

NORTHSHIRE READING GROUPS
2 NEW reading groups in May:



The Dark Side Reading Group
May 18, 1 pm with Alden Graves: *Triangle: The Five That Changed America* by David Von Drehle (\$15 pb)



Mystery & Thriller Reading Group
May 19, 2 pm with Sarah Knight & Louise Jones: *Vanishing Act* by Thomas Perry (\$7.99)

For information about other ongoing groups & to enroll, email Nancy:

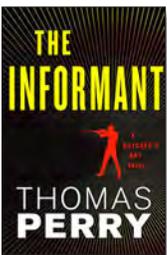
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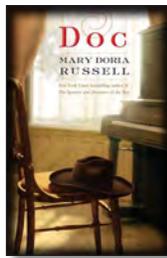
FICTION

NEW HARD COVER



The Informant by Thomas Perry (\$27). This third Butcher's Boy novel is everything you expect from the superb Edgar-winner Perry: intricate plot,

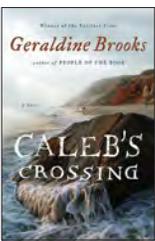
existential questions of identity, witty dialogue, pace that leaves you breathless, well-crafted characters, believable technology, a protagonist with no redeeming qualities that you root for. I loved it! –Louise Jones



Doc by Mary Doria Russell (\$26). A retelling of the story of Doc Holliday from the perspective of a cultural anthropologist, with Dodge City the Petri dish under Russell's literary microscope. The novel starts simply, dryly examining Doc's life, but soon you're dragged into the story with him and the Earp brothers. –Erik Barnum

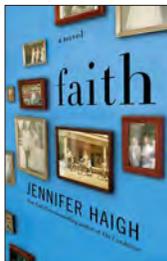


The Terrible Privacy of Maxwell Sim by Jonathan Coe (\$26.95). A brilliant tragic-comic tale of a middle-aged man whose life slowly unravels as he drives from London to the Shetland Islands. Each stop along the way reveals something about his past or his identity, driving him closer to the brink of madness. A fantastic novel. –Stan Hynds



Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks (\$26.95). Set on Nantucket and in Cambridge, Massachusetts during the 17th century, sweeping ambitions

and a passionate intent are apparent on every page. As in her earlier work, Brooks intertwines her skill as a novelist with an historian's finite attention to the details of time and place. –Alden Graves



Faith by Jennifer Haigh (\$25.99). The delicate interrelationships in an Irish Catholic family are pushed to the breaking point when the eldest son, a priest,

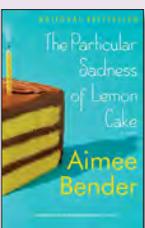
is accused of child molestation. An emotionally potent and still topical examination of the destructive power of an accusation, eliciting sympathy for these embattled souls. –Alden Graves



The Fallen Angel by David Hewson (\$25). When an English academic working in Rome falls to his death, the police must determine the cause. In this

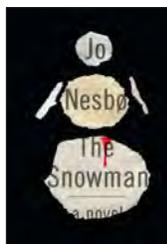
many layered, well-crafted ninth Nic Costa mystery, Hewson works Roman history and the city itself into the fabric of the investigation. An excellent read. –Louise Jones

NEW PAPERBACK



The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake by Aimee Bender (\$15). How these characters shape their lives around a special gift makes them different. Rose is cursed/

blessed with the ability to taste the emotions of the person who made her food. A fascinating, complex tale that makes this alternate reality believable and poignant. –Karen Frank



The Snowman by Jo Nesbo (\$25.95). He kills at the first snow of each year and leaves a snowman. He only kills women who are mothers. Will

Oslo Detective Inspector Harry Hole catch the killer or succumb to this evil? Excellent and scary. –Sarah Knight



What You See in the Dark by Manuel Munoz (\$23.95). A murder in the dusty and depressed town of Bakersfield, California coincides

with the filming of location scenes for Psycho. The characters include a hunky bartender, his lovelorn mother, an innocent young woman, Janet Leigh and Alfred Hitchcock. Totally original, intriguing and ambiguous. –Alden Graves



The Summer Without Men by Siri Hustvedt (\$14). After poet Mia Fredricksen's husband leaves her, she flees Manhattan to her Minnesota hometown, where she's enveloped by her aged mother and five women friends, an unhappy young mother, seven teenage girls studying poetry. An insightful rumination on places where the sexes and generations rub shoulders. –Louise Jones

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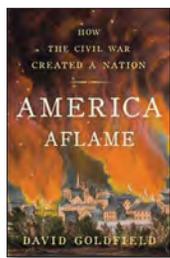


Skoy Earth Friendly Cloths, 4-pack, 100% biodegradable (\$8.95). I love these. I use them for cleaning, wiping, doing dishes. To wash, just throw them in with the laundry; they dry out quickly. –Krysta Piccoli

NONFICTION

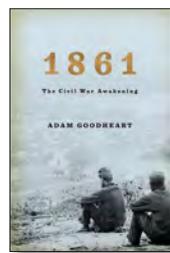
MAY

NEW HARDCOVER



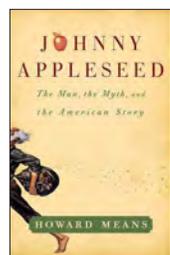
America Aflame: How the Civil War Created a Nation by David Goldfield (\$35). Thought provoking study that seeks to explain why the Civil War was unnecessary.

The research and writing are excellent - though discerning readers may not agree with the author's premises. Stimulating. -Bill Lewis



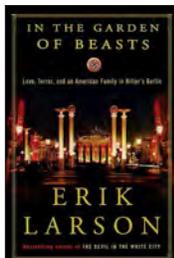
1861: The Civil War Awakening by Adam Goodheart (\$28.95). A remarkably successful piece of history writing that powerfully conveys

the cultural mood of the country as the war approached. Splendid writing, crammed with fascinating info, and feeling at times like very good time-travel. -Bill Lewis



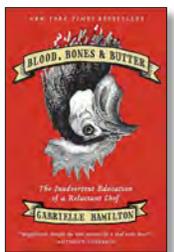
Johnny Appleseed: The Man, the Myth, the American Story by Howard Means (\$26). We hope this juicy biography gets to the core of the man, peels away generations of

myth and sows the seeds for further learning. Worm your way into this polished looking work and let us know if it's rotten, delicious or even saucy. -Bill Lewis



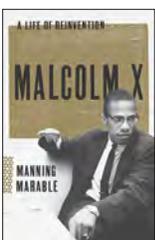
In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin by Erik Larson (\$26). Engrossing and intimate look at the calculated

formulation of murder and terror as official state policy, told from the standpoint of William Dodd, appointed ambassador to Germany in 1933 by FDR. -Alden Graves



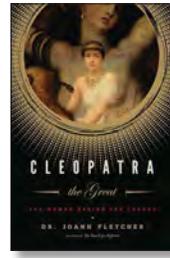
Blood Bones and Butter: The Inadvertent Education of a Reluctant Chef by Gabrielle Hamilton (\$26). Hamilton, chef/owner of New

York City's restaurant Prune, grew up living and loving food. Her life has been heavily influenced by her passion for eating, cooking and creating memorable meals - and writing. This book is a culmination of both her loves! -Liz Barnum



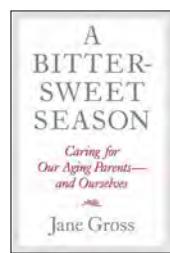
Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention by Manning Marable (\$30).

This tremendous biography traces X's journey from pimp to an Iranian postage stamp - telling a truly American story of crime, music, belief and the fraught struggle for equality. -Charles Bottomley



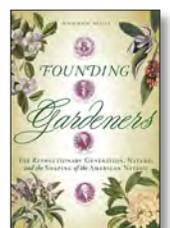
Cleopatra the Great: The Woman Behind the Legend by Joann Fletcher (\$27.99). Cleopatra nearly succeeded in restoring the Ptolemaic Empire

to its former glory. Fletcher makes the life and times of one of history's most important women come vibrantly alive. A uniquely detailed look at a complex, volatile world half hidden in myth and legend. -Alden Graves



A Bittersweet Season: Caring for Our Aging Parents - and Ourselves by Jane Gross (\$26.95).

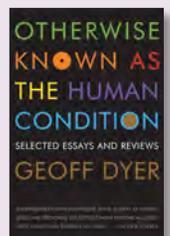
Through her personal experiences, Gross offers advice, answers questions and helps unravel dealing with nursing homes, assisted living, Medicare and Medicaid, exploring the family dynamics in these situations. Compassionate, honest, informing and comforting! -Liz Barnum



Founding Gardeners: The Revolutionary Generation, Nature, and the Shaping of the American Nation by Andrea Wulf (\$30). Washington,

Adams, Jefferson and Madison believed agriculture was the noble basis of democracy. In their lives and writing, their obsession with it shaped their political philosophies. Literate and fascinating look at our founders. -Louise Jones

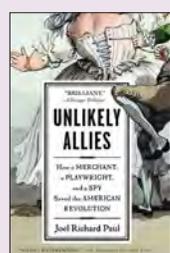
NEW PAPERBACK



Otherwise Known as the Human Condition: Selected Essays and Reviews by Geoff Dyer (\$18). A man who both knows everything and the right way to say it, Dyer can make jazz fusion seem as interesting as the Olympics or donuts. There is no higher achievement. -Charles Bottomley

Animal Factory by David Kirby (\$17.99). Finally, a book about the direct negative impact of factory farms on people, their communities and the environment. It doesn't discuss animal welfare issues, but instead focuses on three different people and their battles with the CAFOs that come to their communities. -Krysta Piccoli

The Last Hero: A Life of Henry Aaron by Howard Bryant (\$16.95). The major league leader in career runs batted in and one of the greatest home run hitters in history, Aaron endured slight after snub throughout his career. A comprehensive look at a man and ball player who may just deserve the designation of hero. -Stan Hynds



Eaarth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet by Bill McKibben (\$14.99). This book, which uses Vermont as a sustainability model, should be required reading for everyone, showing that we're not saving our children anymore, we're saving ourselves. -Krysta Piccoli

Unlikely Allies: How a Merchant, a Playwright, and a Spy Saved the American Revolution by Joel Richard Paul (\$16). In 1776 the Continental Congress sent Silas Dean to France to plead Louis XV for financial aid. He was assisted by two Frenchmen but ran into more double-dealing, back-stabbing, dishonesty and fraud than he - or anyone - could imagine. An eye-opening book, well-researched and entertaining. -Louise Jones

