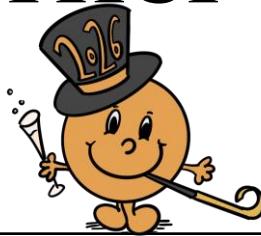




The Corner Bookstore

NEW TITLES



January



Strangers: A Memoir of Marriage, Belle Burden (Dial, \$30. 256 pp.) • One day in early spring, Belle Burden's husband of 20 years announced that he was leaving. Belle was shocked. She thought he—they—were living the life they'd always wanted. Overnight, her husband became a man she hardly recognized. In *Strangers*, Belle revisits her marriage, searching for clues. The compliant woman she once was gives way to someone braver, someone determined to use her voice. An aching, love-filled, and transcendent account of surviving betrayal and discovering joy

This Is Where the Serpent Lives, Daniyal Mueenuddin (Knopf, \$29, 352 pp.) • On a Pakistani farm, Yazid rises from poverty to a role as a trusted servant to an affluent gangster. Saqib, an errand boy, is eventually trusted to lead his boss's new farming venture. Saqib's boss, Hisham, reminisces about meeting his wife while she was dating his brother, while Gazala, a young teacher, falls for Saqib. Intimate and epic, elegiac and profoundly moving, *This Is Where the Serpent Lives* is a tour de force destined to become a classic of contemporary literature.

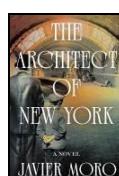


Departure(s), Julian Barnes (Knopf, \$27, 176 pp.)

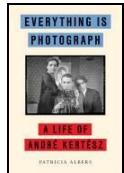
• In *Departure(s)*, Barnes reckons with his preoccupation with aging, memory, and mortality. The story he promises to deliver is a love story, of two friends, Stephen and Jean, he met at university in the 1960s.

As the third wheel he was deeply invested in the success of their love and insulted when they broke up. Years later, he tries again, watching as their rekindled affair produces joys and disappointments of a different order.

Jackson Alone, Jose Ando (Soho, \$28.95, 222 pp.) • Nobody where he works knows much about the massage therapist, Jackson. He's mixed race—half-Japanese, half-African. A violent pornographic video appears featuring a man who looks a lot like Jackson. When Jackson serendipitously meets three other queer mixed-race guys, he learns he's not the only one being targeted. Together they concoct a plan: find out who's responsible.

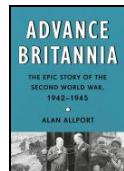


The Architect of New York, Javier Moro (Counterpoint, \$29, 352 pp.) • Architect Rafael Guastavino's signature vaulted tile ceilings revolutionized Gilded Age New York City: The Oyster Bar in Grand Central, the Prospect Park Boathouse. Told through the eyes of Guastavino's son and business partner, Rafael Jr., Javier Moro brings to life the remarkable rags-to-riches journey of this immigrant family. *The Architect of New York* is a moving and entertaining story filled with real-life characters (including Stanford White) that captures the romance and drama while offering a timeless glimpse into the human heart.



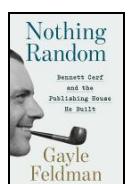
Everything Is Photograph: A Life of André Kertész, Patricia Albers (Other, \$39.99, 592 pp.) • Patricia Albers takes Kertész, born in Budapest in 1894, from the Eastern front in World War I to the Paris of Piet Mondrian, Colette, and Alexander Calder. She breathes life into a gentle, generous, and unassuming man endowed with Old-World charm, but also sputtering with grievance and rage and inclined to indulge in deception.

Nothing Random: Bennett Cerf and the Publishing House He Built, Gayle Feldman (Random, \$40, 1,072 pp.) • At midcentury, everyone knew Bennett Cerf, witty panelist on TV's weekly *What's My Line?*. They didn't know the young man of the 1920s who'd vowed to become a great publisher, and a decade later, was. In 1925, he and his lifelong business partner Donald Klopfer bought the Modern Library and turned it into an institution, then founded Random House. From the 1920s to the '60s, he collected an array of friends, having a fabulous time along the way. This book, finally gives a true American original his due.

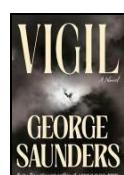
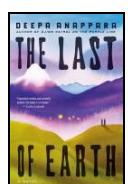


Advance Britannia: The Epic Story of the Second World War, 1942-1945, Alan Allport (Knopf, \$40, 608 pp.) • In this sequel to *Britain at Bay*, Alan Allport weaves together the political, military, social, and cultural to tell a multifaceted story of a country forced to endure the profound stresses of total war.

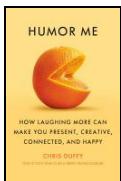
Now, Britain is no longer at bay. But any victory remains far off, and its costs will be great. Can the British win the war without sacrificing so much along the way that they then lose the peace?



The Last of Earth, Deepa Anappara (Random, \$29, 352 pp.) • 1869. With Tibet closed to Europeans, Britain trains Indians to make surveying expeditions into Tibet, such as Balram whose friend, Gyan, went missing on his last expedition and is rumored to be imprisoned within Tibet. Desperate to rescue his friend, Balram agrees to guide an English captain, disguised as a monk, who wants to chart a river that runs through southern Tibet. Their path will cross with 50-year-old Katherine, who intends to be the first European woman to reach Lhasa.



Vigil, George Saunders (Random, \$28, 192 pp.) • Once again, Jill "Doll" Blaine, who consoles the dying as they transition to the afterlife, finds herself hurtling toward earth. She lands in the circular drive of her newest charge's ornate mansion. But the powerful K. J. Boone will not be consoled, because he has nothing to regret. Visitors begin to arrive (worldly and otherworldly, alive and dead), clamoring for a reckoning, including two oil-business cronies who show up with chilling plans for Boone's post-death future. (*Lincoln in the Bardo*)



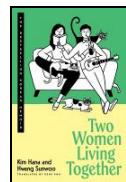
Humor Me: How Laughing More Can Make You Present, Creative, Connected, and Happy, Chris Duffy (Doubleday, \$29, 272 pp.) • Duffy embarks on a journey that takes him from comedy clubs to emergency rooms to a helicopter full of Navy SEALs and back to his own keyboard to reveal how and why a good laugh can bring us closer to the good life. *Humor Me* will deepen your friendships, enhance your creativity, and lighten life's burdens, and is a genuinely funny read along the way.

The Flower Bearers: A Memoir, Rachel Eliza Griffiths (Random, \$29, 336 pp.) • On the same day Rachel Eliza Griffiths married the novelist Salman Rushdie, hundreds of miles away, Griffiths' closest friend, the poet Kamilah Aisha Moon, died suddenly. Eleven months later a brutal attack nearly killed her husband. In *The Flower Bearers*, Griffiths inscribes the trajectories of two transformational events, chronicling the beauty and pain that comes with opening oneself fully to love.



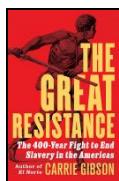
One Sun Only: Stories, Camille Bordas (Random, \$28, 304 pp.) A teenager becomes obsessed with the obituaries in a weekly magazine. People grapple with life-altering illness, unrequited love, and promises they have every intention of keeping. Camille Bordas delves into the mysteries of life, death, and everything in between. At once darkly funny and self-aware, Bordas's writing offers a window into our shared, flawed humanity without insisting on a perfect understanding of our experiences.

Half His Age, Jennette McCurdy (Ballantine, \$30, 288 pp.) • Waldo is ravenous. Horny. Naive. Impulsive. Endlessly wanting. And the thing she wants most of all: Mr. Korgy, her creative writing teacher with the wife and the kid and the mortgage and the paunch. She doesn't know why she wants him. Is it rooted in their unlikely connection, their kindred spirits, the similar filter with which they each take in the world around them? Or, perhaps, it's just enough that he sees her when no one else does. *Half His Age* is a study of a 17-year-old who disregards all obstacles in her effort to be seen, to be desired, to be loved.



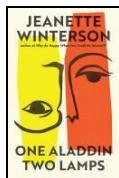
Two Women Living Together, Kim Hana Hwang Sunwoo (Ecco, \$28, 256 pp.) • When most their age were marrying and having children, Kim Hana and Hwang Sunwoo chose independence savoring solitude, quiet mornings, and the unmitigated freedom of living alone. But in their forties they were met with a new, unexpected loneliness. Refusing to settle for the choice between marriage or isolation, Hana and Sunwoo made a radical decision: to buy a home and live together—not as lovers or roommates, but as a chosen family. Now a bustling household of two women and four cats, they still value solitude, but can do so while sharing a life and its meaning with someone else.

Winter: The Story of a Season, Val McDermid (Atlantic, \$22, 160 pp.) • Val McDermid has always had a soft spot for winter: the bitter clarity of a crisp cold day, the crunch of frost on fallen leaves, and the chance to be enveloped in big jumpers and thick socks. In *Winter*, McDermid ruminates on a single winter in her life as she journeys into the heart of the season's ever-evolving community-based traditions. And she reminds us that winter is a time of rest, retreat, and creativity, for scribbling in notebooks and settling in beside the fire.



The Great Resistance: The 400-Year Fight to End Slavery in the Americas, Carrie Gibson (Atlantic, \$35, 624 pp.) • From the first African revolt in 1521 on the island of Hispaniola, to the 18th-century Maroon Wars on Jamaica and the revolution that gave Haiti its independence, and thousands of smaller acts of defiance in between, Gibson chronicles the continuum of resistance that eventually ended the slave trade and, with Brazil's decision in 1888, the institution of slavery itself. *The Great Resistance* is a tribute to the persistence of the human spirit.

Fly, Wild Swans: My Mother, Myself and China, Jung Chang (Harper, \$35, 336 pp.) • *Wild Swans* ends in 1978, when Jung was among the first Chinese to leave China and come to the West. *Fly, Wild Swans* chronicles her journey, along with that of China, as it rose to become a world power challenging American dominance. Xi Jinping's attempt to return China to the anti-American Maoist past has a devastating impact on Jung's life: she is unable to go to her mother's deathbed. *Fly, Wild Swans* is Jung's love letter and emotional tribute to her extraordinary mother.



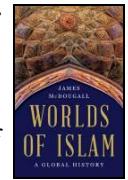
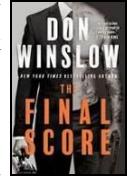
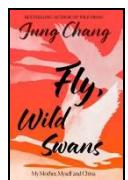
One Aladdin Two Lamps, Jeanette Winterson (Grove, \$28, 240 pp.) • A woman filibusters for her life. Every night she tells a story, every morning, she lives one more day. *One Aladdin Two Lamps* cracks open the legendary story of Shahrazad in *One Thousand and One Nights* to explore new and ancient questions. In her guise as Aladdin, Jeanette Winterson asks us to look again at how fiction works in our lives, giving us the courage to change our own narratives and alter endings we wish to subvert.

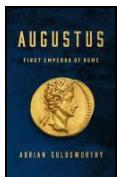
The Final Score: Six Short Novels, Don Winslow (Morrow, \$30, 304 pp.) • Written with his trademark literary style, trenchant wit, and incisive characterization, *The Final Score*—six all-new short novels—serves up a collection of tales sure to delight Winslow's most devoted fans and first-time readers. This is a propulsive, perceptive, and deeply immersive collection of crime writing, the ultimate testament to Don Winslow's prowess as a living legend of the genre.



Homeschooled: A Memoir, Stefan Merrill Block (Hanover, \$30, 288 pp.) • Stefan Merrill Block was nine when his mother, hungry for more time with her boy, pulled him from school. Stefan, however, was largely left to his own devices and his mother's erratic whims, such as her project to recapture her 12-year-old son's early years by bleaching his hair and putting him on a crawling regimen. When Stefan reentered the public school system as a freshman, after five years away from the outside world, he was in for a jarring awakening. *Homeschooled* is an inspiring story of a son's battle for a life of his own choosing, and the wages of a mother's insatiable love.

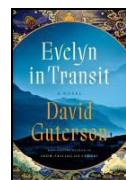
Worlds of Islam: A Global History, James McDougall (Basic, \$40, 608 pp.) • From its birth in seventh-century Arabia, Islam has been a faith on the move. Over the span of a thousand years, armies, missionaries, and merchants carried it to the edges of Europe, the coasts of Southeast Asia, and the interior of China. *Worlds of Islam* narrates the 1,400-year story of how Muslims adapted to changing times and conditions from Late Antiquity to the digital age, emerged as a community, built empires, came to number in the billions, and became modern.





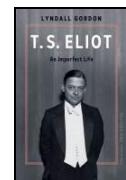
Augustus: First Emperor of Rome, Adrian Goldsworthy (Basic, \$40, 624 pp.) • Caesar Augustus created the Roman Empire and associated the name Caesar with power. Heir to Julius Caesar, he faced off against Brutus, and eventually Antony and Cleopatra. He was a military dictator who brought peace and prosperity laying the foundations of the Pax Romana. Goldsworthy weaves together military victories, political marriages, and senatorial power struggles, portraying Augustus as he was: noble and manipulative, giving and tyrannical, clever and cruel.

Carthage: A New History, Eve MacDonald (Norton, \$39.99, 368 pp.) For 600 years, Carthage dominated the western Mediterranean. At its height Carthage commanded one of the ancient world's greatest navies and controlled territory spanning the coast of northwestern Africa to Spain, Sicily, and beyond. *Carthage* is a dramatic tale from the other side of history revealing that, without Carthage, there would be no Rome, and no modern world as we know it.



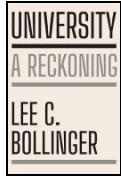
Evelyn in Transit, David Guterson (Norton, \$29.99, 256 pp.) • Evelyn Bednarz is easily bored, unsuited to life at school, and sees through conventions others take for granted. Meanwhile, in distant Tibet, a boy named Tsering, raised as a Buddhist monk in the mountains of Tibet, eventually becomes a high lama. Their lives are strangely linked, when a trio of Buddhist lamas show up at her door to announce that her five-year-old son, Cliff, is the seventh reincarnation of the Norbu Rinpoche, recently deceased. The lamas' visit sets off a family crisis and a media firestorm over Cliff's future.

The Discovery of Britain: An Accidental History, Graham Robb (Norton, \$34.99, 464 pp.) • Graham Robb's exploration of Britain through the ages peels back the layers of this island nation and shows how it came to be. We follow Robb as he travels along the paths of long-forgotten kings, down the ghost trails of Roman and Saxon streets. He recounts the epic stories of innovations and upheavals, from the creation of Stonehenge to the dawn of the railway, distilling a history of Britain that is at once panoramic and intimate, poignant and entertaining.



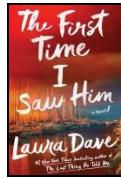
T.S. Eliot: An Imperfect Life, Lyndall Gordon (Norton, \$45, 688 pp.) • Lyndall Gordon explores the divide between Eliot as a saint and sinner, a man who conceived of a perfect life but, roiled by his own duplicity, antisemitism, and misogyny, had the honesty to admit that he could not meet it. *An Imperfect Life* unites the two halves—one of a disillusioned sophisticate, the other of a religious poet; one of a British citizen, the other of an American expatriate influenced by his Puritan forebears.

The Image of Her, Simone de Beauvoir (Yale, \$25, 208 pp.) • The final novel by Simone de Beauvoir is about Laurence whose life has the trappings of 1960s Parisian bourgeoisie: a handsome husband, two daughters, a lover, and a career as an advertising copywriter. Instead of happiness, Laurence chose to manifest the perfect image of wife, mother, homemaker, and career woman. It is only when she is torn by the needs of her family and jarred into recognition of her own predicament by the despair of her ten-year-old daughter, Catherine, that Laurence begins to resist the hand she has been dealt.



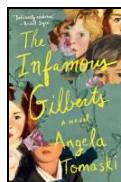
University: A Reckoning, Lee C. Bollinger (Norton, \$26.99, 176 pp.) • Lee C. Bollinger—former president of the University of Michigan and then Columbia University and an expert on the First Amendment—argues that the university is an institution vital to democracy and therefore a target for an authoritarian administration. Bollinger reveals how the structure of the university contributes to the success of the American system, and why that structure is vulnerable to outside attack: the university must be defended if the American experiment is to continue.

Football, Chuck Klosterman (Penguin, \$32, 304 pp.) • Which force shapes American life the most? There are two kinds of readers—those who know it's football and those who are about to find out. Cultural theorists talk about hyperobjects—phenomena so large that their true dimensions are hidden in plain sight. In 2023, 93 of the 100 most-watched programs on U.S. television were NFL football games. This is not an anomaly. Football is engrained in almost everything that explains what America is, even for those who barely pay attention.



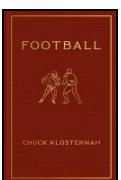
The First Time I Saw Him, Laura Dave (Scribner, \$29, 288 pp.) *The First Time I Saw Him* picks up where the epilogue for *The Last Thing He Told Me* left off. Five years after her husband, Owen, disappeared, Hannah Hall and her stepdaughter, Bailey, have settled in Southern California, with the past behind them. But when Owen shows up at Hannah's new exhibition, she knows that she and Bailey are in danger again. Hannah risks everything to get Bailey to safety—and finds there just might be a way back to Owen and their long-awaited second chance.

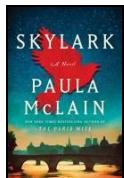
Opera Wars: Inside the World of Opera and the Battles for Its Future, Caitlin Vincent (Scribner, \$30, 304 pp.) • Caitlin Vincent deftly unravels clichés and presumptions, exposing such debates as how much fidelity is owed to long-dead opera composers whose plots often stir racial and gender sensitivities, whether there is any cure for typecasting that leaves talented performers out of work, and what explains the bizarre kowtowing of opera companies to the demands of traditionalist patrons. Vincent never shrinks from depicting the industry's top-to-bottom messiness and its stubborn resistance to change.



The Infamous Gilberts, Angela Tomaski (Scribner, \$27, 288 pp.) • Thornwalk, an English manor, has been taken over by a luxury hotelier. The reader is taken on a guided tour into rooms filled with secrets and memories, each revealing the story of the five Gilbert siblings. Spanning the eve of World War II to the early 2000s, this gothic novel weaves a rich tapestry of English country life where the echoes of an Edwardian idyll clash with the harsh realities of war, neglect, and changing times.

The Windsor Legacy: A Royal Dynasty of Secrets, Scandal, and Survival, Robert Jobson (Pegasus, \$29.95, 352 pp.) • From Elizabeth II to future King William, *The Windsor Legacy* explores the British monarchy's resilience and influence over the past century. From the abdication crisis, royal family entanglements, Cold War espionage, and scandalous love affairs to more recent constitutional crises and the monarchy's most closely guarded secrets and feuds, this narrative, is packed with exclusive revelations with a story as comprehensive as it is captivating.





Skylark, Paula McLain (Atria, \$30, 464 pp.) • 1664: Alouette Voland, the daughter of a master dyer, dreams of creating her own masterpiece. When her father is imprisoned, her efforts to save him lead to her confinement in the Salpêtrière asylum, where she discovers a group of allies, and the possibility of a life bigger than she ever imagined. 1939: Kristof Larson is a student in Paris, whose neighbors are a Jewish family. When Nazi forces enter the city, Kristof becomes their only hope for survival. *Skylark* chronicles two parallel journeys of defiance and rescue that connect in ways surprising and moving.



Field Guide to Falling Ill: Essays, Jonathan Gleason, Meghan O'Rourke (Foreword) (Yale, \$28, 256 pp.) • “What was wrong with them? That’s what we wanted to know.” So begins Jonathan Gleason’s collection of essays on the human lives behind the corporate, legal, and cultural practices that shape disease. In her foreword, Meghan O’Rourke, judge of the Yale Nonfiction Book Prize, writes that “illness is often framed as a crisis to endure or overcome. But as Gleason’s work reminds us, illness is also a way of knowing. His essays speak to the ways it connects us—to history, to culture, to one another.”

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