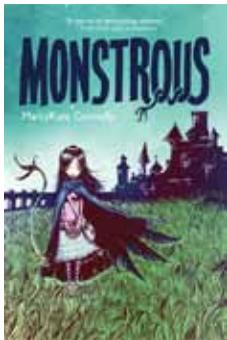
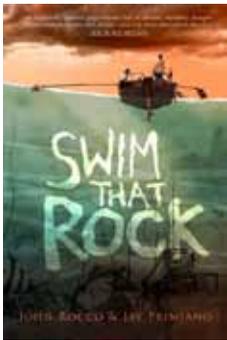
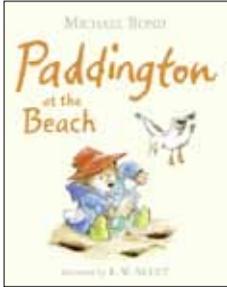


News & Reviews
MAY 2015

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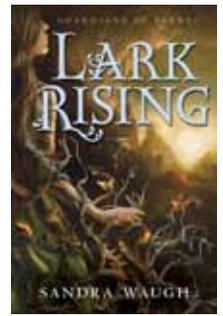
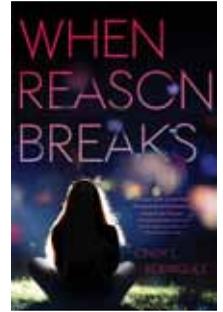
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Best Bookstore, New Books
Providence Phoenix
Best of 2013!
Best Independent Bookstore
Providence County
Rhode Island Monthly



Saturday, May 9 Celebrate Children's Book Week

with a day of New England
children's authors and illustrators!

- 11:30** Meet R.W. Alley, illustrator of **Paddington at the Beach**, plus many other titles!
- 1:00** **Swim That Rock** authors John Rocco and Jay Primiano
- 3:00** MarcyKate Connolly, author of **Monstrous**
Cindy L. Rodriguez, author of **When Reason Breaks**
Sandra Waugh, author of **Lark Rising**
- 4:00** Jamie Coyle, author of **The Luckiest Girl in the World: My Story of Struggle & Hope in Overcoming Pediatric Stroke** with special guests David Dansereau, MSPT and Paul Lonardo



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Staff Picks

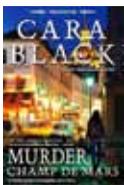


Your Band Sucks

by Jon Fine
(Viking)

The first I'd ever heard of Jon Fine was in an old issue of *Forced Exposure*. Steve Albini, the famously opinionated recording engineer, was griping about how Fine's band, Bitch Magnet, had credited him as a 'producer' on their record, despite his specifically asking them not to. If you have ever heard of *Forced Exposure*, Bitch Magnet or, more likely, Steve Albini, there is a solid chance you will enjoy **Your Band Sucks**. The autobiography situates itself in the college-rock-transitioning-to-indie-rock environs of the 1980s and early 1990s. Pockets of undergraduates (this writer included) across this great nation zealously followed bands like Naked Raygun, Big Black, Laughing Hyenas, Squirrel Bait, Volcano Suns and Sonic Youth. This was way before Nirvana hit, so these penniless musical ensembles nourished themselves on a bizarre form of earned obscurity. Jon Fine's book examines how his band, Bitch Magnet, achieved a very specific form of success, one not easily measured by the outside world. If you were there, listening to your local college radio station and buying the latest releases from Homestead and SST, you might very well dig **Your Band Sucks**. Also worth mentioning, local heroes Six Finger Satellite and Peter Prescott figure prominently.

-Guy Benoit



Murder on the Champs de Mars

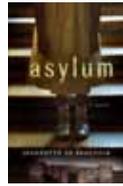
by Cara Black
(Soho Crime)

Murder on the Champs de Mars is Cara Black's fourteenth mystery in the Aimee Leduc series.

Her baby daughter has been born, so now she is a working mom as well as seemingly never out of danger and intrigue. I like this series because it puts me in Paris with an intriguing cast of characters. This time she is trying to solve the disappearance of an elderly gypsy woman who may have important information about the death of Aimee's father. The story is fast paced, exciting and did I mention that it is set in Paris? There is a handy map in the front so you can follow her adventures rue to rue. The ending is quite a surprise if you follow the series, so a good addition. Cara Black leaves me wondering what she has in mind for her next book.

-Dora Truong

Author & Special Events

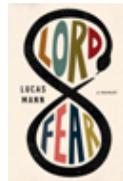


Fri. May 8 at 7pm

Jeanette de Beauvoir, **Asylum**

Martine LeDuc is the director of PR for the mayor's office in Montreal. When four women are found brutally murdered and shockingly posed on park benches throughout the city over several months, Martine's boss fears a PR disaster for the still busy tourist season, and Martine is now also tasked with acting as liaison between the mayor and the police department. The women were of varying ages, backgrounds, and bodytypes and seemed to have nothing in common. Yet the macabre presentation of their bodies hints at a connection. Martine is paired with a young detective, Julian Fletcher, and together they dig deep into the city's and the country's past, only to uncover a dark secret dating back to the 1950s, when orphanages in Montreal and elsewhere were converted to asylums in order to gain more funding. The children were subjected to horrific experiments such as lobotomies, electroshock therapy, and psychotropic medication, and many of them died in the process. The survivors were supposedly compensated for their trauma by the government and the cases seem to have been settled. So who is bearing a grudge now, and why did these four women have to die?

Jeanette de Beauvoir is an award-winning author, novelist, and poet whose work has been translated into 12 languages and has appeared in 15 countries. She explores personal and moral questions through historical fiction, mysteries, and mainstream fiction. Home is an old sea captain's house on the tip of Cape Cod, although she spends some part of every year in Montréal and in Great Britain.



Thur. May 14 at 7pm

Lucas Mann, **Lord Fear: A Memoir**

Lucas Mann was only thirteen years old when his brother Josh—charismatic and ambitious, funny and sadistic, violent and vulnerable—died of a heroin overdose. Although his brief life is ultimately unknowable, Josh is both a presence and an absence in the author's life that will not remain unclaimed. As Josh's story is told in kaleidoscopic shards of memories assembled from interviews with his friends and family, as well as from the raw material of his journals, a revealing, startling portrait unfolds. At the same time, Mann pulls back to examine his own complicated feelings and motives for recovering memories of his brother's life, searching for a balance between the tension of inevitability and the what ifs that beg to be asked. Through his investigation, Mann also comes to redefine his own place in a family whose narrative is bisected by the tragic loss.

Lucas Mann is the author of **Class A: Baseball in the Middle of Everywhere**, and his essays and stories have appeared in many publications, including *TriQuarterly*, *Slate*, and *The Kenyon Review*. He teaches writing at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, and lives in Providence.

Author & Special Events



Fri. May 15 at 7pm

Rachael McIntosh, **Bubbles Will Pop: Security Through Absurdity Book 2**

Jocelyn McLaren, a former defense contractor, is now a new mother to twins! As she struggles to maintain what she imagines to be a normal family during the economic turmoil of the US housing collapse, she becomes involved in a political campaign and encounters troubling remnants of her life working for the military-industrial complex. These interactions haunt her, as well as the father of her children, and are ultimately interlinked with the most nefarious psychopaths on the planet. Divided into three books, **Security Through Absurdity** is the story of corporate shenanigans, an uneasy home life, and a quixotic presidential campaign. These situations propel Jocelyn through a believably bizarre journey and into dangerous psychological territory. In a matrix of life-threatening situations, she is forced to question the very fabric of her Gen-X American upbringing. **Bubbles Will Pop** is the second book in Jocelyn's journey.

Rachael L McIntosh's second novel in the **Security Through Absurdity** series was inspired by her real-life experiences working for a major US defense contractor, her dealings with national news outlets, and her involvement in a US presidential campaign.



Sat. May 16 at 7pm

Ann Hood, ed., **Providence Noir** with contributors **Thomas Cobb,** **Bruce DeSilva, Peter Farrelly, Hester** **Kaplan, Robert Leuci, Taylor Polites,** **Luanne Rice, Pablo Rodriguez**

Anyone who has spent time in Providence, Rhode Island, knows that lurking in the shadows are many sinister noir elements and characters. The city is ripe for this volume, and Akashic is proud to have recruited the amazing Ann Hood as editor. The impressive contributor list conveys the caliber of **Providence Noir**, which joins **Cape Cod Noir**, **Boston Noir**, and **Boston Noir 2: The Classics** in sketching a dark and alternative portrait of these New England locales. As Ann Hood puts it, "We have stories to make you shiver, stories to make you think, stories that will show you my beautiful, noirish city in a way it's never been highlighted before."



Thurs. May 28 at 7pm

M B Caschetta, **Miracle Girls**

When Cee-Cee closes her eyes, she can suddenly see all the missing girls in the Mohawk Valley. It's part of the message: they are buried in wheat fields and stashed behind train tracks, or sprawled at the bottom of the canal. Could have been you, one dead girl says, smart-mouthed. But instead it was me! A live one tied up somewhere in a basement cocks her head: But, guess what—you're next!

Cee-Cee tries to focus, but a terrible headache rises from the back of her neck, as if someone has struck her there. She should take her medicine, but Mrs. Patrick took away the pink bottles. In the thicket overhead, the branches are picked clean as bones, no longer swaying. Now she steps back until her heels butt up against the fat oak tree.

In the woods, everything is silent. Even the trees stand still.

It's 1973 in the Mohawk Valley, and children are disappearing. Cee-Cee Bianco is visited by the Virgin Mary, but her brothers see a much darker vision. When the youngest Bianco falls into a coma after witnessing a brutal crime in the woods and Cee-Cee performs a miracle, she is guarded by war-protesting Sisters whose order is not the benign sanctuary it seems.

MB Caschetta is the author of *Lucy on the West Coast* (Alyson), which Ms. Magazine called "a spectacular collection." Her essays have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, and *Body & Soul*. She lives in Massachusetts.



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**.

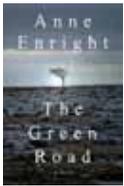


The Light of the World
by Elizabeth Alexander
(Grand Central Publishing)

“It is hard to find the right words to do justice to this very special book. Yes, it is by one of our greatest contemporary poets, Elizabeth Alexander,

who wrote ‘Praise Song for the Day’ for President Obama’s first inauguration, so the language is gorgeous. And yes, it is a memoir of losing her husband at a young age and so it is, in parts, gut-wrenchingly sad. And yes, it is an ode to an extraordinary man we come to feel we know as an artist, chef, father, friend, and lover. But, above all, it is as beautiful a love story as I have ever read, and it lifts readers up and gives us hope and makes us believe. I will urge it on everyone I know.”

- Carole Horne, Harvard Book Store, Cambridge, MA



The Green Road
by Anne Enright
(W.W. Norton)

“Steeped in the moist earth of Ireland, this is the story of the Madigan family and the life that forces them apart, only to return again to a home

filled with memories. Rosaleen suffers greatly at the loss of her four children — not to death, but to lives of their own: her eldest to New York, another to Mali, one daughter to a hospital career, and another to the ‘big city’ of Dublin. The concept of ‘family’ still holds them together despite years and circumstances, and as Rosaleen announces plans to sell the family home, a last Christmas gathering proves profound.”

- Linda Bond, Auntie’s Bookstore, Spokane, WA

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

5/4 @ 7pm Boston Girl,
Anita Diamant

6/1 @ 7pm Invisible Bridge,
Julie Orringer

QUEER BOOK CLUB

5/20 @ 7pm Billy Budd,
Herman Melville

6/17 @ 7pm The Paying Guest,
Sarah Waters

TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

5/26 @ 2pm Philomena,
Martin Sixsmith

6/30 @ 2pm The End of Your
Life Book Club,
Will Schwalbe

WAYLAND SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

5/27 & 6/28 @ 7pm

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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!

It’s our way of thanking you for your business!

Speak to an associate for details.

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.