

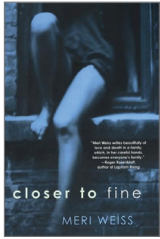
AUGUST '08



NOTABLES



FICTION



Closer to Fine
by Meri Weiss

(Kensington, \$14 paper, 9780758226907/075822690X)
"After the death of her brother—whom she cared for while he was dying of AIDS—Alexandra Justice's life spirals downward before a troupe of flamboyant friends drag her back to life—and new discoveries about old feelings. Weiss has a strong and talented voice that will resonate for readers."

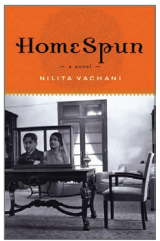
—Jackie Blem, Tattered Cover Bookstore, Denver, CO



The Grift
by Debra Ginsberg

(Shaye Areheart Books, \$23.95, 9780307382726/0307382729)
"Marina's drug-addicted mother used her to tell fortunes. Once she is free of her mother's controlling hand, Marina continues to make a living by telling people what they want or need to hear. But, gradually, the intertwined lives of her clients turn dark with lies and deceit as Marina begins to see things that her clients do not want to hear."

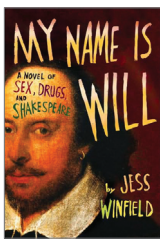
—Jessilynn Krebs, McLean & Eakin Booksellers, Petoskey, MI



Homespun
by Nilita Vachani

(Other Press, \$24.95, 9781590512852/1590512855)
"Sweta Kalra's grandfather was a disciple of Gandhi, a commitment that resulted in his wife and children living in poverty for the greater good of India. Sweta's father was a fighter pilot, his conflict with Pakistan. In Vachani's novel, Sweta tries to come to terms with the pasts of her father and grandfather, and gives us a very different view of India."

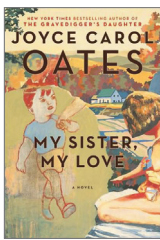
—Deon Stonehouse, Sunriver Books, Sunriver, OR



My Name Is Will
A Novel of Sex, Drugs, and Shakespeare, by Jess Winfield

(Twelve, \$23.99, 9780446508858/0446508853)
"Jess Winfield has written an hilarious and erudite story, in alternating chapters, of William Shakespeare teaching at Stratford-upon-Avon in the 16th century and of Willie Shakespeare Greenberg who is attempting to muddle through his masters thesis on the original Shakespeare at UC Santa Cruz."

—Tova Beiser, Brown University Bookstore, Providence, RI



My Sister, My Love
The Intimate Story of Skyler Rampike, by Joyce Carol Oates

(Ecco, \$25.95, 9780061547485/0061547484)
"Joyce Carol Oates' latest novel takes our tabloid-obsessed culture and turns it on its head. Skyler Rampike tells the story of the murder of his sister, Bliss, and the media frenzy that followed. His perspective is unique, but the story is universal. Nothing short of spectacular."

—Katie Glasgow, Mitchell Books, Fort Wayne, IN



The Queen's Lady
by Barbara Kyle

(Kensington, \$15 paper, 9780758225443/075822544X)
"The Queen's Lady is set against the turbulent historical backdrop of King Henry VIII and his persecution of the Roman Catholic Church in England. This is a great love story with history woven throughout."

—Betty Jones, River Reader LLC, Lexington, MO



Requiem, Mass.
by John Dufresne

(Norton, \$24.95, 9780393057904/0393057909)
"John Dufresne's honey-and-broken-glass novel of a most unusual family shines with his understated and utterly poignant writing. Requiem Mass is sure to make anyone pick up all of his backlist."

—Aaron Curtis, Books & Books, Coral Gables, FL



Say You're One of Them
by Uwem Akpan

(Little Brown, \$23.99, 9780316113786/0316113786)
"Say You're One of Them is a collection of stories, each about a different child in Africa dealing with a difficult life. While the circumstances are described with brutal honesty, the characters are multidimensional and are treated with compassion. This is not an easy read, but the crisp, detailed writing makes it worthwhile."

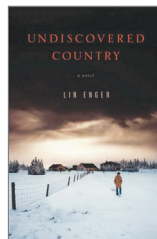
—Sarah Farnsworth, Briggs Carriage Bookstore, Brandon, VT



Stormy Weather
by Paulette Jiles

(Harper Perennial, \$13.95 paper, 9780060537333/0060537337)
"In Paulette Jiles' novel, set in Texas during the Great Depression, a family faces the chaos of dust storms and the debilitating experience of poverty, as Jiles tells a compelling story of characters balancing survival and taking major risks. This is a very good work of historical fiction."

—Dianne Patrick, Snowbound Books, Marquette, MI



Undiscovered Country
by Lin Enger

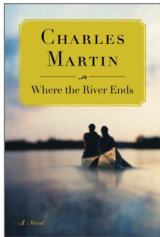
(Little Brown, \$23.99, 9780316006941/0316006947)
"At the end of a day of deer hunting, 17-year-old Jesse Matson hears a shot. He runs to his dad's deer stand to find his father dead, apparently from a self-inflicted rifle shot. This reinterpretation of Hamlet, set in northern Minnesota, is beautifully written and explores theme of betrayal, revenge, and the possibility of forgiveness and redemption."

—Sally Wizik Wills, Sister Wolf Books, Minneapolis, MN

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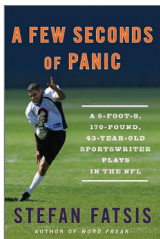
NOTABLES



Where the River Ends by Charles Martin

(Broadway, \$19.95, 9780767926980/0767926986)
"Charles Martin's novel of a marriage facing a terrible challenge is beautifully descriptive and heartbreaking."
—Cathy Allard, BayShore Books LLC, Oconto, WI

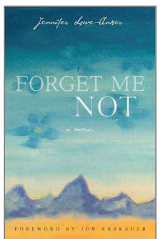
NONFICTION



A Few Seconds of Panic A 5-Foot-8, 170-Pound, 43-Year-Old Sportswriter Plays in the NFL, by Stefan Fatsis

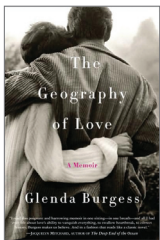
(Penguin Press, \$25.95, 9781594201783/1594201781)
"The Word Freak author hangs a Plimpton on the Denver Broncos when he joins the team as a place kicker for the 2006 training camp and preseason. Fatsis (who can routinely nail a 40-yarder by the end of the book)

offers a rare glimpse at this strange culture from the inside that is revealing, sobering, and very entertaining."
—Stan Hynds, Northshire Bookstore, Manchester Center, VT



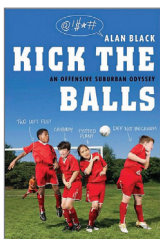
Forget Me Not A Memoir, by Jennifer Lowe-Anker

(Mountaineers Books, \$24.95, 9781594850820/1594850828)
"Jennifer Lowe Anker's memoir of carrying on after the death of her husband, world-class climber Alex Lowe, is a moving story of love, grief, and healing."
—Robby Smith, Sheridan Stationery Books & Gallery, Sheridan, WY



The Geography of Love A Memoir, by Glenda Burgess

(Broadway, \$22.95, 9780767928595/0767928598)
"This memoir of love, illness, and commitment is the most incredible love story I've ever read."
—Amanda Stephens, Dog Ear Books, Madison, GA



Kick the Balls An Offensive Suburban Odyssey, by Alan Black

(Hudson Street Press, \$23.95, 9781594630477/159463047X)
"Alan Black writes about his decision to run for mayor that led to a commitment to coach his son's soccer team. The team sucks, his lawn dies, no one can understand his accent, and he turns to late-night televangelism and Ben and Jerry's to console himself. Absolutely hysterical."
—Jake Hallman, A Great Good Place for Books, Oakland, CA



A Spring Without Bees How Colony Collapse Disorder Has Endangered Our Food Supply, by Michael Schacker

(Lyons Press, \$24.95, 9781599214320/1599214326)
"A must-read for anyone concerned about our food supply. What Rachel Carson did for the birds, Michael Schacker does for the bees."
—Marilyn Scheer, East West Bookshop, Seattle, WA

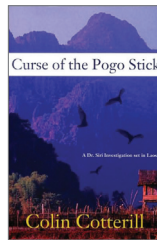
MYSTERY/SUSPENSE



Breaking Cover by J.D. Rhoades

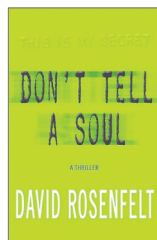
(St. Martin's Minotaur, \$25.95, 9780312371555/0312371551)
"Brilliant FBI agent Tony Wolf has been in hiding for years, from both the bureau and the murderous gang he was investigating from within. He thinks he's managed to evade his past, but the past has an aversion to staying dead. Rhoades is a writer to watch—his sly, graceful way of evoking character and setting makes Breaking Cover shine."

—Frazer Dobson, Park Road Books, Charlotte, NC



Curse of the Pogo Stick by Colin Cotterill

(Soho, \$24, 9781569474853/1569474850)
"Dr. Siri Paiboun, the reluctant national coroner in post-revolution Laos, must deal with a curse (yes, a pogo stick curse) in this gem of a story from Cotterill, who brings Dr. Siri to life on the page so completely that we feel as if we would know him on the street, a man who is both a calm place in any storm and a trouble magnet."
—Eric Robbins, Apple Valley Books, Winthrop, ME



Don't Tell a Soul by David Rosenfelt

(St. Martin's Minotaur, \$24.95, 9780312373955/0312373953)
"What starts out as a conversation in a bar with a total stranger becomes a tension-filled game being played by someone out to get Tim Wallace, an innocent victim who becomes a prime murder suspect. This exciting story has a clever plot and it races along as Tim finds himself in deeper and deeper trouble."
—Susan Wasson, Bookworks, Albuquerque, NM

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