop, Seattle, WA**



WATCHMAN, by **Ian Rankin** (Little, Brown, \$24.99, 9780316009133/031600913X) “After British intelligence agent Miles Flint makes a mistake that leads to another man’s death, he starts asking himself some serious questions about his job -- questions that lead to him being on the run for his life. Well-plotted and very suspenseful!”—**Carol Schneck, Schuler Books & Music, Okemos, MI**