

Ladders & Fireplaces

Selections for Book Lovers from
Full Circle Bookstore



Editors: Kelly Jump & Libby Price

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The experience of democracy is like the experience of life itself—always changing, infinite in its variety, sometimes turbulent and all the more valuable for having been tested by adversity.

—Jimmy Carter

Dear Friends,

I had an exhilarating, perhaps never to be equaled (certainly never to be repeated), experience as a candidate for Mayor of Oklahoma City. Among the most extraordinary aspects of this unique process were the remarkable number of people who offered their support in the hope that I could somehow make Oklahoma City more like Full Circle! Ironically, the campaign experience has made me realize that perhaps I had less to do with what Full Circle has become than I have previously acknowledged.

While I spent four months on a somewhat obsessive quest for the eternal grail of elected office, Full Circle's staff seems to have become more effortless in their anticipation of customer needs, more conscientious in fulfilling requests, more creative in the design of events and displays—more consistently like I want them to be. How is this possible in the absence of my leadership?

From the beginning of my involvement with bookselling I have also had one or two other lives and, as a consequence, I have sought out committed competent managers who are also book people. Through much of that period that leadership has been provided by Connie Heppner as store manager and Susan Moore as floor manager, but when we relocated the store and expanded its services, it became evident that reinforcements were required. Since then Marcia Shottenkirk has become manager of marketing and events; Melissa Nelson has become periodicals manager; Lee Webb has become shipping and receiving manager and Morgan Spring has become night manager and interim café manager.

Each of these talented people has demonstrated special skills and a remarkable commitment that has allowed responsibility to be dispersed, service to be enhanced and the unique concept that Full Circle represents to be further refined.

If I were to learn nothing more from my recent adventure than to appreciate these exceptional people it might have been worth the effort but, in fact, of course this experience has made me a different person—one I think with a better understanding of my community, a deeper appreciation for my friends, and an even stronger commitment to the future of our city.

John Kennedy suggested, I will forgive my enemies but I will remember their names! At the end of this adventure, my mind is not burdened.

Jim Tolbert

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The Favored 50 books are chosen from across the store because of their proven (or anticipated) appeal to you and offered at a twenty-percent discount through June 2004.

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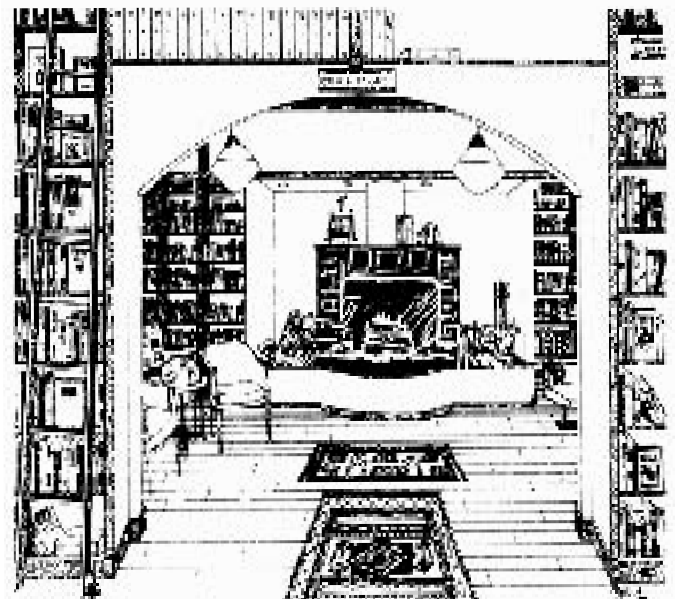
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•Calendar of Events

•www.fullcirclebooks.com



Fiction

***Eventide*, by Kent Haruf, Alfred A. Knopf, \$24.95 on sale at \$19.96.**

Kent Haruf's first new novel since *Plain-song* returns to the high plains around Holt, Colorado. When the McPherson brothers see the single mother they'd taken in move away to college, an emptiness opens before them, and for many other townspeople as well it promises to be a long, hard winter. But in a small town a great many people encounter one another frequently, often surprisingly, and destinies soon become entwined as they confront events that sorely test their resilience, with no shelter available except their own character.

***The Lucky Ones*, by Rachel Cusk, HarperCollins, \$24.95 on sale at \$19.96.**

The Lucky Ones is a novel about creating and sustaining life during times of great transformation. The five people whose lives converge here are also haunted by family—the longing for love, the struggle to connect. A young pregnant mother wrestles with utterly changed circumstances; a new father searches for a sign of the man he used to be; a daughter yearns for a lost childhood; and a mother reaches out to a child she can't fully understand. Accidental connections and overlapping relationships build a complex family portrait: all are linked by the elemental impact of children on adult lives.

***Aloft*, by Chang-rae Lee, Riverhead Books, \$24.95 on sale at \$19.96.**

Aloft offers a reexamination of the American dream from the inside out, through the voice of Jerry Battle, a suburban middle-aged man who has lived his entire life on Long Island, New York. Battle's favorite diversion is to fly his small plane solo; slipping away for quick flights from reality. Then a family crisis occurs, and Jerry finds he must face his disengagement in his relationships: with his deceased wife, the circumstances of whose death he has never fully accepted; with his former girlfriend; with his children, and with his father, whom he has placed in a nursing home. This portrait illuminates in an utterly fresh way what it means to be a father, husband, son, and lover.

Visit Time and Space Changes in Novels

***The Confession*, by Olen Steinhauer, St. Martin's Press, \$24.95 on sale at \$19.96.**

The Confession is just that, one Ferenc Kolyesar's "confession" about the work he did in a Hungarian regional state militia as a homicide detective. During the period of the major part of the book, 1956-59, Ferenc has to contend with three murders, one of them of his closest friend, Stefan. However, in his life with his wife Magda and daughter Agnes, he also was a writer with an earlier book about a soldier's life. He is also a writer of fiction—which he has a hard time concentrating on, and in fact at the beginning of his confession has had a bad case of writer's block.

One of the most interesting things about this novel is the insight it gives into the cultural life of Communist-led Balkan states like Hungary. Ferenc's boss is an old-line Communist who thinks his more poetic writing is trivial—he should be writing about dams!

The author did research on the labor camps in Bulgaria and other Balkan states under Communist rule so there is a vivid picture about these camps, one of which was run by a man who called his prisoners "my boys" and who seemingly lets them out of camp to commit murders. And indeed Ferenc himself manages to get committed to hard labor in such a camp—but is released in a move that is as political, as much of the maneuvering in the book.

For a "confession" that is supposed to be semi-public (as it turns out to be) there is a surprising amount of sexual detail, including the affair Ferenc has with Vera, Stefan's wife.

Once one is hooked by the plots and counterplots, *The Confession* becomes the "detective" thriller Steinhauer has become known for.

***The Swallows of Kabul*, by Yasmina Khadra, Doubleday, \$18.95 on sale at \$15.16.**

This short, in fact tiny, volume is both symbolism and a touching account of two men and their wives in Kabul, during tough times after Russia had invaded Afghanistan. It might seem to have no relevance for our involvement in the country, but does give a stark picture of Afghanistan under Taliban rule—the very low place women have in the Muslim fundamentalist state and the cruelty that is evidenced in public executions.

Atiq Shaukat is the part-time jailer in a region of Kabul. It is his job to take care of prisoners—most of them women—and preside at these public executions. Indeed a stoning of a prostitute in the opening scene; she is bound and gagged and put in a hole so she cannot move or fight back. Atiq is late because his wife Musarrat is quite ill.

The other protagonist is a sensitive student, Mohsen Ramat, who finds himself caught up with the mob mentality and stones the woman in the forehead. He is shaken by these feelings. His wife is the beautiful Zunaira who becomes a prisoner because people think she killed her husband, who fell and hit his head.

It is Zunaira who hides behind her bunga in public but wants to escape from it. In fact, it is the presence of these bungas which hide women in Taliban society, that become a symbol of oppression and cruelty.

Atiq tries to go along with his wife's hopes for him, but himself gets caught up in the mass hysteria of an execution of many disgraced women. But Zunaira seems to escape.

—Libby Price

***Apprentice to the Flower Poet Z.*, by Debra Weinstein, Random House, \$23.95 on sale at \$19.16.**

Apprentice to the Flower Poet Z. is about two women: Annabelle, an aspiring young poet from the suburbs, and Z., the celebrated mentor who tries to hold her back. It's no accident that their initials span the alphabet, as this hilarious book is about language, writing, and the appropriation of ideas. It is also about the high-wire relations between older and younger women, between reputation and aspiration.



***Little Children*, by Tom Perrotta, St. Martin's Press, \$24.95 on sale at \$19.96.**

Tom Perrotta's thirtyish parents of young children are a varied and surprising bunch living in that familiar world of suburbia. They all raise their kids in the kind of quiet suburb where nothing ever seems to happen—until one eventful summer, when a convicted child molester moves back to town, and two parents begin an affair that goes further than either of them could ever have imagined. Unexpectedly suspenseful, but written with the same rich feeling and dark humor of Perrotta's previous novels—*Joe College* and *Election*.

***Good Grief*, by Lolly Winston, Warner Books, \$18.00 on sale at \$14.40.**

Sophie Stanton feels far too young to be a widow, but after just three years of marriage, her wonderful husband, Ethan, succumbs to cancer. With the world rolling on, unaware of her pain, Sophie first locks herself in her house and lives on what she can buy at the convenience store in furtive midnight shopping sprees. When back at work, she shows up in her bathrobe and hides under displays in stores. Her boss suggests she takes a break, so she sells her house and moves to Oregon to live with her best friend, Ruth, and start over. Grief comes along, too—but with a troubled,

pyromaniac teen assigned to her by a volunteer agency, a charming actor dogging her and a new job prepping desserts at a local restaurant, Sophie is forced to explore the misery that has consumed her.

***Ibid: A Life*, by Mark Dunn, MacAdam/Cage, \$22.00 on sale at \$17.60.**

Don't shy away from Mark Dunn's new novel just because it's written entirely in footnotes. Dunn drags the footnote out of the dreaded depths of academia and turns it into an enjoyable and easy-to-read fictional biography of a three-legged philanthropist. *Ibid* is just as witty and creative as Dunn's *Ella Minnow Pea* and an extremely enjoyable read. —*Morgan Spring*

Historical Fiction

***The Birth of Venus*, by Sarah Dunant, Random House, \$21.95 on sale at \$17.56.**

The Birth of Venus is a tour de force, the first historical novel from one of Britain's most innovative writers of literary suspense. It brings alive the history of Florence at its most dramatic period, telling a compulsively absorbing story of love, art, religion, and power through the passionate voice of Alessandra who is not quite fifteen when her father brings a young painter back from northern Europe to decorate chapel walls in the family's Florentine palazzo. Alessandra is intoxicated by the painter's abilities, but their burgeoning relationship is interrupted when her parents arrange her marriage to a wealthy, much older man. Played out against the turbulent backdrop of political and religious rivalries in Florence, Alessandra's married life is a misery, except for the surprising freedom it allows her to pursue her attraction to the young painter and his art.

***The Forest Lover*, by Susan Vreeland, Viking, \$24.95 on sale at \$19.96.**

Set in British Columbia at the turn of the 20th century, Vreeland's latest novel once again allows us to enter the art-inspired world of another era. Vancouver-born painter Emily Carr has become known for her love of the natural world, and her pioneering efforts to preserve the primitive art of the indigenous cultures she loved. She should attract many new readers with this fulfilling novel. —*Connie Heppner*

Paperback Fiction

***Crackpots*, by Sara Pritchard, Mariner Original, paperback, \$12.00 on sale at \$9.60.**

This first time novel was the winner of the 2002 Bakeless Prize for fiction, selected by Ursula Hegi. An extension of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, the Bakeless Prizes launch the publication career of a poet, fiction writer, and creative nonfiction writer annually. *Crackpots* certainly heralds the debut of a skilled and sensitive storyteller. When we first meet Ruby Reese, she's a spunky kid in a cowgirl hat, tap-dancing her way through a slightly off-kilter 1950s childhood. With an insomniac mother and a demolitions-expert father, her entire family is what the residents of her small town would call "a bunch of crackpots." As Sara Pritchard deftly guides us through Ruby's story, from the present to the past and back again, a portrait of a remarkable woman emerges.



All books are subject to publisher delays, cancellations, and price changes beyond our control. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.

More Paperback Fiction

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, by Mark Haddon, Vintage, paperback, \$12.00 on sale at \$9.60.**

Christopher Boone is 15 years old, can recite every prime number up to 7,057, and screams when someone touches him. He refuses to eat brown or yellow foods. Christopher is autistic. He is also the main character of Mark Haddon's first novel, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. I initially picked up *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* because I doubted whether a non-autistic author could write an entire novel from an autistic teenage boy's point of view. Not only did Mark Haddon succeed at such a difficult task, but he did it with a finesse rarely seen in debut novels.

—Morgan Spring

***One Foot in Eden*, by Ron Rash, Picador USA, paperback, \$13.00 on sale at \$10.40.**

Winner of the Appalachian Book of the Year 2002, *One Foot in Eden* features Will Alexander who is the sheriff in a small town in southern Appalachia and knows that the local thug Holland Winchester has been murdered. The only thing is the sheriff can find neither the body nor someone to attest to the killing. This story is simply, almost elementally told through the voices of the sheriff, a local farmer, his beautiful wife, their son, and the sheriff's deputy.

***The Book of Illusions*, by Paul Auster, Picador USA, paperback, \$14.00 on sale at \$11.20.**

Six months after losing his wife and two young sons in an airplane crash, David Zimmer spends his waking hours mired in a blur of alcoholic grief and self-pity. Then, watching television one night, his interest is piqued in silent comedian Hector Mann who vanished from sight in 1929

and has been presumed dead for sixty years. He soon finds himself traveling around the world to research a book on this mysterious figure. After the book is published, he received an invitation to meet Hector in a small town in New Mexico. Zimmer hesitates, until one night a strange woman appears on his doorstep and makes the decision for him, changing his life forever.

Mystery/Suspense

***A Spectacle of Corruption*, by David Liss, Random House, \$24.95 on sale at \$19.96.**

Benjamin Weaver, the quick-witted pugilist turned private investigator, returns in David Liss's sequel to the Edgar Award-winning novel, *A Conspiracy of Paper*. Moments after his conviction for a murder he did not commit, at a trial presided over by a judge determined to find him guilty, Benjamin Weaver is accosted by a stranger who cunningly slips a lockpick and a file into his hands. In an instant he understands two things: Someone had gone to a great deal of trouble to see him condemned to hang—and another equally mysterious agent is determined to see him free. After his escape from eighteenth-century London's most notorious prison, Weaver must face another challenge: how to prove himself innocent of a crime when the corrupt courts have already shown they want only to see him hang.

***The Havana Room*, by Colin Harrison, Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, \$24.00 on sale at \$19.20.**

In Colin Harrison's latest book, Bill Wyeth, a New York City real estate attorney in his late thirties, seems to have it all: wife and son, a successful practice and all the benefits of wealth. Then in a devastating twist of fate, Wyeth loses everything and falls under the spell of

Allison Sparks, a sexy and complicated woman who manages a Manhattan steak house, whose bar is called the Havana Room. He tries to help Allison's friend do a "midnight" real estate transaction and finds himself snared by another's obsessions. In fact, it is the Havana Room itself that is really lethal, once one finds entrance to it.

***An Unpardonable Crime*, by Andrew Taylor, Hyperion, \$24.95 on sale at \$19.96.**

Winner of the 2003 Crime Writers' Association's Historical Dagger Award, *An Unpardonable Crime* comes to the U.S. trailing much critical acclaim from Great Britain. It starts in 1819 when two Americans arrive in London and strange things happen in the notorious Seven Dials district in London. It enmeshes a poor schoolteacher, Thomas Shield, with the fortunes of an American boy, Edgar Allen Poe, whose foster father brings him to Stoke Newington in Gloucestershire. It is a thrilling mixture of history (Poe's early days) with a love story and also a multi-layered literary mystery.

***Instruments of Darkness*, by Robert Wilson, Harcourt, Inc., paperback, \$14.00 on sale at \$11.20.**

Meet British expatriate Bruce Medway, a "fixer" for traders in an unwelcoming part of Africa once known as the White Man's Grave. Medway's work is tough, but never life-threatening—until he crosses paths with the mighty Madame Severnou. And the situation becomes even stickier when he is called to search for Steven Kershaw, a missing fellow expat. Against a backdrop of political disruption and endemic official corruption, Medway learns that nothing in Africa is what it seems and that those who seek the truth find out more than they wish to know.

Humor

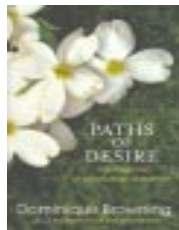
***We're Just Like You, Only Prettier: Confessions of a Tarnished Southern Belle*, by Celia Rivenbark, St. Martin's Press, \$19.95 on sale at \$15.96.**

Why couldn't the Sopranos survive living down South? Simple. You can't shoot a guy full of holes after eating chicken and pastry, spoon bread, okra, and tomatoes. What does a Southern woman consider grounds for divorce? When Daddy takes the kids out in public dressed in pajama tops and Tweety Bird swim socks. Again. In this wickedly funny follow-up to her bestselling *Bless Your Heart, Tramp*, Celia Rivenbark welcomes you, once again, to the south she loves, the land of "Mama and them's," "precious and dahlin," and mommies who mow.

Gardening

***Paths of Desire: The Passions of a Suburban Gardener*, by Dominique Browning, Simon & Schuster, \$24.00 on sale at \$19.20.**

When a retaining wall in Dominique Browning's New York suburban garden collapsed, she was forced into action. Here the editor-in-chief of *House & Garden* offers an enchanting account of making a garden—and confronting the essence of suburban gardening with its idiosyncratic ecosystem. Browning's delightfully frank prose conveys the very sense of being deep in a garden, with all its organic smells and textures, and the myriad joys of deciding what to plant and watching as the vision is realized. It contains a rich store of advice and illustrative anecdotes for enthusiasts and novices alike.



Nature

***A World of Butterflies*, photographs by Kjell Sandved, text by Brian Cassie, Bulfinch, \$22.50 on sale at \$18.00.**

This chunky small-format gift book—432 pages, hardcover—features exquisite full-page pictures of 200 butterflies from around the world, accompanied by text that is informative and engaging, including essays on butterfly migration, butterflies and environment, gardening, and watching and collecting butterflies. The selection of butterflies is arranged by location, from around the Arctic Circle to rainforests, woodlands, and deserts.

***Peterson Field Guides: The North American Prairie*, by Stephen R. Jones and Ruth Carol Cushman, Houghton Mifflin, paperback, \$20.00 on sale at \$16.00.**

The North American prairie extends across eighteen states—including Oklahoma—and provinces in the heartland of the United States and Canada, and many prairie preserves are an easy drive from large cities. This new field guide provides detailed profiles of 48 major North American prairie preserves and capsule descriptions of 120 smaller preserves. Each preserve profile includes practical information on what times of year to visit, how to get there, where to go hiking and camping—and even boating.

Cooking

***Desserts that Have Killed Better Men Than Me*, by Jeremy Jackson, William Morrow, \$14.95 on sale at \$11.96.**

The recipes in this collection pack a one-two butter-and-sugar punch. Chomp on Chocolate-Dipped Ranger Cookies or dive into a Chocolate Sinkhole. Don't be fooled by the simple ingredients and easy-to-follow directions. Jeremy's desserts are

not to be taken lightly. They're not for the faint of heart—or stomach. So suit up in a pair of elastic waist pants, arm yourself with a fork and a giant glass of milk, and prepare for battle.

***Bride & Groom First and Forever: A Cookbook*, by Mary Corpening Barber and Sara Corpening Whiteford, Chronicle Books, \$35.00 on sale at \$28.00.**

This beautiful cookbook is the perfect gift, offering happy couples a fresh, personally guided start in the kitchen. These former owners of Thymes Two Catering in San Francisco give couples the building blocks for cooking in a new home, including equipment basics, pantry essentials, and simple recipes for sauces, stocks, and marinades. Menus for major holidays and special occasions take the stress out of entertaining, whether it's for friends, coworkers, or the in-laws. Plus, there are great tips for cooking together—delicious meals that serve up fast when time is short.

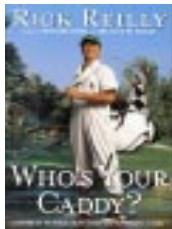


***Enjoy lunch
Monday through
Saturday at
The First Floor
Garden Café
featuring soup, salad,
and sandwich selections
from Restaurant Row
Catering.***

Sports

***Who's Your Caddy?*, by Rick Reilly, Random House, paperback, \$14.95 on sale at \$11.96.**

Sub-titled "Looping for the Great, Near Great and Reprobates of Golf," the *New York Times* bestseller is now out in paperback just in time for Father's Day. When sportswriter Rick Reilly figured out that he could learn a lot about the players and their game by caddying, some of the best golfers in the world agreed to let Reilly carry their bags at actual PGA and LPGA Tour events. To round out his portrait of the golfing life, Reilly also persuaded Deepak Chopra and Donald Trump to take him on as a caddy, accompanied the four highest-rolling golf hustlers in Las Vegas round the course, and carried the bag for a blind golfer. The result is a most original and entertaining look at golf.



***Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game*, by Michael Lewis, W.W. Norton, paperback, \$13.95 on sale at \$11.16.**

Moneyball is a quest for something that money apparently can't buy: the secret of success in baseball. It began when Lewis asked one question: How did one of the poorest teams in baseball, the Oakland Athletics, win so many games? Lewis discovers his answer in a cache of numbers collected over the years by a strange brotherhood of amateur baseball enthusiasts: software engineers, statisticians, Wall Street analysts, and physics professors. What these numbers show is that the traditional yardsticks of success for baseball are fatally flawed. This information has been around for years, and nobody inside Major League Baseball paid it any mind until Billy Beane, General Manager of the Oakland Athletics, came along. Michael Lewis answers his question and shows us how and why the new baseball knowledge works.

Business

***MBA in a Box: The Practical Guide to the Big Ideas of Business*, by Joel Kurtzman, Crown Business, \$34.95 on sale at \$27.96. DUE IN MAY.**

Journalist and business expert Joel Kurtzman has brought together today's best business thinkers to provide original and accessible perspectives on the subjects they know best. For example, Michael Milken, one of the great financial thinkers and innovators of the last 100 years, shows that finance is not just formulas and abstraction, but helps to sustain growth, build widespread wealth, and create jobs. From management and marketing to finance, strategy, leadership, and innovation, *MBA in a Box* covers all the bases and gets right to the heart of the ideas that make business tick.

***A Question of Blood: An Inspector Rebus Novel*, by Ian Rankin, Little Brown, \$22.95 on sale at \$18.36.**

John Rebus is back, in a procedural police detective novel, and this time he is his old self, with wise cracks to stave off his personal problems. And this time he has his partner back, DS Siobhan Clarke, as they work on the murder of two boys at Port Edgar Academy, in South Queensferry north of Edinburgh.

And for the first time, Siobhan becomes a real person. She is almost the major protagonist, as we see not only Rebus, but also the case they try to solve, through her eyes and reactions. She has never married (at one time had a love relationship with John Rebus, but now they are friends and colleagues) and has made her job her first love.

Not only were two boys killed at the school—they were in a kind of library, listening to records and escaping from soccer practice and the entire world—but another scholar was wounded and the first suspect in the case, Lee Herdman, was killed on the site. He was a petty criminal and owner of a boat rental place in Queensferry.

The wounded boy is James Bell, son of an MP from the area, Jack Bell, who goes public with a demand that guns be even more prohibited than they have been in Scotland since the incident at a school in Dumfries in the 90s. And one of the boys killed, Derek Renshaw, is the son of John's cousin Adam, which gives him a blood tie with the case.

There is also another death the partners have to deal with. Siobhan was being stalked by one Martin Fairstone, who has been found dead in his apartment, burned to death, and possibly a suicide. But since Rebus has burned hands (from scalding water in his bathtub) he is at first a suspect in the fire that destroyed Fairstone, an ex-con.

Since the South Queensberry murders are being handled in the Leith (a coastal area in northeast Edinburgh) office instead of the partners' HQ at St. Leonard's, they have considerable freedom to investigate both murders, since they are working under Bobby Hogan, a detective in the Leith office.

As a sad portent—end of Rebus novels ??—Rankin dedicates the book, "In memoriam, St. Leonard's CID." Let us hope not, as Rankin's latest is so popular at stores and libraries that it may well be on a best seller list. Or maybe Rebus goes somewhere else.

—Libby Price

Memoir

***A Million Little Pieces*, by James Frey, Anchor Books, paperback, \$13.95 on sale at \$11.16.**

“The Young Man came to the Old Man seeking counsel...It’s broken beyond repair. It’s in a million little pieces.” The compelling story of a man who enters rehab and then rejects the “proven cure,” finding hope in the people around him and readings from a copy of the “Tao te Ching,” a gift from his brother. I could say that it is the most brutally honest depiction of the line between life and death walked by an addict, however this is the first memoir of the experience I have read. It will not be necessary to read another.”

—Connie Heppner

***The Spiral Staircase: My Climb Out of Darkness*, by Karen Armstrong, Alfred A. Knopf, \$24.00 on sale at \$19.20.**

Karen Armstrong, author of the acclaimed books *The History of God* and *The Battle for God*, begins this spell-binding story of her spiritual journey with her departure in 1969 from the Roman Catholic convent she had entered seven years before—hoping, but ultimately failing, to find God. She knew almost nothing of the changed world to which she was returning, and she was tormented by panic attacks and inexplicable seizures. Finally, in 1976, she was diagnosed with epilepsy, given proper treatment, and released from her “private hell.” She then began the writing career that would become her true calling, and as she focused on the sacred texts of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, her own inner story began to emerge, and through this process she would eventually experience moments of transcendence—the profound fulfillment that she had not found in long hours of prayer as a young nun.

Women’s Studies

***Crazy Woman Creek: Women Rewrite the American West*, edited by Linda M. Hasselstrom, Gaydell Collier, and Nancy Curtis, Houghton Mifflin, paperback, \$14.00 on sale at \$11.20.**

This collection of prose and poetry about real women in the West features 153 women writing (prose and poetry) of how they shape and sustain their communities. Whether these groups are organized, imposed, or spontaneous, this collection shows that where women gather, anything is possible. Readers will encounter Buddhists in Nebraska, Hutterites in South Dakota, rodeo moms instead of soccer moms. Lively, heartfelt, and enduring, *Crazy Woman Creek* celebrates community—connections built or strengthened by women that unveil a new West.

Travel Literature

***Cork Boat*, by John Pollack, Pantheon Books, \$21.00 on sale at \$16.80.**

In the late 1990s John Pollack was working as a Washington speechwriter when, frustrated by the cynicism and hypocrisy on Capitol Hill, he quit his job to pursue a boyhood dream: to build a boat made entirely of wine corks and take it on an epic journey. Overcoming one obstacle after another, he convinces skeptical bartenders to save their corks, corrals a brilliant but disorganized partner, and eventually cajoles more than one hundred volunteers to help build the boat until their fingers bleed. Ultimately, Pollack completes his vessel of 165,321 corks and sets sail on a fantastic voyage down the Douro River in Portugal, where the Cork Boat becomes a national sensation.



Essays

***How To Be Alone*, by Jonathan Franzen, Picador USA, paperback, \$14.00 on sale at \$11.20.**

While the essays in this collection range in subject matter from the sex-advice industry to the way a supermax prison works, each one wrestles with the essential themes of Franzen’s writing: the erosion of civil life and private dignity; and the hidden persistence of loneliness in postmodern, imperial America. Reprinted here for the first time is Franzen’s controversial 1996 investigation of the fate of the American novel in what became known as “the Harper’s essay,” as well as his award-winning narrative of his father’s struggle with Alzheimer’s disease, and a rueful account of his brief tenure as an Oprah Winfrey author.

***Loud and Clear*, by Anna Quindlen, Random House, \$24.95 on sale at \$19.96.**

Bestselling author Anna Quindlen, a veteran reporter and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for commentary, couldn’t have picked a more apt title for her latest collection of columns from *Newsweek* and the *New York Times*. Whether or not readers agree with Quindlen’s opinions on everything from youth culture to gun control, these razor-sharp musings will open avenues of debate and discussion long after the book is closed. Quindlen is at the top of her game when she turns her eagle eye on the tiny threads that make up the fiber of domestic life...Quindlen’s columns speak for themselves, loud and clear.”

—*Publisher’s Weekly*

Oklahoma Books

***Machine Gun Kelly's Last Stand*, by Stanley Hamilton, University Press of Kansas, \$29.95 on sale at \$23.96.**

The abduction of Charles Urschel, an Oklahoma City businessman, (whose Heritage Hills home is still occupied) was a 1933 event that set off waves of crime all over the midwest in the gangster era. Hamilton recounts the man-hunt set up for George "Machine Gun" Kelly and his wife Kathryn, who were finally captured in Texas. It is a sober tale of true crime in the Depression era—and has as one of its characters a very young J. Edgar Hoover, who at 38 had become the head of the nation's biggest police force.



***Ramblin' Man: The Life and Times of Woody Guthrie*, by Ed Cray, W.W. Norton, \$29.95 on sale at \$23.96.**

With a Foreword by Chicago's Studs Terkel, this book tells of one of Oklahoma's greatest gifts to the country and its music. Some people charge Woody Guthrie with being a Communist because of his championship of poor people and his working class background. Yet he wrote songs that have become the kind that people sing, folksongs that define the country: "This Land is Our Land," "So Long It's Been So Good to Know You," and others. He was born in Okemah, which holds an annual Woody Guthrie Day still.

History

***Two Souls Indivisible: The Friendship That Saved Two POWs in Vietnam*, James S. Hirsch, Houghton Mifflin, \$25.00 on sale at \$20.00.**

James S. Hirsch recounts a remarkable friendship forged between two U.S. soldiers in one of the most harrowing settings

the twentieth century has ever produced—the North Vietnamese POW camp known as the Zoo. One prisoner, Fred Cherry, was a pioneering air force pilot and the first black officer captured by the North Vietnamese. The other was a young navy flier named Porter Halyburton, from a privileged southern background. The captors threw them into the same fetid cell, believing that their antipathy toward each other would break them both. But they overcame their misgivings and preconceptions and found common ground in this uncommon environment—a friendship in extremis that inspired many of their fellow prisoners.

***Before Lewis and Clark: The Story of the Chouteaus, the French Dynasty That Rules America's Frontier*, by Shirley Christian, Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, \$27.00 on sale at \$21.60.**

This history explores the wealthy, powerful, charming, and manipulative Chouteaus, the family that dominated business and politics in the Louisiana Purchase territory before the famous Lewis and Clark expedition, and for decades afterward. One of the best-known families in French America, the Chouteaus had guarded the gates to the West for generations and had built fortunes from fur trading, land speculation, finance, and railroads, and by supplying anything needed to survive in the region between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. Patrician in their origins, they nevertheless won the respect and allegiance of dozens of Indian tribes. From their St. Louis base, the Chouteaus conquered the more-than-two-thousand-mile length of the Missouri River, put down the first European roots at the future site of Kansas City and in present-day Oklahoma, and left their names and imprints on lands stretching to the Canadian border.

***Franklin and Winston: An Intimate Portrait of an Epic Friendship*, by Jon Meacham, Random House, \$29.95 on sale at \$23.96.**

This book is destined to become a bestseller among history buffs, an account of the friendship between Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Winston Churchill—although it was Hitler and his threats that brought them together, they remained friends through World War II although they had drifted apart during some of the later days of the war. Jon Meacham, managing editor of *Newsweek*, had access to new sources, including the unpublished letters of Lucy Mercer Rutherford to FDR; the papers of Pamela Churchill Harriman, and interviews with the few remaining people who were in the leaders' joint company during the historic times.

The two men had much in common, among them political and naval backgrounds. They had many secrets and secret meeting places—and often talked as much about their families as about the events they managed to make a part of history.

Inspiration/Religion

***The Light of Conscience: How a Simple Act Can Change Your Life*, by Bill Shore, Random House, \$22.95 on sale at \$18.36.**

An inspirational meditation on the power of conscience—how a simple act, a moment of purpose, can change your life, your community, even the world. We all struggle at times to know what to do to seek and abide our conscience—when right and wrong are not black and white, when heart and head speak with different voices, when our intentions and interests are not aligned. If you believe that the outcome of these struggles affects the course of your life, and the lives around you, then this book is for you.

Current Events/Politics

***America Unbound: The Bush Revolution in Foreign Policy*, by Ivo H. Daalder, Brookings Institution Press, \$22.95 on sale at \$18.36.**

This book explores how the Bush revolution in foreign policy carries with it high risks and possibly high costs. The authors argue that an America unbound by the need to convince others of the justice of its cause is an America that conveys an arrogance born of power rather than principle. Raw power alone is not enough to preserve and extend America's security and prosperity in the modern world. The United States often needs the help of others to meet the challenges it faces overseas. But Bush's revolutionary impulse has stirred great resentment abroad. At some point, Daalder and Lindsay warn, Bush could find that America's friends and allies refuse to follow his lead.

America will then stand alone—a great power unable to achieve its most important goals.

***Disarming Iraq*, by Hans Blix, Pantheon, \$24.00 on sale at \$19.20.**

The former director of the U.N. Inspection Commission gives his account of the search for weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and the events leading up to America's invasion and occupation of Iraq. He tells of his meetings with Tony Blair, Jacques Chirac, Colin Powell, and Condoleezza Rice. He conveys the frustrations, the tensions, the pressure and the drama as the clock ticked toward the fateful hour, the declaration of war in March 2003. Free of agendas of politicians and ideologues, Blix is a plainspoken, measured voice of reason in the debate about Iraq. He asks about the propriety and efficacy of the policies of preemptive attack and unilateral action.

Science

***Evolution: The Remarkable History of a Scientific Theory*, by Edward J. Larson, Modern Library, \$21.95 on sale at \$17.56. DUE IN MAY.**

In this brilliant and wide-ranging new history, Edward J. Larson tells the story of science's most revolutionary idea—a story that begins long before Darwin, with the emerging science of paleontology in the eighteenth century, and continues to the present day, as evolutionary science continues to move in sometimes startling direction. Larson attends to the full richness and diversity of evolutionary thought, and the controversies, battles, and discoveries that have propelled it over two hundred years. Telling the story through the lives of the key evolutionary scientists (and their opponents), Larson introduces us to a host of biologists, explorers, eccentrics, and innovators.

***Aristotle's Children: How Christians, Muslims, and Jews Rediscovered Ancient Wisdom and Illuminated the Dark Ages*, by Richard E. Rubenstein, Harcourt, \$27.00 on sale at \$21.60.**

Richard Rubenstein, a professor at George Mason University near Washington, D.C., has written a history of the course of philosophy and religious thought in the period before the so called Dark Ages, because of the finding of the writings of Aristotle, "The Professor" and philosopher in Athens just before the Christian era. The subtitle refers to a time late in the 12th century in Toledo, Spain, where representative scholars of the three mentioned religions got together to translate the writings of Aristotle, which had been found again after many centuries.

They had been given by Aristotle to his pupil, Theophrastus, who continued as director of the Lyceum Aristotle founded, who then passed them on to Neleus, who hid them in a cellar so that the military men dividing up Alexander's empire would not confiscate them. There they lay for another two hundred years and eventually ended up in the Muslim empire in the Middle East, found by accident and sent back to Athens. Then they were lost again until the 12th century, and translated by scholars of the three above religions.

Meanwhile Spain had become the European headquarters of the Christian (Roman Catholic) but also the Muslims who were left behind, and also the Jews who were cognizant of both Greek and Latin languages. The translation center, using the Aristotle writings found again in the 12th century remained in operation well through the 13th century.

Rubenstein calls his first chapter, "The Medieval Star Gate," because the writings became the explanation of logic and reason that, within the confines of Catholic thinking, set the stage for the merger of faith and reason in Western thought.

In succeeding chapters Rubenstein tells of Hypatia, a woman who was both a philosopher and mathematician, who because she was considered a pagan, was captured by a gang of Christians, tortured and killed; of Peter Abelard (of Abelard and Heloise) but much more. Abelard was a popular lecturer who drew students to him, first at the Cathedral of Notre Dame, and then at other universities and monasteries. He wrote the definitive treatise on "The Holy Trinity."

His other chapters tell of St. Thomas Aquinas and his adversaries, a classic debate at the University of Paris, the story of William of Ockham and the "Ockham's Razor" test which the author says arranged "the divorce of faith and reason," and then a final chapter on the legacy of Aristotle to the modern world and its thought.

—Libby Price

Children's Picture Books

***Duck for President*, written by Doreen Cronin, illustrated by Betsy Lewin, Simon & Schuster, \$15.95 on sale at \$12.76.**

From the *New York Times* best-selling creators of *Click, Clack, Moo* comes this hilarious first look at the world

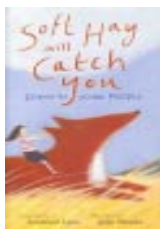


of politics. Here is a duck who began in a humble pond, who worked his way to farmer (because being a duck was too much work), to governor (because being a farmer was too much work), and now perhaps, to the highest office in the land, where he discovers that being a duck may not be so bad after all. For all ages.

Older Readers

***Soft Hay Will Catch You: Poems by Young People*, compiled by Sanford Lyne, illustrated by Julie Monks, Simon & Schuster, \$17.95 on sale at \$14.36.**

In this striking companion to *Ten-Second Rainshowers*, one hundred young people, from ages eight to eighteen, share their thoughts and feelings about the world they live in. These pages include poems about



friends and solitude, work and play, home and school, and the journey toward adulthood. Ranging in tone from funny to wise, from eloquent to irreverent to matter-of-fact, the original voices in this book demonstrate poetry's ability to express the triumphs, and soften the hardships, of everyday life.

***Messenger*, by Lois Lowry, Houghton Mifflin, \$16.00 on sale at \$12.80.**

Two-time Newbery Medal winner Lois Lowry presents a companion to her novels *The Giver* and *Gathering Blue*. Strange changes are taking place in Village. Once a utopian community that prided itself on its welcome to new strangers, Village will soon be closed to all outsiders. As one of the few people able to travel through the dangerous Forest, Matty must deliver the message of Village's closing and try to convince Seer's daughter to return with him before it's too late. For ages 12 and up.

***The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place*, by E.L. Konigsburg, Atheneum, \$16.95 on sale at \$13.56.**

Freshly rescued from a miserable experience at Camp Talequa, where she was housed with seven cruel cabin mates, twelve-year-old Margaret Rose Kane must confront a catastrophe brewing in her own backyard when she spends the remainder of her summer with her beloved great-uncles, Morris and Alexander. For the last forty-five years, the Uncles have been building three giant towers in their backyard from scrap metal and shards of glass and porcelain. But now, the city council has voted to have them destroyed. Margaret Rose is outraged. She knows the towers for what they truly are: irreplaceable works of art. And she is determined that they will stay that way. This companion story to the acclaimed *Silent to the Bone* is a rousing tale of art, history, and the fierce preservation of individuality. For ages 10 and up.

Gift Books

***Furry Logic: A Guide to Life's Little Challenges*, by Jane Seabrook, Ten Speed Press, \$9.95 on sale at \$7.96.**

Guaranteed to coax a smile from the grumpiest of grumps, *Furry Logic* is a little book with a big heart and sly humor.



Exquisitely detailed watercolor paintings depicting animals caught up in the joy and drudgery of life are paired with old adages given a new spin for our times. This is an ideal gift for Mother's or Father's Day, birthdays, graduations, or for no reason at all.

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Calendar of Events: April, May, June

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 4 AT 2 P.M.

Angel Hugs for Cancer Patients

Author LaDonna Meinders will be here for a booksigning and reception.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15 AT 7 P.M.

***The Strange History of Suzanne Lafleshe
(And Other Stories of Women and Fatness)***

Booksigning with editor Susan Koppelman.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24 AT 11 A.M.

Shaping Oklahoma

Booksigning with author Geneva Hudson.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24 AT 2 P.M.

Wt2 and Windmill

Readings from these University of Oklahoma journals.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24 AT 6 P.M.

Snakes: An Anthology of Serpent Tales

Booksigning with author Willee Lewis.

SATURDAY, MAY 1 AT 10:30 A.M.

***Visioning the 10 Steps to Designing
the Life of Your Dreams***

Booksigning with author Lucia Capacchione.

SUNDAY, MAY 2 AT 2 P.M.

***I Don't Know How to Cook Book: 300 Great
Recipes You Can't Mess Up***

Booksigning with author Mary-Lane Kamberg.

TUESDAY, MAY 4 AT 6:30 P.M.

***More than Wealth: Discovering Heart in Money
Management***

Booksigning with author Susan McCarthy.

THURSDAY, MAY 6 AT 7 P.M.

Peaceful Tomorrows

Booksigning and discussion with contributor Andrew Rice.

SATURDAY, MAY 15 AT 8 A.M.

Archer City Bus Trip

Call the bookstore to reserve your seat on this day trip to Larry McMurtry's "book town" Booked Up, Inc.

MONTHLY EVENTS

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

EVERY SATURDAY AT 10:15 A.M.

WOMEN'S BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

THIRD THURSDAY OF MONTH AT 7:00 P.M.

APRIL 15: *A Girl Named Zippy* by Haven Kimmel

MAY 20: *I Don't Know How She Does It* by Allison Pearson

JUNE 17: *To be announced.*

FULL CIRCLE & IAO FINAL SUNDAY

POETRY READING AT 2 P.M.

LIVE MUSIC IN THE CAFE

SATURDAY NIGHTS AT 7 P.M.

BOOK CATERING

Look for Full Circle Bookstore at the following events around town—

Sarkeys Law Center at UCO, Booksigning for Philip Bobbitt, author of *The Shield of Achilles: War, Peace and the Course of History*, April 5.

Marriott Northwest, booksigning for Richard Florida, author of *The Rise of the Creative Class*, to benefit the DaVinci Institute, April 6 at 6 p.m. (For ticket information, call 974-3782.)

OCU Distinguished Poet Series featuring Li-Young Lee, April 7 at 7 p.m.

If you or your organization are bringing in an author for an upcoming special event, Full Circle Bookstore may be able to enhance your event by supplying the author's books for purchase on site. Call Marcia Shottenkirk at 842-2900 for more information.

www.fullcirclebooks.com

Oklahoma Book Awards

The 2004 Oklahoma Book Awards were presented last month at the Petroleum Club in Oklahoma City. Oklahoma City mystery author Carolyn Hart received the 2004 Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award. She is the author of 35 novels with more than 2.5 million copies of her books in print. Hart is the first author to win all three major mystery awards for her novels—the Agatha, the Anthony, and the Macavity awards—and has won each award twice. Hart's newest novel *Letter from Home*—a finalist for the fiction award—has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

Lynn Riggs was the recipient of the 2004 Ralph Ellison Award. She is probably best known as the author of *Green Grow the Lilacs*, the play that Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein used as the basis for their groundbreaking musical *Oklahoma!*

The winner in the Fiction category was *Song of the Bones* by Marcia Preston; and the Non-Fiction Award went to *Lizards: Windows to the Evolution Diversity*, by Laurie J. Vitt and Eric P. Planka. Laura Opol's *Crossing the Ladder of Sun* won the Poetry Award.

Grady's in the Silo by Una Belle Townsend received the Children's Award while *S is for Sooner*, illustrated by Kandy Radzinski, was presented with the Illustration Award. The Young Adult Award was given to *The Painters of Lexieville* by Sharon Darrow. Finally, the Design Award was given to *Family Album: A Centennial Pictorial of the Oklahoma Publishing Company*, designed by Scott Horton.

Archer City Bus Trip

Full Circle once again returns to the book-filled town of Archer City, Texas to visit Larry McMurtry's Booked Up, Inc. Many friends of Full Circle have had the opportunity to browse the endless shelves of books in the buildings lining downtown Archer City.

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