

# ATHENÆUM BOOKSHELF

FEBRUARY 2009  
(Books purchased for January 2009)

## FEATURED SELECTIONS

### MURDER SHORT & SWEET

A devilishly entertaining collection of twenty-five classic tales of mystery and mayhem by such celebrated writers as Edgar Allan Poe, Agatha Christie, John Updike, and Dorothy L. Sayers. 499pp.

ED. PAUL D. STAUDOHAR

### THE SUN AND THE MOON GOODMAN

Tabloid journalism is at its best in the remarkable true account of hoaxers, showmen, dueling journalists, and lunar man-bats in nineteenth-century New York. 350pp., illus.

MATTHEW

## ART, ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

### LOWER NORTHEAST PHILADELPHIA

An illustrated evolution of the lower half of Northeast Philadelphia.

LOUIS M. IATAROLA AND LYNN-CARMELA T. IATAROLA

95pp., illus.

### THOMAS HOPE: REGENCY DESIGNER

Thomas Hope was born into one of the wealthiest families of European bankers in 1769. During his life he amassed a huge collection of old master painting and other objects of decorative art. Hope was also a patron and interior designer, and his style fostered what later became known as 'Regency.' This large volume, chock full of detailed photos and drawings, shows the many faceted works of Hope's collection and influence.

*\*Does not circulate by mail.*

ED. BY DAVID WATKIN AND PHILIP HEWAT-JABOOR

526pp., illus.

## BIOGRAPHY

### AMERICAN LION: ANDREW JACKSON IN THE WHITE HOUSE

Meacham offers a lively take on the seventh president's White House years.

JON MEACHAM

483pp., illus.

### THE BORGHIAS AND THEIR ENEMIES

Given their reputation for corruption, it is no wonder that the Borgias had multiple enemies. Veteran author Christopher Hibbert gives us a lively study of the conflicts that ensued. 328pp.

CHRISTOPHER HIBBERT

### CASANOVA

A new and eminently readable life of the legendary lover, actor, priest and spy. Jan Kelly has drawn on previously untapped archival sources for a brilliant portrait of a multi faceted man. 403 pp., illus.

JAN KELLY

### GRAHAM GREENE: A LIFE IN LETTERS

A new and engrossing account of one of the undisputed masters of twentieth-century prose, constructed out of his own words. 446pp.

ED. RICHARD GREENE

## **THE WORLD IS WHAT IT IS**

The first authoritative biography of V.S. Naipaul, the controversial Nobel Laureate, traces his emotional life and his creative power.

**PATRICK FRENCH**

532pp., illus.

## **HISTORY & POLITICS**

### **THE BITTER ROAD TO FREEDOM**

A moving portrait of the newly liberated citizens of Europe after World War II, from D-Day to the first months of peace.

**W.I. HITCHCOCK**

446pp., illus

### **IN TRIUMPH'S WAKE**

The chronicling of the lives of three extremely powerful women; Queen Isabella of Castile, Empress Maria Theresa of Austria, and Queen Victoria of England and the devastating decisions which brought dire consequences upon their equally powerful and prominent daughters.

**JULIA P. GELARDI**

403pp., illus.

### **THE SUN AND THE MOON**

Tabloid journalism is at its best in the remarkable true account of hoaxers, showmen, dueling journalists, and lunar man-bats in nineteenth-century New York.

**MATTHEW GOODMAN**

350pp., illus.

## **TRAVEL**

**FODOR'S FRANCE (2009) +  
FODOR'S LONDON (2009) +  
FODOR'S PARIS (2009) +**

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **AMERICAN BUFFALO**

*Outsider* magazine correspondent Steven Rinella goes hunting in the Alaskan wilderness for bison, but instead finds himself contemplating the role of this majestic, once nearly extinct animal in the history and culture of North America.

**STEVEN RINELLA**

277pp., illus.

### **LEARNING FROM THE HEART**

The acclaimed psychologist and talk show host brings readers answers to everyday struggles such as the search for love, security, and understanding all the while asking, "What does it mean to be human?"

**DANIEL GOTTLIEB**

170pp.

### **PROMISED LAND: THIRTEEN BOOKS THAT CHANGED AMERICA**

A discussion of thirteen works, from *Of Plymouth Plantation* to *The Feminine Mystique*, that have helped to define the American character.

**JAY PARINI**

385pp.

## **FICTION**

### **THE CHARLEMAGNE PURSUIT**

An exciting story about a former Justice Department agent and the pair of twin sisters searching for the truth behind their father's death in the bowels of a secret nuclear submarine below Antarctica's surface, which puts the trio in grave danger.

**STEVE BURG+**

509pp. illus.

**ECHOES FROM THE DEAD**

A runaway bestseller in Sweden about a mother's grief after receiving a mysterious package that could unlock the mysterious disappearance of her son who has been missing for twenty years. 388pp.

**JOHAN THEORIN****EROS**

Expertly translated by Mike Mitchell, German novelist and screenwriter Helmut Krausser's *Eros* studies the thin line between erotic obsession and compulsive fanaticism, between unlimited power and helplessness, all set before the backdrop of Germany between the end of WWII and the fall of the Berlin Wall. 340pp.

**HELMUT KRAUSSER****HARDLY KNEW HER**

Short stories and a novella from the pen of the distinguished crime fiction writer from Baltimore. 292pp.

**LAURA LIPPMAN****LAND OF MARVELS**

The Booker Prize winning author sets his latest work in Mesopotamia in 1914 before WWI. A British archaeologist and his wife, an Arab assistant with his own ambitions, and an American secretly searching for oil cross paths in this historical thriller. 287pp.

**BARRY UNSWORTH****A MERCY**

Nobel Prize winner Morrison tells the painful story of a slave who gives up her daughter to a more humane master, and the repercussions of this action. 167pp.

**TONI MORRISON****THE NORTHERN CLEMENCY**

Short listed for the Man Booker Prize, this novel covers twenty years in the lives of two Sheffield families in Thatcher-era Britain. 597pp.

**PHILIP HENSHER****PEOPLE OF THE WHALE**

A pensive novel about a returning married Native American Vietnam Veteran. Upon coming home he is forced to sort out his life. He has fathered a child with a woman in Vietnam and finds his tribe in conflict over the decision to hunt a whale. 301pp.

**LINDA HOGAN****THE POSTHUMOUS MEMOIRS OF BRÁS CUBAS**

A nineteenth century classic of Brazilian literature, Machado de Assis's 1880 novel is written as a posthumously composed memoir. 219 pp.

**JOAQUIM MARIA MACHADO DE ASSIS****SCARPETTA**

In the latest offering by much decorated crime novelist Patricia Cornwell, Chief Medical Examiner Kay Scarpetta, returns. Scarpetta attempts to unravel the chilling tale told by an injured and confused mental patient. Is he an insane stalker fixed upon our heroine, or is he the hunted victim he claims to be? 500pp.

**PATRICIA CORNWELL****THE SEAMSTRESS OF HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD**

Like so many women who felt the magnetic pull of the film industry, Nell Plat, a young but bored seamstress from Kansas, leaves her children behind to reinvent herself as Hollywood costumer, "Madame Annelle." McGraw based this story on her grandmother's life, re-creating the glamour of Hollywood in its heyday, but in doing so she shows that one cannot escape the past. 373pp.

**ERIN MCGRAW****SECOND TIME AROUND**

Three relatives move into an English seaside estate willed to them by a common distant relative. 289pp.

**MARCIA WILLETT****SONGS FOR THE MISSING**

A moving portrait of a family and a town in the wake of a daughter's disappearance. 287pp.

**STEWART O'NAN****THE WETTEST COUNTY IN THE WORLD**

Based on the true story of Bondurant's grandfather and granduncles, *The Wettest County in the World* chronicles the exploits of Franklin County, Virginia moonshiners in the 1920's. The Bondurant boys fight, fall in love, and watch their world dissolve under The Great Depression. 307pp.

**MATT BONDURANT**

## AUDIOBOOKS

THE PRIVATE PATIENT (CD's)

P.D. JAMES\*

## DETECTIVES

BLACKLIGHT BLUE

PETER MAY

THE BOOK OF MURDER

GUILLERMO MARTINEZ

CARAVAGGIO'S ANGEL

RUTH BRANDON

THE FISHER BOY

STEPHEN ANABLE

THE LAST EMBRACE

DENISE HAMILTON

LOST RIVER

DAVID FULMER+

MURDER SHORT & SWEET

ED. PAUL D. STAUDOCHAR

OLD DEVIL MOON

CHRISTOPHER FOWLER

THE VICTORIA VANISHES

CHRISTOPHER FOWLER

WHERE SERPENTS SLEEP

C.S. HARRIS

+ McNAUGHTON RENTAL

\* Anonymous Gift

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Stockholders are always welcome to pick up their books at the library. If you wish to be notified when a book is waiting, please let us know, and provide us with an email address (or alternately, a telephone number where there is an answering machine), and we can alert you when a book is waiting for you. If you are pressed for time, you may request that a book be left for you at the front desk.

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