



**DEAR AMERICAN AIRLINES: A Novel, by Jonathan Miles** (Houghton, \$22, 9780547054018/0547054017) “Jonathan Miles’ first novel presents an unknowing catharsis through angst, jealousy, and helplessness. While delayed at Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport, writer Bennie Ford begins his tirade thinking he deserves a refund for a canceled flight that would have taken him to his daughter’s wedding. However, this human rant develops into a backstory of his life. Witty, inspiring, and downright funny, Miles develops a novel with feeling and redemption.”—**Carolyn Espe, Powell’s Books, Portland, OR**



**SUMMER BLOWOUT, by Claire Cook** (Voice, \$23.95, 9781401322410/1401322417) “*Summer Blowout* is vintage Claire Cook—this funny and clever novel about a makeup artist beginning a new life is sure to be in beach bags this summer. Cook has a knack for turning the mundane into the unique, and her characters are eclectic and original.”—**Kathleen McGonagle, Buttonwood Books & Toys, Cohasset, MA**



**ANOTHER MAN’S MOCCASINS: A Walt Longmire Mystery, by Craig Johnson** (Viking, \$24.95, 9780670018611/0670018619) “When the body of a young Vietnamese woman is found along the road in Absaroka County, Wyoming, Sheriff Walt Longmire is reminded of his first homicide investigation as a marine in Vietnam. The plot moves in and out of Vietnam in a seamless narrative of a search for truth.”—**Barbara Theroux, Fact & Fiction, Missoula, MT**



**CITY OF THIEVES: A Novel, by David Benioff** (Viking, \$24.95, 9780670018703/0670018708) “Set against the war-torn backdrop of Leningrad, two teenage boys end up, through stranger and stranger twists of fate, traveling cross-country to find a dozen eggs in exchange for their very lives. In the process, they learn more about human nature, both in themselves and others, than can possibly be explained. Wickedly funny and incredibly sad, it’s far too short to be this lovely—and yet it is.”—**Russ Marshalek, Wordsmiths Books, Decatur, GA**



**FINDING NOUF: A Novel, by Zoe Ferraris** (Houghton, \$24, 9780618873883/0618873880) “A masterfully crafted mystery novel set in Saudi Arabia. Ferraris truly gives us a feeling of the world of the rich, and the not-so-rich, Saudis as the Palestinian desert guide Nayir tries to discover who killed his friend’s beautiful sister.”—**Mary K. Cowen, Anderson’s Bookshop, Naperville, IL**



**THE RICHEST SEASON: A Novel, by Maryann McFadden** (Hyperion, \$22.95, 9781401322700/1401322700) “Maryann McFadden’s debut novel tells the story of Joanna, a suburban corporate wife and mother who walks away from it all in a search for something. What she finds is Grace, a woman who is reaching the end of her life, and what unfolds is a novel of expressive characters facing the loss of love, uncertain of the future, and longing for renewal. Captivating.”—**Rob Dougherty, Clinton Book Shop, Clinton, NJ**



**MISTRESS OF THE SUN: A Novel, by Sandra Gulland** (Touchstone, \$26, 9780743298872/074329887X) “Through the eyes of the young girl Louise de la Valliere, Gulland shows us how the sophisticated, wealthy, and dissolute royalty and nobility of France looked from the perspective of a naive, poor, but talented rural girl. Not only do we get a portrait of everyday life during the times of Louis XIV, the Sun King—we also get a rippingly good plot.”—**Sue Bradley, Tinman Artworks, Spokane, WA**



**PROMISE OF THE WOLVES: A Novel, by Dorothy Hearst** (Simon & Schuster, \$25, 9781416569985/1416569987) “After the beauty of *Promise of the Wolves*, my theory about the inner life of animals is confirmed. With all of the grace and eloquence of humans, Kaala and the other wolves tell their fantastic tale. I can’t wait for the next book of the trilogy!”—**Katie Glasgow, Mitchell Books, Fort Wayne, IN**



**THE MARRIAGE OF TRUE MINDS: A Novel, by Stephen Evans** (Unbridled, \$14.95 paper, 9781932961461/1932961461) “As husband and wife, Nick Ward and Lena Grant have been running a successful environmental law practice for many years. When the story opens, we find the marriage unraveling and Nick, always passionate, now certifiably insane. But we end up wondering: Like all the best madmen of fiction, is he crazy or is he just *right*? This is my summer book pick—I love it!”—**Kelly Justice, The Fountain Bookstore, Richmond, VA**



**GOSSIP OF THE STARLINGS: A Novel, by Nina de Gramont** (Algonquin, \$22.95, 9781565125650/1565125657) “This is a wonderful novel describing the intense friendship of two girls attending a private girls’ school in the 1980s. Not a predictable story at all, by the end of the book, I felt as if I was personal friends with the main characters.”—**Autumn Lynn, River Reader LLC, Lexington, MO**



**THE WRITING CLASS: A Novel, by Jincy Willett** (Thomas Dunne, \$24.95, 9780312330668/0312330669) “I dare you to try and put this book down once you become a part of the writing class at the center of the story. The antisocial narrator/teacher at once repels, attracts, and entertains. By the way, it’s also a murder mystery!”—**Shiela Wood-Navarro, Carpe Librum Booksellers, Knoxville, TN**



**THE GARDEN OF LAST DAYS: A Novel, by Andre Dubus III** (Norton, \$24.95, 9780393041651/0393041654) “A masterful psychological portrait of three compellingly flawed, very human characters affiliated with a seedy strip club in Florida, where a little girl goes missing. You might cringe at their decisions once you embark on this steam-roller of a book, but you’ll devour every explosive page!”—**Caitlin Doggart, Where the Sidewalk Ends, Chatham, MA**



**FINAL THEORY: A Novel, by Mark Alpert** (Touchstone, \$24, 9781416572879/1416572872) “When a dangerous stranger tries to murder one of the 20th century’s great physicists, Columbia professor David Swift is caught in the middle of a deadly story of murders, dangerous chases, and the FBI turned bad. I couldn’t put down this well-written, edge-of-your-seat thriller.”  
—**Diane Bader, Mysterious Galaxy Books, San Diego, CA**

★ S t a f f P i c k ★

LOCAL  
AUTHOR

★ S t a f f P i c k ★

