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Booklist ONLINE EXCLUSIVES
A FREE ISSUE OF BOOKLIST
NEWSLETTER #92 - MARCH 25, 2016

April is National Poetry Month! All 146 reviews in this issue of *Booklist Online Exclusives* are available to subscribers as well as nonsubscribers. Read on and enjoy!

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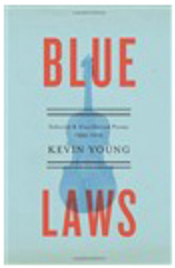
OUTSTANDING BEST-OF POETRY COLLECTIONS

National Poetry Month has reached its twentieth anniversary, a landmark celebrated with the release of a remarkable number of outstanding best-of collections, including Dana Gioia's *99 Poems*. Below we recognize retrospective gatherings by seminal poets of the past (Adrienne Rich, Delmore Schwartz, Stevie Smith) and other judicious combinations of the old and the new by shining poets of the present (Jay Parini, Lucia Perillo, Ron Rash). While these titles certainly enhance robust poetry shelves, they are of particular value to small and medium-sized poetry collections. Reviews of the following standout titles can be found on *Booklist Online.*

★ **All the Poems,** by Stevie Smith and edited by Will May

"As candid and insightful as she is mischievous and mordant, Smith writes of cats and children, class and war, family and vanity in a subversive mash-up redolent of Greek myths, Roman poets, Keats, Wordsworth, Emily Dickinson, Dorothy Parker, and Ogden Nash, yet wholly and percussively her own."

★ **Blue Laws: Selected & Uncollected Poems, 1995 - 2015**, by Kevin Young

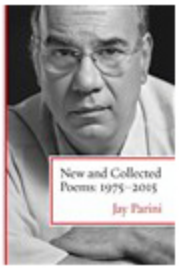


"The blues certainly are everywhere present in award-winning poet, scholar, and curator Kevin Young's highly original, richly sourced, archly provocative, audaciously witty, and deeply affecting poems."

★ **Collected Poems, 1950—2012**, by Adrienne Rich

"Moving forward, her dramatic poems incisively critique human nature and societal malfunction as she creates lyrical and narrative works, monologues, and prose poems, all charged with lucid sensitivity and radical urgency."

New and Collected Poems, 1975—2015, by Jay Parini



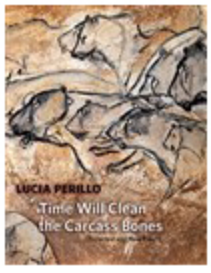
"In these supple, straight-ahead lyrics, Parini evokes a strong sense of place as he remembers the Pennsylvania of his youth and his 'very poor' grandmother who lived so richly on a 'tiny farm' in Pennsylvania with her chickens: 'I used to watch her scattering the grain / like John D. Rockefeller scattered dimes.'"

Once and For All: The Best of Delmore Schwartz, by Delmore Schwartz and edited by Craig Morgan Teicher

"Readers will be gripped by the short story that gave his first book of poetry its title, 'In Dreams Begin Responsibilities,' as well as poems from five collections, unpublished works, a verse drama, critical essays, and letters to Ezra Pound, William Carlos Williams, and James Laughlin, founder of New Directions, Schwartz's steadfast publisher."

★ **Poems: New and Selected**, by Ron Rash

"But Rash's primary focus is on the hard lives of the people of this place of natural abundance and beauty, who fiercely love the land they till and the waters they fish even as they are swept up in the recklessness of the region's industrial pillaging and polluting."



★ **Time Will Clean the Carcass Bones**, by Lucia Perillo

"Perillo, a MacArthur fellow, is a boldly and imaginatively irreverent poet even as she marvels at the wonders all around us and hopes for 'sacred knowledge.'"

NEWSMAKER

★ **The Nest**, by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney

The four adult Plumb siblings—suave Jack, artsy Bea, playboy Leo, and meek Melody—have been waiting until Melody's fortieth birthday, when they are supposed to receive their inheritance.
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FROM *THE BOOKLIST READER*

2015 National Book Critics Circle Award Winners
By Sarah Grant

The National Book Critics Circle (NBCC) award winners for publishing year 2015 were announced at a ceremony in New York last night. NBCC, regarded as one of the most prestigious awards in the industry, recognizes excellence in six different categories every year.
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Good Books for Book Groups: Andy Weir's The Martian
By Liz Kirchhoff

Last month, the LIT book group read *The Martian* by Andy Weir. We'd had it on the shortlist for quite a while but decided that February offered perfect timing, with the Barrington Area Library celebrating Barrington Creates, a community-wide initiative that encourages everyone channel their inner maker. Things don't get much more creative than they do in *The Martian*.
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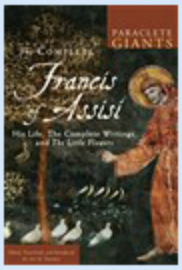
Religion

The Complete Francis of Assisi: His Life, the Complete Writings, and The Little Flowers, edited by Jon M. Sweeney

"But the editor-translator's clear love for his subject shines through, and the readers are left feeling they have spent some quality time with the man who continues to inspire us to contemplate abandoning our worldly possessions."



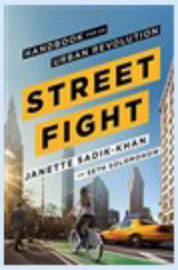
Passwords to Paradise: How Languages Have Reinvented World Religions, by Nicholas Ostler

Social Sciences

Eruption: The Untold Story of Mount St. Helens, by Steve Olson

StreetFight: Handbook for an Urban Revolution, by Janette Sadik-Khan and Seth Solomonow

"Sadik-Khan's work will serve as a guidebook to city planners and traffic engineers everywhere, and motivate disenchanted urban dwellers to urge local politicians to make their cities more livable."



Business

Superbosses: How Exceptional Leaders Master the Flow of Talent, by Sydney Finkelstein

Health & Medicine

Into the Magic Shop: A Neurosurgeon's Quest to Discover the Mysteries of the Brain and the Secrets of the Heart, by James R. Doty

The Prodigy's Cousin: The Family Link between Autism and Extraordinary Talent, by Joanne Ruthsatz and Kimberly Stephens

Cookery

Cooking Solo: The Joy of Cooking for Yourself, by Klancy Miller

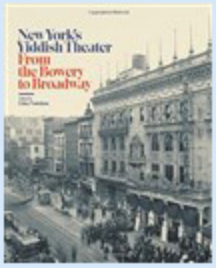
Geography & Travel

Elephant Complex: Travels in Sri Lanka, by John Gimlette

History

New York's Yiddish Theater: From the Bowery to Broadway, edited by Edna Nahshon

"The many photos of famous actors and comics, old posters, packed theaters, and stage scenes balance out the richly sourced text, making this a visually lively, comprehensive, and accessible addition to any collection on theater or Jewish American history and heritage."



Adult - Fiction

General Fiction

Cities I've Never Lived In, by Sara Majka

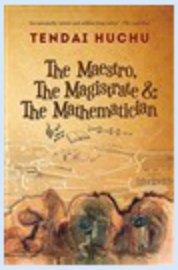
Domestic Secrets, by Rosalind Noonan

The Friends We Keep, by Susan Mallery

The House on Primrose Pond, by Yona Zeldis McDonough

The Maestro, the Magistrate & the Mathematician, by Tendai Huchu

"As we meet various family members and come to understand their relationships to one another, the familiar immigrant themes of assimilation, sense of place, belonging, and identity slowly emerge, with a freshness and originality that makes this a literary standout."



My Best Year, by William Hazelgrove

Opportunity Knocks, by Alison Sweeney

Crime Fiction

A Brilliant Death, by Robin Yocum

Cheatgrass, by Bart Paul

Deadly Dunes, by E. Michael Helms

Deadly Jewels, by Jeannette De Beauvoir

Family Jewels, by Stuart Woods

Impure Blood, by Peter Morfoot

Lights, Camera, Murder!, by Marie Celine

Montalbano's First Case and Other Stories, by Andrea Camilleri

Only Ever You, by Rebecca Drake

South of Nowhere, by Minerva Koenig

The Widow, by Fiona Barton

Westerns

Death in Cantera, by John D. Nesbitt

Romance

Girls Who Travel, by Nicole Trilivas

"Trilivas presents a fresh, tightly written, and hilarious adventure, complete with love triangles and a foul-mouthed heroine."

SF/Fantasy

The Immortals, by Jordanna Max Brodsky

Graphic Novels

Adult

The Owner's Manual to Terrible Parenting, written and illustrated by Guy Delisle

Young Adult

Batman: The Jiro Kuwata Batmanga, v.3, written and illustrated by Jiro Kuwata

"These tales are best suited to younger readers with less invested in the character's dark psychology and who are more open to dizzying flights of the imagination."

Youth - Nonfiction

Science

Animals That Make Me Say Ewww!, by Dawn Cusick

Camas and Sage: A Story of Bison Life on the Prairie, by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent and illustrated by Christina Wald

Explore Fossils! With 25 Great Projects, by Cynthia Light Brown and Grace Brown and illustrated by Bryan Stone

Teddy Bear Subtraction, by Barbara Barbieri McGrath and illustrated by Tim Nihoff

Technology

Guinness World Records: Wacky Wheels, by Cari Meister

Health & Medicine

What's for Lunch?, by Sarah L. Thomson and illustrated by Nila Aye

Folklore & Fairy Tales

Rattlestiltskin, by Eric A. Kimmel and illustrated by Erin Camarca

History

Clean Sweep! Frank Zamboni's Ice Machine, by Monica Kulling and illustrated by Renne Benoit

Warfare in the Ancient World, written and illustrated by Mark Bergin

Warfare in the Middle Ages, by Fiona Macdonald and illustrated by Mark Bergin

Youth - Fiction

General Fiction

Away Running, by Luc Bouchard and David Wright

Bear and Hare: Where's Bear?, written and illustrated by Emily Gravett

Ben Says Goodbye, by Sarah Ellis and illustrated by Kim La Fave

Blanche Hates the Night, written and illustrated by by Sibylle Delacroix

"Stories about children allergic to bedtime are common, but this has a freshness originating from the distinctive art and the unabashed joy that comes from putting off the inevitable."

The Bolds, by Julian Clary and illustrated by David Roberts

Charlotte Cuts It Out, by K. A. Barson

Child of Spring, by Farhana Zia

"Primarily an episodic tale, this heartfelt novel provides a window into the lives of children in rural poverty in India."

Claude in the Country, written and illustrated by Alex T. Smith

Crunch!, written and illustrated by Carolina Rabei

Dear Bunny, by Katie Cotton and illustrated by Blanca Gomez

Duke's Den, by Becky Citra

Everyday Hero, by Kathleen Cherry

Everyone, written and illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal

Finding Hope, by Colleen Nelson

A Friend for Mole, written and illustrated by Nancy Armo

Grandad's Island, written and illustrated yb Benji Davies

Groundhog's Dilemma, by Kristen Remenar and illustrated by Matt Faulkner

Guess Who, Haiku, by Deanna Caswell and illustrated by Bob Shea

Hammer and Nails, by Josh Bledsoe and illustrated by Jessica Warrick

Hannah and Sugar, written and illustrated by Kate Berube

Herman's Vacation, written and illustrated by Tom Percival

How Many Letters Are in Goodbye?, by Yvonne Cassidy

"She lost her arm in an accident as a young girl, endured the loss of her mother under questionable circumstances, survived her father's drinking, and questions her own sexuality."

How to Find Gold, written and illustrated by Viviane Schwarz

I Want a Monster!, written and illustrated by Elise Gravel

Into the Snow, by Yuki Kaneko and illustrated by Masamitsu Saito

Into the Wild: Yet Another Misadventure, by Doreen Cronin and illustrated by Stephen Gilpin

Invisible Fault Lines, by Kristen-Paige Madonia

Klickitat, by Peter Rock

Kopecks for Blintzes, by Judy Goldman and illustrated by Susan Batori

Life without Nico, by Andrea Maturana and illustrated by Javier Olea Francisco

London Art Chase, by Natalie Grant and illustrated by Cathi Mingus

Maisy Goes to London, written and illustrated by Lucy Cousins

Me & Miranda Mullaly, by Jake Gerhardt

My Dad at the Zoo, by Coralie Saudo and illustrated by Kris Di Giacomo

My House, written and illustrated by Byron Barton

Not Me!, written and illustrated by Valeri Gorbachev

Old MacDonald Had a Truck, by Steve Goetz and illustrated by Eda Kaban

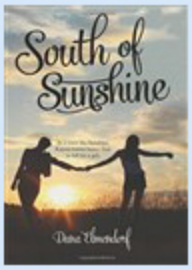
One and All, written and illustrated by Elisa Gehin

President Squid, by Aaron Reynolds and illustrated by Sara Varon

Rodent, by Lisa J. Lawrence

South of Sunshine, by Dana Elmendorf

"The novel's biggest strength is the way it allows characters to grow and change as they reevaluate what it means to be a friend, parent, or resident of Sunshine."



Spare Dog Parts, by Alison Hughes and illustrated by Ashley Spires

Stanley the Mailman, written and illustrated by William Bee

Superhero Dad, by Timothy Knapman and illustrated by Joe Berger

Surprise in the Meadow, written and illustrated by Anna Vojtech

That's Not Hay in My Hair, by Juliette Turner

Toshi's Little Treasures, by Nadine Robert

Tragedy Girl, by Christine Hurley Deriso

When We Collided, by Emery Lord

"As much about the fragility of the human experience as it is about mental illness, this offers a refreshing perspective on a spectrum of mental health disorders."

Action/Adventure

Astrotwins: Project Rescue, by Mark Kelly

Joey and Johnny, the Ninjas: Epic Fail, by Kevin Serwacki and illustrated by Chris Pallace

Pull, by Anne Riley

Strike, by Delilah S. Dawson

Mystery

23 Minutes, by Vivian Vande Velde

"Stuck in the foster system, 15-year-old Zoe believes that her only special quality is her ability to turn back time, but even that has its limitations—she can only go 23 minutes back in time, and only do that 10 times."

Detective Gordon: A Complicated Case, by Ulf Nilsson and illustrated by Gitte Spee

The Maypop Kidnapping, by C. M. Surrisi

Seeking Cassandra, by Lutricia Clifton

The Video Game Bandit, by Franklin W. Dixon and illustrated by Matt David

Historical Fiction

Once Was a Time, by Leila Sales

Somebody Stop Ivy Pocket, by Caleb Krisp

Romance

Two Summers, by Aimee Friedman

"Like a freaky episode of The Twilight Zone, the rest of the story follows two story arcs—one where Summer goes to France to meet her estranged dad and crush on Jacques, and another where she stays in New York."

SF/Fantasy

Charmed, by Jen Calonita

Clash of the Worlds, by Chris Columbus, Ned Vizzini, and others and illustrated by Greg Call

The Dastardly Deed, by Holly Grant and illustrated by Josie Portillo

Daughters of Ruin, by K. D. Castner

Dr. Critchlore's School for Minions: Gorilla Tactics, by Sheila Grau and illustrated by Joe Sutphin

Dream On, by Kerstin Gier

Dreambender, by Ronald Kidd

Forest of Ruin, by Kelley Armstrong

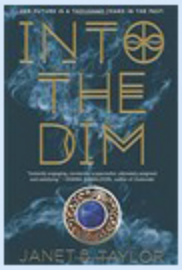
Frozen Tides, by Morgan Rhodes

Future Shock, by Elizabeth Briggs

The Harp and the Ravenvine, by Ted Sanders and illustrated by Iacopo Bruno

Into the Dim, by Janet B. Taylor

"With a spirited female warrior, multiracial computer genius, differently abled narrator, and terrific descriptions of period clothing, readers seeking the comfort food of adventure/romance reads will be delighted."



The Keeper of the Mist, by Rachel Neumeier

Lady Renegades, by Rachel Hawkins

The Last Monster, by Ginger Garrett and illustrated by Dinara Mirtalipova

The Lonely Ones, by Kelsey Sutton

The McVentures of Me, Morgan McFactoid: Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow, by Mark S. Waxman

Omega Rising, by Patrick Carman

Once upon a Dream: A Twisted Tale, by Liz Braswell

Red: The True Story of Red Riding Hood, by Liesl Shurtliff

The Somewhat True Adventures of Sammy Shine, written and illustrated by Henry Cole

Stingray City, by Ellen Prager and illustrated by Javier Caparo Antonio

The Tale of a No-Name Squirrel, by Radhika R. Dhariwal and illustrated by Audrey Benjaminsen

Waybound, by Cameron Baity and Benny Zelkowicz

Scary Stories

The Inn Between, by Marina Cohen and illustrated by Sarah Watts

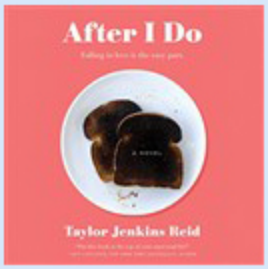
The Swarm Descends, by Jacob Grey

Audio

Adult

After I Do, by Taylor Jenkins Reid and read by Tara Sands

"Narrator Sands has a flair for marital dialogue, and her fiery voice causes tension to crackle in every emotive dispute."



A Banquet of Consequences, by Elizabeth George and read by John Lee

Mrs. Roosevelt's Confidante, by Susan Elia and read by MacNeal Susan Duerden

My Life on the Road, by Gloria Steinem and read by Debra Winger

Radiance, by Catherynne M. Valente and read by Heath Miller

Sword of Honor, by David Kirk and read by Erik Singer

Youth

Infinity and Me, by Kate Hosford and read by Nancy Wu

Piper Green and the Fairy Tree, by Ellen Potter and read by Tavia Gilbert

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