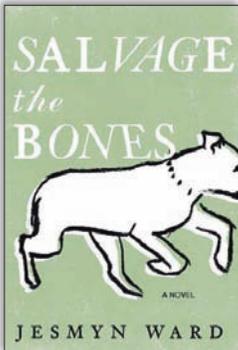


# Staff Picks

September 2011

Favorite  
BOOK  
Reviews



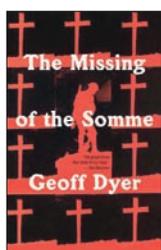
# SEPTEMBER FEATURE

*Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward (\$24hc). Written with a rare and exhilarating power and depth of feeling, this novel about twelve days in the life of a poor black family on the Mississippi coast as Hurricane Katrina gathers displays the gifts of a fearless writer of exceptional skill. The characters seem almost to claw their way off the pages. A novel of flesh and blood, heart and soul, dreams and terrors. –Stan Hynds

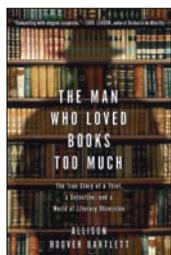
Jesmyn Ward is a wonder. In this powerful, absorbing yet poignant novel, the pacing is breathtaking, the tension all-consuming, the characters unforgettable. –Louise Jones

## NONFICTION

### NEW PAPERBACK

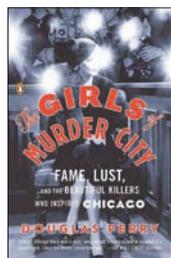


*The Missing of the Somme* by Geoff Dyer (\$14.95). Like Malcolm Gladwell, Dyer finds connections we didn't even know were there before. Drawing on photos, poetry, architecture and much more, this is a World War I history unlike any other. –Charles Bottomley



*The Man Who Loved Books Too Much* by Allison Hoover Bartlett (\$15). Was it book love or lust – John Gilkey's obsession with owning rare books he couldn't

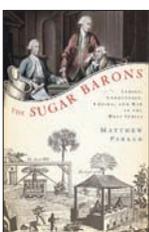
afford? Fresh out of prison, he confided in Bartlett about his thieving ways; she also interviewed the equally obsessive dealer who tracked Gilkey down. A delight for book lovers. –Louise Jones



*The Girls of Murder City* by Douglas Perry (\$16). You can almost hear champagne corks popping in counterpoint to the machine gun fire in this atmospheric revisit to the Jazz Age.

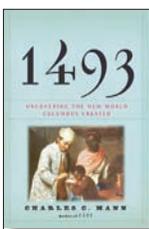
The book's two protagonists were immortalized in the 1940 Ginger Rogers movie, *Roxy Hart* and later the Broadway musical and subsequent film, *Chicago*. –Alden Graves

### NEW HARDCOVER



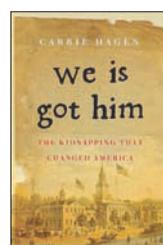
*The Sugar Barons: Family, Corruption, Empire, and War in the West Indies* by Matthew Parker (\$30). A rousing and compelling trifecta of brilliant

research, excellent writing and a very powerful story. You'll finish it quickly, enthusiastically recommend it, always remember it. Highest recommendation. –Bill Lewis



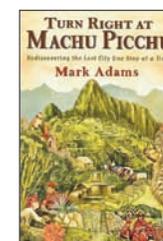
*1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created* by Charles C. Mann (\$30.50). Globalization actually began more than 500 years ago

when germs, plants, animals, technologies and people swept across hemispheres and onto continents – and it continues today. Fact: 80% of immigrants to the western hemisphere from 1500 to mid-1800s were African. Mann at his most engaging. –Bill Lewis



*We Is Got Him: The Kidnapping that Changed America* by Carrie Hagen (\$27.95). Two young boys disappear from their suburban Philadelphia front

yard on a hot July day in 1874. It would prove to be the first kidnapping for ransom in American history. This is a gripping and expertly researched account of a complex and momentous crime. –Alden Graves



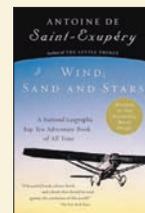
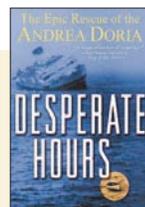
*Turn Right at Machu Picchu* by Mark Adams (\$26.95). Love to visit Machu Picchu but short on time and money? Want to hike in the Andes

but not really in shape? Read this book! Splendid combination of biography, history and travel journal. Not a single dull page. –Bill Lewis

### OLD FAVORITES

*Desperate Hours: The Epic Rescue of the Andrea Doria* by Richard Goldstein (\$19.95pb). The rescue of more than two thousand people on a severely listing ocean liner in a dense fog at night provides gripping reading. This is an exactingly researched account of one of the last century's most momentous – and highly public – disasters. –Alden Graves

*Wind, Sand and Stars* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery (\$13.95 pb). One of the most popular aviation books ever written, this classic captures the romance, exhilaration and danger of the early days of flying. Death-defying true-life adventure writing combine with deeply philosophical passages to create a memoir unlike any other. –Stan Hynds



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S** *The Conspirator* (\$29.98 dvd). For all of its dogged air of self importance, Robert Redford's handsome film about the arrest and trial of Mary Surratt, who ran the boardinghouse in Washington where John Wilkes Booth's co-conspirators met, is involving and absorbing, with a meticulous attention to detail. –Alden Graves



### USED BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

Find many titles - & much more for kids - on our Children's floor!!

**UNDER \$5!**



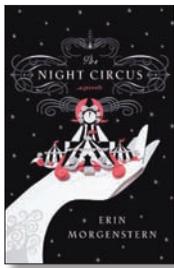
### FAVORITE THINGS

*Hooking Razor* (\$10.95 box of 4).

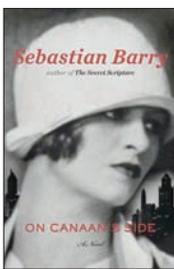
These are perfect for college students or those who travel often: they hook onto showerheads or caddies so you don't have to worry about what your razor is touching. The best part? Remove the razor blades and they're recyclable! –Jessica Krawczyk

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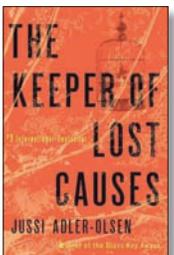
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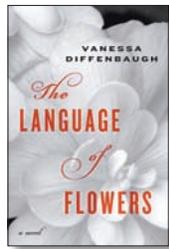
*Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern (\$26.95). A dazzling, beguiling, suspenseful literary debut, concerning a magician who trains his daughter in the mystic arts to compete with another magician who is training his own pupil. The two neophytes fall in love. An exquisitely written fable and love story. Completely irresistible. –Erik Barnum. Available September 13.



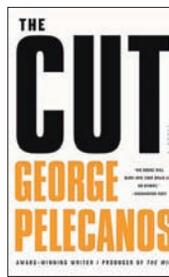
*On Canaan's Side* by Sebastian Barry (\$25.95). A very different Irish emigration novel that builds a subtle story around Lilly's recollections. Told during a mere seventeen days, the plot shimmers and hovers as the pieces of her past start to fall into place for the reader. Fascinating subtext. –Karen Frank



*The Keeper of Lost Causes* by Jussi Adler-Olsen, trans. from the Danish by Tiina Nunnally (\$25.95). In this U.S. debut of Denmark's most popular mystery writer, prickly, contentious Copenhagen homicide detective Carl Morck is assigned to head a cold case unit, leading to an investigation into the five year-old disappearance of a politician. Excellent character development, twisty plot, a terrific read. –Louise Jones



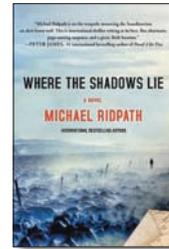
*The Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh (\$25). This very special novel concerns the life of a young girl who has just turned 18 and failed in the foster care system. She as well as the other characters are ultimately healed and enriched by the fascinating world of Victorian communication through flowers. –Karen Frank



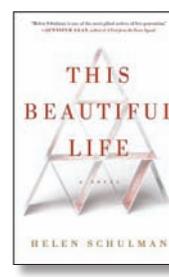
*The Cut* by George Pelecanos (\$25.99). The superb Pelecanos introduces a new crime series featuring Spero Lucas, an Iraq War vet now an investigator for a defense attorney. As usual, Pelecanos writes an intriguing, complex story set against his familiar Washington D.C.'s tangled social, political and cultural past and present. –Louise Jones



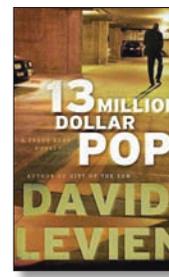
*I Married You for Happiness* by Lily Tuck (\$24). Nothing short of genius, this is my favorite novel of 2011 - an intimate, honest, brave portrayal of a 40-year imperfect marriage between a painter and an accomplished mathematician. Original. Poetic. Stunning. Radiant. But not for the weak of heart. –Nancy Scheemaker



*Where the Shadows Lie* by Michael Ridpath (\$24.99). On "loan" to the Icelandic Police Department while waiting to testify against a Boston drug cartel, unorthodox Detective Magnus Jonson investigates the murder of a professor, involving a 1000 year-old ring, an ancient saga and elves. A well-written thriller. –Sarah Knight



*This Beautiful Life* by Helen Schulman (\$24.99). A scandalous online video threatens to tear a family apart. To be read in one sitting, this novel rips into the American dream with uncanny accuracy and fierce passion. –Charles Bottomley



*Thirteen Million Dollar Pop* by David Levien (\$24.95). A tough, gritty crime novel featuring Frank Behr, a former Indianapolis cop now a PI, caught between his independent moral code and official indifference to a suspicious killing. An exciting, fast-paced read. –Louise Jones

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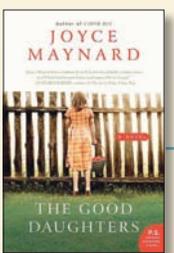
**Northshire Cookbook Reading Group BEGINS SEPT 13<sup>TH</sup>** at 6 PM at the Inn at Manchester. Members will prepare recipes from *Dishing Up Vermont: 145 Authentic Recipes from the Green Mountain State*, Tracey Medeiros (\$19.95 pb).

**9/12 Northshire Women Read *Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter***, Tom Franklin (\$14.99 pb)  
**9/15 Mystery & Thriller Group *Nemesis***, Jo Nesbo (\$14.99 pb)  
**9/20 History Group *Citizens of London: The Americans Who Stood with Britain in Its Darkest, Finest Hour***, Lynne Olson (\$17 pb)  
**9/21 Dark Side Reading Group *The Johnstown Flood***, David McCullough (\$16 pb)

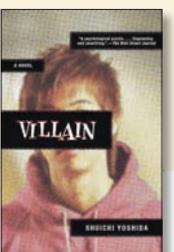
**NORTHSHIRE READING GROUPS**

For info or to sign up contact Nancy at [nscheemaker@northshire.com](mailto:nscheemaker@northshire.com)

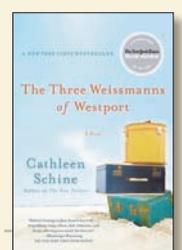
N E W P A P E R B A C K



*The Good Daughters* by Joyce Maynard (\$14.99). Great story! I couldn't stop reading about these "birthday sisters" - how their lives intertwined and diverged. Family dynamics are cleverly woven throughout, and the 1960s rural New Hampshire setting was familiar and comforting. –Karen Frank



*Villain* by Shuichi Yoshida (\$15.95). A shocking why-dunnit, a bizarre romance and a breathless race against time. A great mystery, sure, but Yoshida also looks deeply into a nation which has lost its soul. –Charles Bottomley



*The Three Weissmanns of Westport* by Cathleen Schine (\$14). Witty, delightful, insightful, charming. The two Weissmann sisters accompany their mother – dumped by their father for a younger woman – from upscale Manhattan to a shoddy Connecticut beach house and romantic complications ensue. A delightful take on Jane Austen. –Louise Jones

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