



CURSE OF THE SPELLMANS, by **Lisa Lutz** (Simon & Schuster, \$25, 9781416532415/1416532412) “This second entry in the nonstop, frenzied, comedic world of Isabel Spellman, P.I., is both more convoluted and funny than *The Spellman Files*. This time, Izzy finds herself confounded by nearly everyone in her life and, of course, unable to leave anyone alone until she gets to the bottom of the many mysteries surrounding her—including her weirder-than-usual family.”—**Terry Gilman, Mysterious Galaxy Books, San Diego, CA**



THE GIRL WHO STOPPED SWIMMING, by **Joshilyn Jackson** (Grand Central, \$23.99, 9780446579650/0446579653) “A drowning in a suburban pool leads the reader to a rough-hewn, bawdy family with many secrets. Jackson crafts quirky characters we come to really care about.”—**Dolores Messner, The Island Bookseller, Hilton Head, SC**



MUDBOUND, by **Hillary Jordan** (Algonquin, \$22.95, 9781565125698/156512569X) “Rural Mississippi just after the Second World War is a hard and muddy place. Hillary Jordan’s novel *Mudbound* evokes the era brilliantly—returning soldiers trying to find their way after the brutality of the war, some facing the continuing brutality of a racist America. A very compelling story.”—**Cathy Langer, Tattered Cover Bookstore, Denver, CO**



WORLD MADE BY HAND, by **James Howard Kunstler** (Atlantic, \$22, 9780871139788/0871139782) “From the author of *The Long Emergency*, a novel of life in the Hudson Valley of New York after the industrialized world has run out of oil. A frightening, and moving, portrayal of the lives of a group of people attempting to maintain their community.”—**Mitch Gaslin, Food For Thought Books, Amherst, MA**



AN INCOMPLETE REVENGE: A Maisie Dobbs Novel, by Jacqueline Winspear (Holt, \$24, 9780805082159/0805082158) “Maisie Dobbs, psychologist and investigator, travels to the Kent countryside to evaluate the village and a potential investment for a client. Although cordial, it is obvious the villagers have something to hide. An intriguing tale with one of today’s most engaging characters.”—**Mary Jane Weber, The Town Book Store, Westfield, NJ**



THE CURE FOR MODERN LIFE, by Lisa Tucker (Atria, \$24.95, 9780743492799/074349279X) “The conflict of right and wrong runs strong throughout this story, as the lives of a business executive and his ex-girlfriend intersect with that of a homeless boy. Lisa Tucker gets at the heart of human emotion while also bringing to light the ethical and moral decisions faced in business. Her characters will stay with you long after you finish the novel.”—**Shelly Plumb, Harleysville Books, Harleysville, PA**



HE MAN WHO MADE LISTS, by Josh Kendall (Putnam, \$25.95, 9780399154621/0399154620) “Peter Mark Roget found the ultimate avenue for his obsessive, life-long list making when he created *Roget’s Thesaurus*. His lists were the result of his education, experience, and coping skills, as he faced a number of tragedies in life. Reading *The Man Who Made Lists* gives us a fascinating slice of English culture.”—**Becky Milner, Vintage Books, Vancouver, WA**



FEAR AND YOGA IN NEW JERSEY, by Debra Galant (St. Martin’s, \$23.95, 9780312367251/0312367252) “Debra Galant’s novel begins with an overflowing fountain in the lobby of Nina Gettleman’s new yoga studio and quickly proceeds to much bigger problems, including being mistaken for a terrorist at the airport. This hysterically funny Jewish family in New Jersey manages to just keep going in spite of all the odds against them.”—**Susan Wasson, Bookworks, Albuquerque, NM**



THE SECRET ADVENTURES OF CHARLOTTE BRONTE, by **Laura Joh Rowland** (Overlook, \$24.95, 9781590200339/1590200330) “Laura Joh Rowland’s newest book may be a departure from her San Ichiro mysteries, but this ripping good story is sure to delight her steadfast fans and win her legions more. In this fun and fast-paced story, the author of *Jane Eyre* tackles a mystery, which includes a charge of plagiarism and murder.”—**Karen Keyte, Books, Etc., Portland, ME**



DOG MAN: An Uncommon Life on a Faraway Mountain, by **Martha Sherrill** (Penguin Press, \$25.95, 9781594201240/1594201242) “After World War II and over the course of decades, Morie Sawataishi bred Japanese Akitas and brought them back from the brink of extinction. A remarkable story in deceptively simple prose. Morie is not always a likeable man, but his passion rings true, and, in the end, I deeply admired him.”—**Lisa Stefanacci, The Book Works, Del Mar, CA**



AN IRISH COUNTRY VILLAGE, by **Patrick Taylor** (Forge, \$25.95, 9780765316240/0765316242) “Continuing where he left off in his wonderful *An Irish Country Doctor*, Patrick Taylor returns to Ballybucklebo to tell the story of novice physician Barry Laverty, who must deal with the death of a patient and his widow’s threatened lawsuit. Filled with wit, warmth, and blarney, this is a delightful journey.”—**Eileen Charbonneau, Merritt Bookstore Vol. III, Cold Spring, NY**



A PERSON OF INTEREST, by **Susan Choi** (Viking, \$24.95, 9780670018468/0670018465) “This dark literary thriller begins with the bombing of a math department office at a small college. One of the professors, an immigrant whose time at the college began during his student days, gradually begins to suspect that he was the intended target all along and begins to review his missteps and broken relationships.”—**Karen Maeda Allman, The Elliott Bay Book Company, Seattle, WA**

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TRESPASS: *Living at the Edge of the Promised Land*, by Amy Irvine (North Point, \$25, 9780865477032/0865477035) "Irvine takes the reader to a land marked by the confluences of religion and heritage, spirituality and ecology, home and isolation. Her passionate prose is a joy to read, whether she's describing the red rock wilderness of southern Utah or the interior landscapes of home."—**Catherine G. Weller, Sam Weller's Books, Salt Lake City, UT**

★ Staff Pick ★



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