

 **BOOK** Notables
sense® 2007 **JANUARY**

THE AENEID, by Virgil, Robert Fagles, translator (Viking, \$40, 9780670038039/0670038032) “Princeton scholar Robert Fagles follows up his acclaimed translations of Homer with a fast-paced, beautifully worded version of Virgil’s classic heroic epic. Aeneas springs to life as a vibrant and contemporary hero who founds the Roman republic and struggles to reconcile public duty with personal desire as he creates his destiny.” —Miriam Kramer, Olsson’s Books & Records, Alexandria, VA

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BE MINE, by Laura Kasischke (Harcourt, \$23, 9780151012732/0151012733) “This erotic thriller has more twists, turns, and surprises than a roller coaster. From the first anonymous love note received by college professor Sherry Seymour, you’re hooked; the pages flip faster and faster, and your eyes open wider with anticipation and dread as this unique story unfolds. A terrific story, although not for the prudish or profanity-sensitive reader.” —Nancy Simpson, The Book Vault, Oskaloosa, IA

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THE DAY THE BOZARTS DIED, by Larry Duberstein (Permanent, \$26, 9781579621346/1579621341) “This story of the residents of a Massachusetts artists’ collective had me hooked from page one, especially because of the sarcasm and humor of its central character, middle-aged playwright Stanley Noseworthy. This is a captivating tale of getting older, changing times, and interwoven lives, and it is a treat to read.” —Pam White, Skyland Books, West Jefferson, NC

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A DEAD LANGUAGE, by Peter Rushforth (MacAdam Cage, \$26, 9781596921924/1596921927) “Rushforth revisits the 19th century New York he created in his novel *Pinkerton’s Sister* but this time focuses on Ben Pinkerton, later to become Lt. Pinkerton of *Madam Butterfly*. Rushforth’s command of period detail is impeccable, his sense of humor wicked, and he creates an elegant, devastating story of the lasting effects of childhood. An altogether satisfying book, deeply erudite and profoundly human.” —Justin Miller, Harry W. Schwartz Bookshop, Shorewood, WI

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LET THE NORTHERN LIGHTS ERASE YOUR NAME, by Vendela Vida (Ecco, \$23.95, 9780060828370/0060828374) “Clarissa Iverton learns that her father, who has just died, is not her father. A birth certificate that was hidden for years reveals that her birth father is a priest living in Lapland. Like her mother who left her 14 years ago, Clarissa abandons her fiancé to confront her past in Lapland, and, while living in perpetual cold among the indigenous people of the area, her mother’s dark past is illuminated.”—**Mary Warner, Square Books, Oxford, MS**

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VENUS ENVY, by Shannon McKelden (Forge, \$12.95 paper, 9780765315854/0765315858) “The goddess Venus is forced to become the fairy godmother to Rachel Greer, who is fed up with dating. The idea of combining classical mythology, fairy tale, and a chick-lit read was absolutely ingenious!”—**Audrey Blaisdell, Sarasota News & Books, Sarasota, FL**

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ABOUT ALICE, by Calvin Trillin (Random House, \$14.95, 9781400066155/1400066158) “For all of us who feel like we have known and loved Alice and Calvin Trillin for years, here is an expanded version of the tribute he wrote to his late wife in *The New Yorker*. It’s the love story we all wish for in our lives.”—**Anne Holman, The King’s English, Salt Lake City, UT**

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CRUCIVERBALISM: A Crossword Fanatic’s Guide to Life in the Grid, by Stanley Newman, With Mark Lasswell (Collins, \$14.95, 9780060890605/0060890606) “New York *Newsday* crossword editor Newman tells the story of how crosswords got started, how he got hooked on them, how he went from talented amateur to tournament winner and beyond, and why crosswords aren’t just for eggheads anymore.”—**Carol Schneck, Schuler Books & Music, Okemos, MI**

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DARK COSMOS: *In Search of Our Universe's Missing Mass and Energy*, by Dan Hooper (Collins, \$24.95, 9780061130328/006113032X) "I think this may be most lucid science book I've ever read. Hooper really makes it easy to understand what theoretical physicists are looking for, even if they don't understand what might be lurking in the universe's nether regions."—**Bill Terrance, Changing Hands Bookstore, Tempe, AZ**

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JAMIE'S ITALY, by Jamie Oliver (Hyperion, \$34.95, 9781401301958/1401301959) "From stews and spaghettis to roasts and risottos, Oliver takes us on a journey through Italy with stories about the people and places"—**Alice Lee, Book Ends, Winchester, MA**

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TALK TO THE SNAIL: *Ten Commandments for Understanding the French*, by Stephen Clarke (Bloomsbury, \$14.95, 9781596913097/1596913096) "Stephen Clarke has given us another hilarious send-up of life in France, a good-natured travel guide chock full of practical (and not-so-practical) advice. Written with Clarke's gleeful tongue-in-cheek style, this book will appeal to both Francophiles and Francophobes (and everyone in between)."—**Tova Beiser, Brown University Bookstore, Providence, RI**

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WIKINOMICS: *How Mass Collaboration Changes Everything*, by Don Tapscott and Anthony D. Williams (Portfolio, \$25.95, 9781591841388/1591841380) "The future is all about collaboration. According to the principles enumerated in this fascinating book, I should just publish this nomination to the web, and let my bookselling peers edit and elaborate on it!"—**Russ Lawrence, Chapter One Book Store, Hamilton, MT**

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THE ARMAGEDDON PROJECT, by Tom Sancton (Other Press, \$24.95, 9781590512524/1590512529) "This is a well-written contemporary political thriller concerning the U.S. presence in Iraq that rings especially true. The action is fast-paced and moves between France, Iraq, and the U.S. Let us hope that the story is not an omen for the future."—Douglas Westgate, Octavia Books, New Orleans, LA

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BIG CITY, BAD BLOOD, by Sean Chercover (Morrow, \$23.95, 9780061128677/0061128678) "When there's a break in the action, streetwise Chicago PI Ray Dudgeon heads to the bookstore for a copy of the autobiography of Benvenuto Cellini. Who could resist this hardboiled yet idealistic former reporter in his fight against corruption?"—Ellen Sandmeyer, Sandmeyer's Bookstore, Chicago, IL

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A DEEPER SLEEP: A Kate Shugak Novel, by Dana Stabenow (St. Martin's Minotaur, \$24.95, 9780312343224/0312343221) "In *A Deeper Sleep*, Alaskan PI Kate Shugak is faced with several dilemmas, including her growing relationship with state trooper Jim Chopin, but the evil that stalks the Niniltna community now is Louis Deem, a violent and intimidating man who somehow manages to escape all attempts to bring him to justice, smiling all the while."—Fran Fuller, Seattle Mystery Bookshop, Seattle, WA

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THE MACHIAVELLI COVENANT, by Allan Folsom (Forge, \$25.95, 9780765313058/0765313057) "While undoubtedly destined for comparison to *The Da Vinci Code*, this exciting and unpredictable story of a dark plan of global domination stands entirely on its own two feet. When President John Henry Harris uncovers a deadly plot, he joins forces with former LAPD detective Nicholas Marten, and the action builds steadily to its heart-thumping countdown of a conclusion."—Gigi Olsen, Sage Book Store, Shelton, WA

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NIGHT FALLS ON DAMASCUS, by **Frederick Highland** (St. Martin's Minotaur, \$24.95, 9780312337896/0312337892) "This is a tale of suspense and intrigue set in Damascus in 1933. Nikolai Faroun, the Prefecture of police in the French protectorate of Syria, is investigating the death of Vera Tamiri, from an influential family. Faroun must pick his way through the turmoil of a country on the verge of revolt and untangle the complex web of betrayal at the heart of the crime. The exotic setting and complex motivations make this a satisfying mystery."—**Linda Walonen, Bay Books, San Ramon, CA**

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THE SNOW ANGEL, by **Michael Graham** (Schaffner, \$23.95, 9780971059856/0971059853) "Based on a true story of kidnapping, *The Snow Angel* tells the story of two detectives who do not like each other in any sense of the word but who pull out all the stops in solving a savage crime."—**Andra Tracy, Out Word Bound, Indianapolis, IN**

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STALKING IVORY: A Jade Del Cameron Mystery, by **Suzanne Arruda** (NAL, \$23.95, 9780451220264/0451220269) "Jade del Cameron returns in this mystery set in British East Africa. Suzanne Arruda has created a great female character in an intriguing time and place. Think Tony Hillerman meets the Rift Valley."—**Barbara Theroux, Fact & Fiction, Missoula, MT**

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WILD INDIGO, by **Sandi Ault** (Berkley, \$23.95, 9780425213698/0425213692) "Sandi Ault's new mystery series featuring Jamaica Wild, an agent with the Bureau of Land Management, gives the reader a chance to see the Native American world in Colorado and neighboring states through the eyes of a terrific, fun character. Jamaica may not be a Native American by birth but she's one by spirit! I loved it!"—**Linda Dewberry, Whodunit? Books, Olympia, WA**