

AFTER, by **Claire Tristram** (FSG, \$20, 0374103909)

“What makes this novel so stunning is not just the topicality of its subject or the fine, controlled eroticism of its writing. It’s the author’s intelligence in addressing what’s so hard to address—political violence as the great destroyer of human individuality; sexual confrontation as its knife-blade edge; decency, desire, solidarity, and self-knowledge as the values at risk.”—**Pam Rosenthal, Modern Times Bookstore, San Francisco, CA**



MAY ✨ **2004**

ANTONIO'S WIFE, by **Jacqueline DeJohn** (Regan Books, \$24.95, 0060558008) “Fiery Neapolitan diva Francesca Frascatti is engaged to sing *Tosca* in New York in the 1908 season. Francesca, however, has an agenda: She’s consumed with regret over having given up her baby, Maria Grazia, on the road from slums to stage and wishes to find her and make amends. An intense look at the immigrant experience during the Gilded Age.”—**Barbara Peters, The Poisoned Pen, Scottsdale, AZ**



MAY ✨ **2004**

EMMA BROWN: A Novel From the Unfinished Manuscript by Charlotte Bronte, by **Clare Boylan** (Viking, \$25.95, 0670032972) “Charlotte Bronte’s fans will be delighted with Clare Boylan’s *Emma Brown*, a work developed from 20 pages of an unfinished Bronte manuscript. Boylan has captured Bronte’s voice and creates wonderful characters and an intriguing mystery.”—**Betty Wooten, Bohannon’s Books With a Past, Georgetown, KY**



MAY ✨ **2004**

USEFUL GIRL, by **Marcus Stevens** (Algonquin, \$24.95, 1565123662) “Marcus Stevens skillfully weaves past and present, truth and imagination, in his new book. The story of Erin Douglass and Charlie White Bird, how they meet, become lovers, and, then, try to rise above stereotypes in today’s culture is beautifully layered with the story of a young Cheyenne girl, Moehae, who lived 100 years before them.”—**Barbara Theroux, Fact & Fiction, Missoula, MT**



MAY ✨ **2004**

BLUE BLOOD, by **Edward Conlon** (Riverhead, \$26.95, 1573222666) "Conlon is a great storyteller, and this is the quintessential 'cop book.' Readers will share the street cop's front-row seat in the theater of life. Along with his war stories, Conlon give us fascinating bits of history, social commentary, and a bit of the dark side of his life as one of New York's Finest. Highly recommended!"
—**Rita Moran, Apple Valley Books, Winthrop, ME**



MAY ✨ 2004

THE DEVIL'S HIGHWAY: A True Story, by **Luis Alberto Urrea** (Little, Brown, \$24.95, 0316746711) "This is the gripping, true account of 26 men who tried to cross the U.S. border from Mexico into the Arizona desert. Woven into their story are the purely human issues of all those involved with illegal immigration. This is a fascinating, evenhanded look at a complicated social issue."—**Carol Schneck, Schuler Books & Music, Okemos, MI**



MAY ✨ 2004

THE GEESE OF BEAVER BOG, by **Bernd Heinrich** (Ecco, \$24.95, 0060197455) "Bernd Heinrich has the most amazing powers of nature observation. His newest book had me falling in love with some very personable geese, taking sides in their courtship and nesting battles, rooting for the success of their eggs, and, once again, coming away in awe of nature's places and denizens as seen through the eyes of an engaged and engaging observer."—**Donna Urey, White Birch Books, North Conway, NH**



MAY ✨ 2004

IN THE LAND OF TEMPLE CAVES: Notes on Art and the Human Spirit, by **Frederick W. Turner** (Counterpoint, \$26, 158243266X) "Frederick Turner—author of eight books of nonfiction and fiction—jolted by the events on 9/11, returns to France to revisit and contemplate art at its source: the caves of the Dordogne region. Turner writes of his travels and his findings, reaffirming art's central place in nourishing the human spirit. A beautifully written book."—**Deon Hilger, The King's English, Salt Lake City, UT**



MAY ✨ 2004

THE LAST BEST LEAGUE: *One Summer, One Season, One Dream*, by Jim Collins (Da Capo, \$24, 0738209015) “The Cape Cod league has been a launching pad for many major league baseball players and is therefore where the best college players in the country hope to play each summer. Collins was there in 2002, and—as only the best sportswriters can—he beautifully captures the character of the time and place and the players.”—**Stan Hynds, Northshire Bookstore, Manchester Center, VT**



MAY * 2004

THE MIRACLE DETECTIVE: *An Investigation of Holy Visions*, by Randall Sullivan (Atlantic Monthly, \$25, 0871139162) “This is a compelling investigation into the phenomenon of Virgin Mary sightings around the world. Sullivan writes with great thought and insight.”—**Emery Pinter, Chapter 11, Atlanta, GA**



MAY * 2004

MY FAMOUS EVENING: *Nova Scotia Sojourns, Diaries, and Preoccupations*, by Howard Norman (National Geographic, \$20, 0792266307) “Norman shares his passions and anecdotes, selecting those that best give voice to his spiritual hometown of Halifax, Nova Scotia. In so doing, he thrills with a tale of Leon Trotsky’s arrest, chills with the story of a woman’s quest to attend a Joseph Conrad reading, and delights with his own stay at Sam Shepherd’s house. You will feel the land’s pulse and hear the wind’s whisper thanks to his accomplished hand!”—**Todd Morgan, DIESEL—A Bookstore, Oakland, CA**



MAY * 2004

PULL ME UP: *A Memoir*, by Dan Barry (Norton, \$24.95, 0393049604) “Barry’s parents were people who sacrificed and hid (or at least attempted to hide) such pains as the effects of war and displacement as they strove to shield their children from those forces. Moved to connect with his parents and to understand the very things they tried to protect him from, Barry shows us the true joys of childhood mingling with his own struggles and trials, and tells a story that is affecting and funny.”—**Jean Riescher Westcott, Olsson’s Books & Records, Arlington, VA**



MAY * 2004

SIXPENCE HOUSE: *Lost in A Town Of Books*, by Paul Collins (Bloomsbury, \$13.95 paper, 1582344043) "Paul Collins' account of his time in Hay-on-Wye, the wacky little Welsh town, conveys all the charm (and the idiosyncrasies) that make this 'Town of Books' one of the world's special places. He reveals the extraordinary nature of a place of pilgrimage—boasting 1,400 souls and 40 bookstores—which attracts bibliophiles from all over the English-speaking world. This is a rare bit of Welsh and I recommend it with relish."—**Susan Avery, Ariel Booksellers, New Paltz, NY**



MAY ✨ 2004

SHOW ME THE WAY: *A Memoir in Stories*, by Jennifer Lauck (Atria Books, \$24, 0743476387) "I could read Jennifer Lauck all day and night. Her writing is inspiring, amusing, revelatory, and, at times, candidly grim. Her clarity about the strange coincidences of life and the way motherhood challenges her to be as real as she can with her kids and herself makes this is an unerringly honest portrait of one new mother's life—a life that is flawed, gritty, and true."—**Joan Barberich, Food For Thought Books, Amherst, MA**



MAY ✨ 2004

SONGS OF THE GORILLA NATION: *My Journey Through Autism*, by Dawn Prince-Hughes, Ph.D (Harmony, \$24, 1400050588) "Prince-Hughes' memoir makes autism and Asperger's syndrome accessible to those of us who see the world in a more mundane way. By watching gorillas and learning to understand their social organization and nonverbal cues, Prince-Hughes manages to learn more about her human family and how to live among them."—**Susan M. Taylor, Wellesley Booksmith, Wellesley, MA**



MAY ✨ 2004

THE CLEARING, by Tim Gautreaux (Vintage, \$13, 1400030536) "*The Clearing* is the story of Randolph and Byron, two brothers separated for years—both geographically and emotionally—who are brought together again in a remote cypress logging camp in the Louisiana swamps. Gautreaux's evocative descriptions and outstanding storytelling should not only bring him critical acclaim, but also the broad-based readership his writing deserves."—**Stephen Grutzmacher, Passtimes Books, Sister Bay, WI**



MAY ✨ 2004

AN EGG ON THREE STICKS, by Jackie Fischer (Griffin, \$12.95, 0312317751) "The story of a 13-year-old's life after her mother's nervous breakdown is funny and sad, a roller coaster of thoughts—like most adolescents who think they are very grown up but find they really aren't. A great novel."—**Donna Henrich, The Bookseller, Cherokee, IA**



MAY * 2004

THE GOOD PATIENT, by Kristin Waterfield Duisberg (Griffin, \$13.95, 0312326076) "A riveting first novel about 28-year-old Darien Gilbertson, who engages in self-destructive acts, such as self-mutilation and excessive drinking, because of repressed secrets in her past. Marked by vivid images, real characters, and pitch-perfect dialogue, there isn't a wasted word in this book."—**Liz Whaley, Water Street Books, Exeter, NH**



MAY * 2004

THE BODY OF DAVID HAYES, by Ridley Pearson (Hyperion, \$23.95, 0786867256) "Watching Detective Lou Boldt's sleight of hand in foiling both his own department and the bad guys is like watching a master magician at the top of his game."—**George Rishel, The Sly Fox, Virden, IL**



MAY * 2004

LAST LULLABY: An Eve Diamond Novel, by Denise Hamilton (Scribner, \$25, 0743245407) "This third Eve Diamond novel is a complex, fully mature work from a former *Los Angeles Times* reporter who captures the city in all its cultural diversity, from chic Hollywood to its Asian communities. The characters are real and believable, and the pace never lags."—**Jean Utley, Book'em Mysteries, South Pasadena, CA**



MAY * 2004