

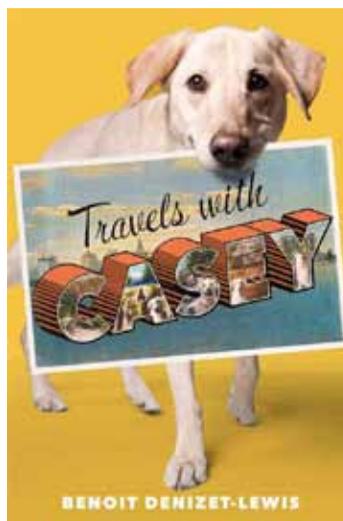
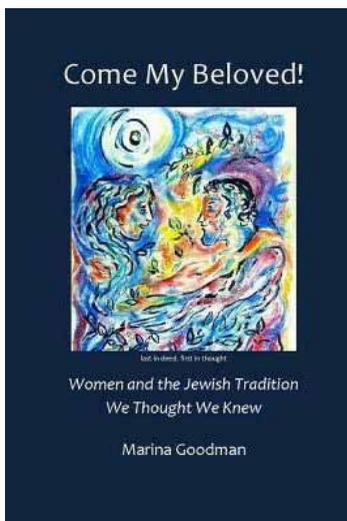
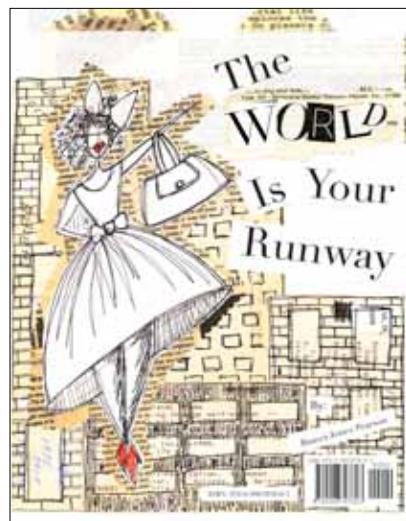
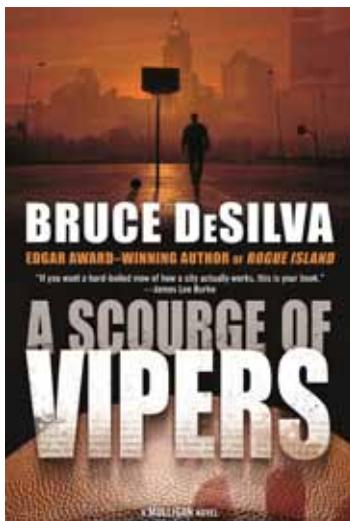
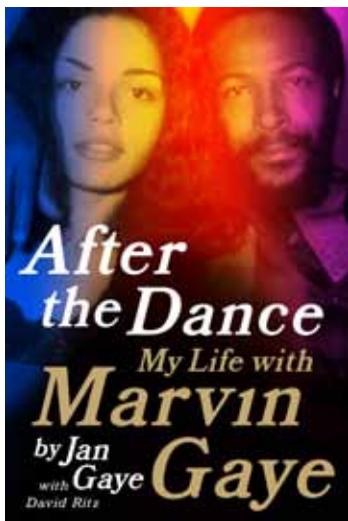
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# News & Reviews

# JULY 2015

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# Staff Picks

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## The Silver Swan by Elena Delbanco (Other Press)

Alexander Feldmann is a handsome, charming, world-renowned cellist, and the owner of a rare Stradivarius cello, the Silver Swan. Mariana, his only child, grew to become a gifted and sought-after cellist herself. As her father grows older, Mariana leaves her life behind to care for him in his final years. Upon his death, Mariana learns that he has left his prized Silver Swan to a former student. Bound by their relationship to the Silver Swan and Alexander, Claude and Mariana's lives become entwined. As dark secrets from her father's past emerge, Mariana begins to question the relationship with her father, his relationship with Claude, and the legacy of the Silver Swan. This is an amazing debut from Elena Delbanco. Her characters are complex and passionate, and their tale is intense and beautifully flawed. You needn't have traveled the world's famous music halls to fall in love with **The Silver Swan**.

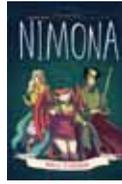
-Susan Schlesinger



## Anger Is An Energy by John Lydon (Dey Street Books)

It's pretty cool that John Lydon's (second) autobiography is called **Anger Is An Energy**. First off, the book spills a whole lot of ink on the fascinating Public Image Limited, the wildly contrarian combine Lydon assembled after The Sex Pistols expired. The title, **Anger Is An Energy**, comes from "Rise," which is likely PiL's best-known song. Secondly, John Lydon (aka Johnny Rotten) has virtually bottomless reserves of crankiness, which makes this book a whole lot of fun. Constitutionally incapable of letting even the most well-concealed instance of hypocrisy go unnoticed, our pugnacious hero throws shots from beginning to end. It's stunning and refreshing. Over the course of the hefty volume, Lydon retires some old anecdotes (Richard Branson asked him to join DEVO) and unearths some odd nuggets (Malcolm McLaren wanted Charles Manson to produce The Sex Pistols' proposed second record from his cell.) Johnny expounds on his love of esoteric reggae, displays unexpected affection for Duran Duran, Alvin Stardust and Status Quo, and fires deserved bile in the direction of Jimmy Savile. This book would make a great companion piece to Viv Albertine's fantastic **Clothes Clothes Clothes Music Music Music Boys Boys Boys!**.

- Guy Benoit



## Nimona by Noelle Stevenson (HarperTeen)

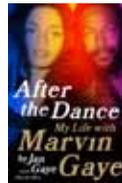
**Nimona** began as a weekly comic online. Slowly, what began as a humorous look into the lives of a villain and his shapeshifter henchwoman transformed into a full length graphic novel packed with action, tragedy, and occasional jokes about sharks. The book takes place in a medieval-sci-fi setting where a supervillain named Lord Blackheart battles the seemingly heroic Institution and its champion, Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin (no typo, no lie). When a shapeshifter named Nimona shows up in Blackheart's lair asking to be his sidekick, her abilities will put the conflict on a more destructive course... I normally read graphic novels very quickly, and **Nimona** is no exception. However, the book fits a lot into its short length. The jokes are riotous, and even when the plot takes a more serious turn, the writing's quality never suffers. Even from the very beginning of the book, it is clear that Blackheart is not a very villainous villain, and the reversal of good guy and bad guy makes for interesting reading.

-Nazareth Britton

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## Author & Special Events

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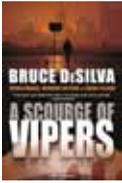
### Thurs. July 16 at 7pm **Jan Gaye, After the Dance: My Life with Marvin Gaye**

A searing memoir of love, drugs, sex, and old-school R&B, from the former wife of the legendary soul icon Marvin Gaye. Stuck in a foster home with an abusive caregiver, Janis Hunter found solace in her dreams of an encounter with Marvin Gaye. They met in February 1973. Despite a seventeen-year age difference and Marvin's marriage to the sister of Berry Gordy, Motown's founder, the enchanted teenager and the emotionally volatile singer began a scorching relationship. Their romance navigated the hippie high life of the seventies and took the couple from one adventure to another. Unsparing in its honesty and insight, **After the Dance** reveals what it's like to be in love with an artistic genius, a man whose words and music have touched the world.

Jan Gaye is the second wife of the legendary recording artist Marvin Gaye and the mother of his children, Nona and Frankie Gaye. Born in Los Angeles, she currently resides in Rhode Island.

# Author & Special Events

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Sat. July 18 at 4pm

## **Bruce DeSilva, A Scourge of Vipers: A Mulligan Novel**

To solve Rhode Island's budget crisis, the state's colorful governor, Attila the Nun, wants to legalize sports gambling; but her plan has unexpected consequences. Organized crime, professional sports leagues, and others who have a lot to lose--or gain--if gambling is made legal flood the state with money to buy the votes of state legislators. Liam Mulligan, investigative reporter for The Providence Dispatch, wants to investigate, but his bottom-feeding corporate bosses at the dying newspaper have no interest in serious reporting. So Mulligan goes rogue, digging into the story on his own time. When a powerful state legislator turns up dead, an out-of-state bag man gets shot, and his cash-stuffed briefcase goes missing, Mulligan finds himself the target of shadowy forces who seek to derail his investigation by destroying his career, his reputation, and perhaps even his life.

Bruce DeSilva spent forty-one years as a journalist before writing Rogue Island, his first novel, which won the 2011 Edgar and Macavity Awards for Best First Novel.



Sat. July 25 at 11 am

## **Bianca Jones-Pearson, The World is Your Runway**

in conjunction with story time.

The World is Your Runway is the first of its kind--encouraging girls to explore their personal styles in kid friendly language with real world application. Readers are introduced to a variety of popular styles in contemporary fashion, and presented with actual designers with similar aesthetics working in the industry. Intended for young girls with an interest in fashion, The World Is Your Runway encourages readers to explore the world of fashion and their personal image. With so many looks to choose, why not try them all? You've nothing to lose!

Bianca Jones-Pearson received her BFA from Rhode Island College in Art Education. She owns and manages sister companies Clothes Horse Clothing and In God We Trust Ceramics out of her studio in Barrington.



Thurs. July 30 at 7pm

## **Marina Goodman, Come My Beloved!: Women and the Jewish Tradition We Thought We Knew**

If living a Torah life is supposed to lead to spiritual fulfillment, then why does so much of the Jewish tradition concerning women conflict with modern women's sensibilities, realities, and aspirations? "Come My Beloved!" provides the missing link in the "women and Judaism" debate by presenting a little known area of the Jewish tradition that describes the world's developmental process. The teachings are presented within the framework of the Shabbat prayer, Lecha Dodi. Illustrative examples from history and inspirational individuals demonstrate how these teachings have been guiding our societies and lives all along. Interspersed throughout is Goodman's own very personal account of her own pain and struggle. This tradition helps explain our past and, more importantly, illuminates our future.

Marina Goodman has been agonizing over issues concerning women and Judaism since adolescence. She is an investment professional who lives in Providence, RI with her husband and children.



Sat. Aug. 1 4pm

## **Benoit Denizet-Lewis, Travels with Casey**

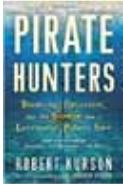
New York Times Magazine writer Benoit Denizet-Lewis worried that his dog, Casey, didn't like him very much. So, he rented an RV, lured Casey inside with treats, and embarked on a 13,000-mile road trip designed to help them bond. Denizet-Lewis and Casey hang out with wolf-dogs in Appalachia, search with a dedicated rescuer of stray dogs in Missouri, spend a full day at a kooky dog park in Manhattan, get pulled over by a K9 cop in Missouri, and visit "Dog Whisperer" Cesar Millan in California. And then there are the pet psychics, dog-wielding hitchhikers, and two nosy women who took their neighbor to court for allegedly failing to pick up her dog's poop. Travels With Casey is a delightfully idiosyncratic blend of memoir and travelogue coupled with an exploration of a dog-loving America.

Benoit Denizet-Lewis is a writer with New York Times Magazine and an assistant professor of writing at Emerson College. He is the author of America Anonymous, and American Voyeur. He has contributed to Details, Slate, Salon, Sports Illustrated and many others.



## Indie Next List

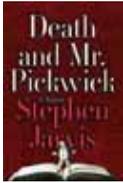
See what independent booksellers around the country are reading. Here are a few selections from the most recent **Indie Bound Next List**. These are all highly recommended and available now at **Books on the Square**.



**Pirate Hunters: Treasure, Obsession, and the Search for a Legendary Pirate Ship**  
by Robert Kurson  
(Random House)

"Kurson, the author of *Shadow Divers*, follows a team of treasure hunters on their quest for the ultimate bounty of the oceans — a sunken pirate ship from the Golden Age of Piracy — as they race against the clock of international legislation and rival hunters. It quickly becomes clear that these are men who share more than a little in common with the pirates for whom they search. *Pirate Hunters* reminds us that the daring and romance of piracy's heroes was good cause to inspire centuries of boyhood daydreams, which are still alive and well today."

- Sara Hinckley, Hudson Booksellers, Marietta, GA



**Death and Mr. Pickwick**  
by Stephen Jarvis  
(Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

"This rollicking great novel, brimming with vivid characters, takes the position that Charles Dickens did not create his first, and arguably greatest, novel on his own. Two historians struggle through documents and incidents, sending the reader through a cartwheel tour of Victorian London. Not only is there the main plot about Dickens and illustrator Robert Seymour, but also back-alley trips to drunken sports clubs, gay meeting places, taverns, and even the courtroom where the prime minister is standing trial. It's a delightful story, full of wit and sardonic humor, but with true emotion at the heart of it all, which elevates the entire read. A delight!"

- Bill Carl, Booksellers on Fountain Square, Cincinnati, OH

### HOLD ON TO THOSE RECEIPTS!

In the months of January and July, bring in any of your old Books on the Square receipts and we will add them up and give you a store credit worth 10% of your purchases!

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## Book Clubs & Discussion Groups

*Book clubs and discussion groups are free and open to the public. Monthly book club selections will be discounted 10%.*

### HADASSAH BOOK CLUB

7/6 @ 7pm Olive Kitteridge,  
Elizabeth Strout

### QUEER BOOK CLUB

7/15 @ 7pm Gay Berlin,  
Robert Beachy

8/19 @ 7pm **The Female Man**,  
Joanna Russ

### TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

On hiatus July & August

### WAYLAND SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

7/22 & 8/26 @ 7pm

### KIDS' STORY HOURS

Mon., Babies 10:30-11:00

Sat., All Kids 11:00-11:30

**Please Note:** Sometimes our story times are cancelled due to sickness or inclement weather. You're welcome to give us a call around 10am to find out if our story hours are still taking place.