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Winter 2010**

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HOLT ADULT BOOKS

Claire Harman
JANE'S FAME: How Jane Austen Conquered the World

March 2010
Biography
Editor: Jack Macrae

Mention Jane Austen and you'll likely incite a slew of fervent opinions from anyone within earshot. Regarded as a brilliant social satirist by scholars, Austen also enjoys the sort of popular affection usually reserved for girl-next-door movie stars, leading to the paradox of an academically-revered author who has served as the inspiration for chick-lit (THE JANE AUSTEN BOOK CLUB) and modern blockbusters (BECOMING JANE). Almost 200 years after her death, Austen remains a hot topic, and the current flare in the cultural zeitgeist echoes the continuous revival of her works, from the time of original publication through the twentieth century. In **JANE'S FAME**, Claire Harman gives us the complete biography—of both the author and her lasting cultural influence—making this essential reading for anyone interested in Austen's life, works and remarkably potent fame. **Claire Harman** is the author of SYLVIA TOWNSEND WARNER, which won the John Llewellyn Rhys prize, FANNY BURNEY, which was shortlisted for the Whitbread Prize, and the critically-acclaimed ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON. Elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2006, Harman has taught at the Universities of Manchester and Oxford in England and Columbia University in New York City.

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****Published in the U.K. by Canongate**

Siri Hustvedt
THE SHAKING WOMAN OR A HISTORY OF MY NERVES

March 2010
Psychology
Editor: Frances Coady

While speaking at a memorial event for her father in 2006, Siri Hustvedt suffered a violent seizure from the neck down. Despite her flapping arms and shaking legs, she continued to speak clearly and was able to finish her speech. It was as if she had suddenly become two people: a calm orator and a shuddering wreck. Then the seizures happened again and again. **THE SHAKING WOMAN** tracks Hustvedt's search for a diagnosis, one that takes her inside the thought processes of several scientific disciplines; each one of which offers a distinct perspective on her paroxysms but no ready solution. In the process, she finds herself entangled in fundamental questions: What is the relationship between brain and mind? How do we remember? What is the self? During her investigations, Hustvedt joins a discussion group in which neurologists, psychiatrists, psychoanalysts, and brain scientists trade ideas to develop a new field: neuropsychanalysis. She volunteers as a writing teacher for psychiatric in-patients at the Payne Whitney clinic in New York City and unearths precedents in medical history that illuminate the origins of and shifts in our theories about the mind-body problem. In **THE SHAKING WOMAN**, Hustvedt synthesizes her experience and research into a compelling mystery: Who is the shaking woman? In the end, the story she tells becomes, in the words of George Makari, author of REVOLUTION IN MIND, "...a brilliant illumination for us all." **Siri Hustvedt** is the author of four novels, THE SORROW OF AN AMERICAN, WHAT I LOVED, THE BLINDFOLD, THE ENCHANTMENT OF LILY DAHL, as well as two collections of essays, A PLEA FOR EROS and MYSTERIES OF THE RECTANGLE. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Paul Auster.

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Diane Meier
THE SEASON OF SECOND CHANCES: A Novel

April 2010
Fiction
Editor: Marjorie Braman

After 15 years in a one-bedroom, fourth floor walk up, the idea of a full house is too much for Joy Harkness to resist, even though the house of her dreams could become a renovating nightmare. But when Teddy Hennessy walks through the door, bringing with him an architect's eye, a decorator's sensibility and the kind of warm, supportive friendship that has been sorely missing from Joy's life, she knows her dreams could become reality. While Teddy goes about magically transforming her house from white elephant to the kind of home that feels as though it's been in her family forever, Joy is busy creating her own new life. As Joy navigates new friends and the half-wanted attention of the local single men, Teddy is slowly making over her house—and her emotional landscape—with quiet, painstaking care. Thanks to Teddy's attention, Joy is about to awaken to possibilities she's never dared to imagine.

Diane Meier is the author of **THE NEW AMERICAN WEDDING** and president of Meier, a New York City-based marketing firm. Diane's career spans from writing and design to public speaking. This is her first novel. She lives in New York City and Litchfield, Connecticut with her husband, Frank Delaney, a BBC broadcaster and author of many books including **IRELAND, SIMPLE COURAGE** and **TIPPERARY**.

Advance Praise for **THE SEASON OF SECOND CHANCES**:

"Diane Meier's novel has it all: a narrator with a voice as knowing, acerbic, and funny as the best of Ephron; a plot that keeps you avidly turning the pages, and a character about as tender, touching, and exasperating as any I can recall encountering outside of real life. I loved it."

—John Colapinto, author of *About the Author*

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Charles Pellegrino
THE LAST TRAIN FROM HIROSHIMA: The Survivors Look Back

January 2010
History
Editor: Jack Macrae

THE LAST TRAIN FROM HIROSHIMA offers readers a stunning "you are there" time capsule, gracefully wrapped in elegant prose. The author's scientific authority and close relationship with the bomb's survivors make his account the most gripping ever written. At the narrative's core are the eyewitness accounts of the people who experienced the effects of the atomic explosions firsthand. Thirty people are known to have fled Hiroshima for the imagined safety of Nagasaki - where they arrived by train in Nagasaki just in time to survive the atomic bomb a second time. One of them, Tsutomu Yamaguchi, is the only person known to have experienced the full effects of Ground Zero both times. The second time, the blast effects were diverted around the stairwell of a building in which he had been standing, placing him and the small group of people who were with him in a stairwell shock cocoon, while the entire office building disappeared around them. Pellegrino weaves astonishing anecdotes together with the fascinating details behind the creation and execution of the atomic bomb to create a revelatory account that will challenge everything readers think they know about what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. **Charles Pellegrino** is co-author of the bestseller **THE JESUS FAMILY TOMB**. He is the author of nineteen books, including **HER NAME**, **TITANIC** and **GHOSTS OF THE TITANIC**, which James Cameron used as sources for his blockbuster movie "Titanic" and his Imax film "Ghosts of the Abyss." Pellegrino has a PhD in zoology and has contributed to many scientific journals, including *Science* and *Smithsonian*. He lives in New York City.

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Ali Shaw
THE GIRL WITH GLASS FEET: A Novel

January 2010
Fiction
Editor: Helen Atsma

Strange things are happening on the remote and snowbound archipelago of St. Hauda's Land. Unusual winged creatures flit around icy bogland, albino animals hide themselves in the snow-glazed woods, and Ida Maclaird is slowly turning into glass. Ida is an outsider in these parts, a mainlander who has visited the islands only once before. Yet during that one fateful visit the glass transformation began to take hold, and now she has returned in search of a cure. Midas Crook is a young loner who has lived on the islands his entire life. When he meets Ida, something about her sad, defiant spirit pierces his emotional defenses. As Midas helps Ida come to terms with her affliction, she gradually unpicks the knots of his heart. Love must be paid in precious hours and, as the glass encroaches, time is slipping away fast. Will they find a way to stave off the spread of the glass? **THE GIRL WITH GLASS FEET** is a dazzlingly imaginative and gripping first novel, a love story to treasure. **Ali Shaw** graduated from Lancaster University with a degree in English Literature and has since worked as a bookseller and at Oxford's Bodleian Library. **THE GIRL WITH GLASS FEET** is his first novel. www.alishaw.co.uk.

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****Published in the U.K. by Grove Atlantic**

Roger Smith
WAKE UP DEAD: A Thriller

February 2010
Fiction
Editor: Webb Younce

A split-second decision with no second chance: get it wrong and you Wake Up Dead. On a blowtorch-hot night in Cape Town, American ex-model Roxy Palmer and her gunrunner husband Joe are carjacked, leaving Joe lying in a pool of blood. As the carjackers make their getaway, Roxy makes a fateful choice that changes her life forever. Disco and Godwynn, the ghetto gangbangers who sped away in Joe's convertible, will stop at nothing to track her down. Billy Afrika, a mixed-race ex-cop turned mercenary recently back from Iraq, won't let her out his sights because Joe owed him a chunk of money. And remorselessly hunting them all is Piper, a love-crazed psychopath determined to renew his vows with his jailhouse "wife," the carjacking Disco. As these desperate lives collide and old debts are settled in blood, Roxy is caught in a wave of escalating violence in the beautiful and brutal African seaport, far from the catwalks of Paris and Milan. With savage plotting and breakneck suspense that ends in a shattering cataclysm of violence, **WAKE UP DEAD** confirms Roger Smith's place as one of the world's best new thriller writers. **Roger Smith**, an accomplished screenwriter, director, and producer, was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, and now lives in Cape Town. He is the author of the thriller MIXED BLOOD, and is writing a third novel.

Praise for Roger Smith's MIXED BLOOD:

"Like George Pelecanos, Smith captures the humanity burning in lives trapped by poverty and prejudice without sentimentalizing those lives or downplaying the havoc they can produce."

—Booklist

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METROPOLITAN BOOKS

Ruth Harris
THE MAN ON DEVIL'S ISLAND:
Dreyfus and the Affair that Split France

April 2010
History
Editor: Sara Bershtel

In 1894, Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish officer in the French army, was wrongfully convicted of being a spy for Germany and imprisoned on Devil's Island. Over the next four years, France was torn apart as debates over the injustice broke up families, set off anti-Semitic riots, and came close to triggering a coup d'état. Drawing upon thousands of previously unconsidered sources, Ruth Harris goes beyond the conventional narrative of truth-loving left-wing democrats mobilizing against right-wing proto-fascists to explain how violently reactionary forces could overtake a country that viewed itself as the flagship of progressive enlightenment. She shows how complex emotions and interlocking influences—the tension between the military and the intellectuals, the clashing demands of justice and nationalism, and a tangled web of personal connections—shaped both the coalitions working to free Dreyfus and the alliances seeking to protect the army that had convicted him. Sweeping and engaging, **THE MAN ON DEVIL'S ISLAND** offers a new understanding of one of the most contested and consequential moments in modern history. **Ruth Harris** is the author of *LOURDES: Body and Spirit in the Secular Age*. A Fellow and Tutor at Oxford University, she has written widely on topics in French history, cultural history, women's history, and the history of medicine.

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Territory: USCP/OM

**** To be published in the U.K. by Penguin Press**

Joanna Kavenna
THE BIRTH OF LOVE: A Novel

April 2010
Fiction (TPO)
Editor: Riva Hocherman

The year is 1865, Vienna. Dr. Ignasz Semmelweiss has been hounded into an asylum by his medical peers, ridiculed for his claim that doctors' unwashed hands are the root cause of childbed fever. In present-day London, Bridget Hughes juggles the demands of her young son, husband, and mother as she plans for a home birth, unprepared for the trial she is about to endure. Somewhere in 2135, in a world where humans are birthed and raised in breeding farms, Prisoner 730004 is on trial for concealing a pregnancy. Through three stories spanning centuries, acclaimed novelist Joanna Kavenna explores the most basic plight of women, from the slaughterhouse of primitive medicine to a futuristic vision of technological oppression. Poised at the mid-point is Bridget, whose fervent belief in the wisdom of nature is tested in one of the most gripping accounts of labor to appear in fiction. Original, powerful, and played out against a vast canvas, **THE BIRTH OF LOVE** is a novel about the creation of human life, about science and faith, madness and compromise, and the epic journey of motherhood. **Joanna Kavenna's** first novel, *INGLORIOUS*, received the prestigious Orange Prize for debut fiction, while *THE ICE MUSEUM*, a work of travel writing, was short-listed for the Ondaatje Prize. Kavenna's writing has appeared in the *New York Review of Books*, the *Guardian*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*, among other publications. She lives in Oxford, England.

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Agent: Melanie Jackson @ Melanie Jackson Agency (212) 873-3373
Territory: USP/OM

****To be published in the U.K. by Faber & Faber**

Frances Stonor Saunders
THE WOMAN WHO SHOT MUSSOLINI

March 2010
History
Editor: Sara Bershtel

At 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 7, 1926, a woman stepped out of the crowd on Rome's Campidoglio Square. In front of her stood Benito Mussolini. As he raised his arm to give the Fascist salute, the woman raised hers and shot him at point-blank range. Mussolini escaped virtually unscathed, cheered on by practically the whole world. Violet Gibson, who expected to be thanked for her action, was arrested, labeled a "crazy Irish spinster" and a "half-mad mystic," and confined to a lunatic asylum for the rest of her days. Now, in an elegant work of historical reconstruction, Frances Stonor Saunders combines police files, medical notes, and Gibson's private writings to retrieve an astonishing figure from the dusty annals of history. She examines Gibson's aristocratic Dublin childhood, with its debutante balls and presentations at court; her engagement with Catholicism, pacifism, and socialism; her role in the drama of Fascism and her unwitting part in strengthening Il Duce's dictatorship; and her consignment to a mental institution, where she guarded to her death the motives—and possible accomplices—behind her astonishing intervention. In this rich mix of suspense and mystery, conspiracy and backroom diplomacy, Saunders resurrects the life and times of a woman who early on grasped the degraded moral atmosphere of her world and aspired to living without compromise. Frances Stonor Saunders is the author of *THE CULTURAL COLD WAR: The CIA and the World of Arts and Letters*, which was short-listed for the Guardian First Book Award, received the Royal Historical Society's Gladstone Memorial Prize and was translated into ten languages. Her writing has appeared in the *L.A. Times*, as well as *The Guardian* and *The Independent*. She is currently an editorial advisor to *Lapham's Quarterly* and lives in London.

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****To be published in the U.K. by Faber & Faber**

Gina Welch
IN THE LAND OF BELIEVERS

March 2010
Religion/Current Affairs
Editor: Riva Hocherman

Ever since evangelical Christians rose to national prominence, mainstream America has tracked their every move with a nervous eye. But in spite of this vigilance, our understanding hasn't gone beyond the caricatures. Who are evangelicals, really? What are they like in private, and what do they want? Is it possible that beneath the differences in culture and language, church and party, we might share with them some common purpose? To find out, Gina Welch, a young secular Jew from Berkeley, joined Jerry Falwell's Thomas Road Baptist Church. Over the course of nearly two years, Welch immersed herself in the life and language of the devout: she learned to interpret the world like an evangelical, weathered the death of Falwell, and embarked on a mission trip to Alaska intended to save one hundred souls. Alive to the meaning behind the music and mind behind the slogans, Welch recognized the allure of evangelicalism, even for the godless, realizing that the congregation met needs and answered questions she didn't know she had. What emerges is a riveting account of a skeptic's transformation from uninformed cynicism to compassionate understanding, and a rare view of how evangelicals see themselves. Revealing their generosity and hopefulness, as well as their prejudice and exceptionalism, *IN THE LAND OF BELIEVERS* is a call for comprehending, rather than dismissing, the impassioned believers who have become a central force in American life. **Gina Welch**, a 2001 graduate of Yale University, teaches English at George Washington University. Her writing has previously appeared in *Meridian*, *Time Out New York*, and *Playboy*. This is her first book.

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TIMES BOOKS

Susan J. Douglas
FANTASIES OF POWER: The Seductive Message That
Feminism Is Dead and Sexism is Fun

March 2010
Women's Studies
Editor: Paul Golob

Women today are inundated with conflicting messages from the mass media: they must either be strong leaders in complete command or sex kittens obsessed with finding and pleasing a man. In this provocative new book, , Susan J. Douglas, one of America's most entertaining and insightful cultural critics, takes readers on a spirited journey through the television programs, popular songs, movies, and news coverage of recent years, telling a story that is nothing less than the cultural autobiography of a new generation of American women. Revisiting cultural touchstones from *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* to *Survivor* to *Desperate Housewives*, Douglas uses wit and wisdom to expose these images of women as mere fantasies of female power, assuring women and girls that the battle for equality has been won, so there's nothing wrong with resurrecting sexist stereotypes – all in good fun, of course. She shows that these fantasies not only distract us from the real-world challenges facing women today, but they also drive a wedge between baby-boom women and their "millennial" daughters. In seeking to bridge this generation gap, Douglas makes the case for casting aside the retrograde messages and embracing what is truly good fun, showing how we can all decode the mixed messages that restrict the ambitions of women of all ages. And what makes Douglas's book such a pleasure to read is her unique voice, as she blends humor with insight and offers an empathetic and sisterly guide to the images so many women love and hate with equal measure. **Susan J. Douglas** is the author of *WHERE THE GIRLS ARE*, *THE MOMMY MYTH*, and other works of cultural history and criticism. She is the Catherine Neafie Kellogg professor of communication studies and chair of the department at the University of Michigan, where she has taught since 1996, and her work has appeared in *The Nation*, *The Progressive*, *Ms.*, *The Village Voice*, and *In These Times*. She lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Praise for Susan J. Douglas's *WHERE THE GIRLS ARE*:

"Engagingly written...provides a first-rate analysis of the music, movies and TV imagery that helped shape female psyches." —*Newsweek*

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Susan Nolen-Hoeksema, PhD
THE POWER OF WOMEN: Harness Your Unique Strengths
At Home, At Work, and in Your Community

January 2010
Psychology/Self-Help
Editor: Robin Dennis

Women are extraordinarily hard on themselves. They scrutinize their flaws, asking “Am I a good lover? A good mother? Successful in my career?” They get preoccupied with ways they do not measure up, twisting themselves into knots to fix problems no one else can see. The latest book from award-winning and bestselling psychologist Susan Nolen-Hoeksema shows women how to break this cycle—by discovering and developing their unique psychological strengths. Drawing on original research and the instructive stories of real people, Nolen-Hoeksema identifies the skill sets that women, based on their biology and social roles, bring to challenges:

- * *Mental strengths, such as the instinct to manage scarce resources*
- * *Identity strengths, which maintain strong values under pressure*
- * *Emotional strengths, such as anticipating the effects of decisions*
- * *Relational strengths, with an emphasis on win-win solutions*

Combined, these strengths give women a powerful ability to lead during transformational times. She then provides hands-on assessments for pinpointing strengths with the most relevance to a problem, exercises for building strengths, and inspiring examples of women's inventiveness, resilience, and sheer determination. This revolutionary book of self improvement gives women the tools to hone their skills as entrepreneurs and managers, mothers and wives, mentors and community leaders—and as individuals pursuing their talents and dreams. **Susan Nolen-Hoeksema, PhD**, is the author of the bestselling *WOMEN WHO THINK TOO MUCH* and *EATING, DRINKING, OVERTHINKING*. A professor of psychology at Yale University, she has conducted award-winning research on women's mental health for twenty-five years. She and her research have been profiled on the *Today Show* and in *the New York Times*. She lives in New Haven, Connecticut.

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****To be published in the U.K. by Piatkus Books**

Douglas E. Schoen
THE POLITICAL FIX: Changing the Game of American
Democracy, from the Grass Roots to the White House

January 2010
Political Science
Editor: Robin Dennis

One of America's foremost political pollsters, Douglas E. Schoen, shows how the electoral system can be mended so that it once again serves and inspires the American people—no matter their party. In **THE POLITICAL FIX**, Schoen lays out provocative yet highly achievable solutions—from completely unmoderated debates to a rotating primary schedule—that will compel politicians to be responsive to citizens rather than to special interests. To ensure justice for all, he calls for removing the attorney general from the cabinet and creating joint chiefs of staff for the justice department. He points to innovations on the state and local level—from Alaska, where the state checkbook is posted on the Web, to New York City, where residents can call a single toll-free number to access government services. And he argues that the obsession with capping the influence of large donors has strangled genuine reform—and the answer is to get more money into politics, through a tax credit for small donors. Schoen's book provides a rallying cry and an action plan for the thousands of Americans hungry for long-lasting political change. **Douglas E. Schoen** has been a Democratic Party adviser for the past thirty years. A founding partner of Penn, Schoen, and Berland, he was former president Bill Clinton's strategic consultant during the 1996 reelection campaign and has advised New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg, Indiana governor Evan Bayh, and former British prime minister Tony Blair. The author of five books, including *DECLARING INDEPENDENCE*, he lives in New York City.

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HOLT

HOLT PAPERBACKS

Daniel Alarcón, Ed.
THE SECRET MIRACLE: The Novelist's Handbook

April 2010
Reference
Editor: Webb Younce

Drawing back the curtain on the mysterious process of writing a novel, **THE SECRET MIRACLE** gathers together the foremost practitioners of the craft to discuss how they write. Paul Auster, Roddy Doyle, Allegra Goodman, Aleksandar Hemon, Mario Vargas Llosa, Susan Minot, Rick Moody, Haruki Murakami, George Pelacanos, Gary Shteyngart and others take us step by step through the alchemy of writing fiction, answering everything from nuts-and-bolts queries—"Do you outline?"—to perennial questions posed by writers and readers alike: "What makes a character compelling?" From Stephen King's deadpan distinction between novels and short stories ("Novels are longer and have more s**t in them") to Colm Tóibín's anti-romanticized take on his characters ("They are just words") to Jose Manuel Prieto's mature perspective on the anxieties of influence ("Influences are felt or weigh you down more when young"), every page contains insights found nowhere else. With honesty, humor, and elegance, **THE SECRET MIRACLE** gives both aspiring writers and lovers of literature a master class in the art of writing fiction. **Daniel Alarcón** is Associate Editor of *Etiqueta Negra*, an award-winning monthly magazine published in his native Lima, Peru. He is author of two works of fiction, including most recently the novel *LOST CITY RADIO*, which was named a 2007 Best Book of the Year by *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, and many others. 826 National is a network of seven youth tutoring, writing, and publishing centers located in seven cities across the country: San Francisco, New York, Los Angeles, Ann Arbor, Chicago, Seattle, and Boston.

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Andrea Busfield
BORN UNDER A MILLION SHADOWS: A Novel

February 2010
Fiction
Editor: Helen Atsma

The Taliban have withdrawn from Kabul's streets, but the long shadows of their regime remain. In his short life, eleven-year-old Fawad has known more grief than most: his father and brother have been killed, his sister has been abducted, and Fawad and his mother, Mariya, must rely on the charity of parsimonious relatives to eke out a hand-to-mouth existence. Ever the optimist, Fawad hopes for a better life, and his dream is realized when Mariya finds a position as a housekeeper for a charismatic Western woman, Georgie, and her two foreign friends. The world of aid workers and journalists is a new one for Fawad, and living with the trio offers endless curiosities—including Georgie's destructive relationship with the powerful Afghan warlord Haji Khan, whose exploits are legendary. Fawad grows resentful and worried, until he comes to learn that love can move a man to act in surprisingly good ways. But life, especially in Kabul, is never without peril and the next calamity Fawad must face is so devastating that it threatens to destroy the one thing he thought he could never lose: his love for his country. A big-hearted novel infused with crackling wit, Andrea Busfield's brilliant debut captures the hope and humanity of the Afghan people and the foreigners who live among them. **Andrea Busfield** is a British journalist who first travelled to Afghanistan to cover the fall of the Taliban in 2001 as a reporter for the News of the World. She is now a fulltime writer living in Bad Ischl, Austria. **BORN UNDER A MILLION SHADOWS** is her first book. **Published in the U.K. by Black Swan**

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Luisa Dillner, MD
DOES CUPID CALCULATE THE ODDS?:
From the First Date to the Seven-Year Itch to Forever After

January 2010
Psychology/Relationships
Editor: Robin Dennis

Is love blind—or does Cupid calculate? Luisa Dillner, a medical doctor and the entertaining “Love by Numbers” columnist for London’s *Guardian* newspaper, sifts through the latest scientific research to answer the questions of the lovelorn and the love-crazy alike. She tackles perennial matters of the heart, such as:

- * *Which pick-up lines work the best?*
- * *Do gentlemen prefer blondes?*
- * *How do I know she’s “the one”?*
- * *How can I get my boyfriend to stop flirting and start taking out the trash?*
- * *Are office romances doomed?*
- * *What’s the best way to mend a broken heart?*
- * *Will any couple ever be able to avoid arguing in the car?*

For those curious about the chances of tempting someone to leave a spouse (50 percent of those approached take the bait) or if Web romances bloom in the spring (the peak times for online love are actually January, February, and September), Dillner is the perfect—and amusing—guide to the science of living happily ever after. **Luisa Dillner, MD**, writes the popular “*Love by Numbers*” column for London’s *Guardian* newspaper and international Web site. A medical doctor and the publishing director at the British Medical Journal Publishing Group, she has also written for *Cosmopolitan*, *Vogue*, and *Elle*. She lives in London.

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****Published in the U.K. by Profile Books**

Jenny Hollowell
EVERYTHING LOVELY, EFFORTLESS, SAFE: A Novel

March 2010
Fiction
Editor: Lindsay Ross

Birdie Baker has always dreamed of becoming someone else. At twenty-two, she sets off to do just that. Walking out on her pastor husband and deeply evangelical parents, she leaves behind her small-town, small-time life and gets on a bus to Los Angeles. Seven years later, Birdie’s life in Hollywood is far from golden, and nothing in the intervening years—the brutal auditions, the tawdry commercials—has brought her any closer to the transformation she craves. Caught between success and failure, haunted by guilt about a tragedy in her long-forsaken family, Birdie is at the brink of collapse when she meets Lewis, a beautiful but naïve young actor with his own troubled history, whose self-destructive impulses run dangerously parallel to her own. When her big chance finally comes, Birdie must reconcile the wide-eyed girl she once was with the jaded starlet she has become and try to find herself and her future somewhere in between. **EVERYTHING LOVELY, EFFORTLESS, SAFE** is the story of a young woman’s struggle to make her own way in the Technicolor land of make-believe. **Jenny Hollowell** grew up in Midlothian, Virginia. Her short fiction has appeared in *Glimmer Train* and the anthology *New Sudden Fiction*, and was named a distinguished story of 2004 by Best American Short Stories. She received a Masters in Fine Arts from the University of Virginia, where she was a Henry Hoyns fellow in Fiction. She currently lives in Los Angeles. This is her first novel.

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Paul Tremblay
NO SLEEP TILL WONDERLAND: A Novel

February 2010
Fiction
Editor: Helen Atsma

Mark Genevich is stuck in a rut: his narcolepsy isn't improving, his private detective business is barely scraping by, and his landlord mother is forcing him to attend group therapy sessions. Desperate for companionship, Mark goes on a two-day bender with a new acquaintance, Gus, who is slick and charismatic—and someone Mark knows very little about. When Gus asks Mark to protect a friend who is being stalked, Mark inexplicably finds himself in the middle of a murder investigation, and soon becomes the target of the police, a sue-happy lawyer, and a violent local bouncer. Will Mark learn to trust himself in time to solve the crime—and in time to escape with his life? Written with the same “witty voice that doesn't let go” (*Library Journal*) that has won Paul Tremblay so many fans, **NO SLEEP TILL WONDERLAND** features a memorable detective whose only hope for reconciling with his difficult past is to keep moving—asleep or awake—toward an uncertain future. **Paul Tremblay** is the author of **THE LITTLE SLEEP**. He has won acclaim for his short fiction and received two nominations for the 2007 Bram Stoker Award, and he lives in Massachusetts with his wife and two children. Visit his Web site at www.paultremblay.net.

Praise for **THE LITTLE SLEEP**:

“The Little Sleep offers up an interesting gloss on the detective genre, in which the deepest and most profound mystery has less to do with any crime per se than with the enduring enigma of the self.” — David Ulin, Los Angeles Times

“Tremblay gives the detective story a wildly absurdist spin, and Genevich's sardonic, self-deprecating voice complements it perfectly. The plot turns out to be a classic—all about those old sins we think we get away with, but don't.” — St. Petersburg Times

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Wendy Webb
THE TALE OF HALYCON CRANE: A Novel

April 2010
Fiction
Editor: Helen Atsma

When a mysterious letter lands in Hallie James's mailbox, her life is upended. Hallie was raised by her loving father, having been told her mother died in a fire decades earlier. But it turns out her mother, Madlyn, was alive until very recently. Why would Hallie's father have taken her away from Madlyn? What really happened to her family thirty years ago? In search of answers, Hallie travels to the place her mother lived, a remote island in the middle of the Great Lakes. The stiff islanders fix her first with icy stares and then unabashed amazement as they recognize why she looks so familiar, and Hallie quickly realizes her family's dark secrets are enmeshed in the history of this strange place. But not everyone greets her with such a chilly reception—a coffee shop owner and the family's lawyer both warm to Hallie, and the possibility of romance blooms. And then there's the grand Victorian house bequeathed to her—maybe it's the eerie atmosphere or maybe it's the prim, elderly maid who used to work for her mother, but Hallie just can't shake the feeling that strange things are starting to happen... In **THE TALE OF HALYCON CRANE**, Wendy Webb has created a haunting story full of delicious thrills, vibrant characters, and family secrets. **Wendy Webb** is editor-in-chief of *Duluth-Superior* magazine, an upscale lifestyle publication. A journalist with two decades of experience, she lives in Minnesota. This is her first novel.

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