

# Book Sense 76

INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLER RECOMMENDATIONS

J U L Y & A U G U S T 2 0 0 3



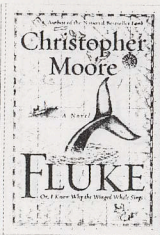
Here are the top 10 picks for this Book Sense Mystery and Suspense for Gripping Summer Reading



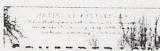
**1 THE CLEARING: A Novel**, by Tim Garton-Smith (Dial, \$22.95, 0375414746) "The Clearing is the story of brothers separated for years, both geograph are brought together again in a remote cyp Louisiana swamps. Gautreaux's evocative descriptytelling should not only bring him critical acclai readership his writing deserves."—Stephen C Books, Sister Bay, WI

**THE ANGEL OF MONTAGUE STREET**, by Norman Green (HarperCollins, \$24.95, 0060188197) "This is an intriguing and gritty look at the lower rungs of organized crime, as Green takes you on an underworld tour of violence, personal vendettas, and near insanity. A great follow-up to *Shooting Dr. Jack* and perfect for sitting at the beach or by the pool this summer."—Barry Johnson, Books at Stonehenge Market, Raleigh, NC

**ASHES**, by Kenzo Kitakata; Emi Shimokawa (Trans.) (Vertical, \$23.95, 1932234020) "Discovering this book—the author's first work to appear in English—is to find a real gem. Kitakata is one of Japan's most prolific hard-boiled detective authors, with over 100 novels to his credit—all of which are in print. This story about a midlevel Japanese yakuza (mafia) soldier going through a midlife crisis showcases Kitakata's dialogue and descriptions, but especially the cunning thought processes of the protagonist."—Bob Spear, The Book Barn, Leavenworth, KS



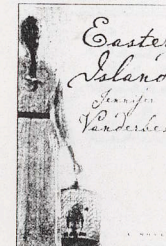
**3 FLUKE: Or, I Know Why the Winged I** Christopher Moore (Morrow, \$23.95, 0 coets a bizarre mix of characters, inclu Rastafarian, whales, research scientists, and a primordial soup. A laugh-out-loud novel with a serious message."—Dan Bogart, Bear River Books, Evanston, WY Also a HarperAudio (Unabridged Cassette, 006055679X)



**5 CONFEDERACY OF SILENCE: A True Tale of the New Old South**, by Richard Rubin (Pocket, \$14, 067103667X) "Rubin's

Recommendations from independent booksellers.

**D**, by Jennifer Vanderbes (Dial, \$22.95, s extraordinary fiction debut, two narratives condid. In 1913, Elsa Pendleton leaves England with I to study the maori statues on Easter Island. Sixty botanist travels to Easter Island to research the also to recover emotionally from the death of her nt revelations brings to life the parallel quests of nen."—Margaret Gwerder, Bookshelf at ee, CA



**A Novel**, by Jacqueline Winspear (Soho, \$25, ie Dobbs is the perfect heroine for this atmos- and self-reliant, but also vulnerable, haunted by her experiences as a nurse in France during WW I. In this wonderful debut, we care deeply about her, as her very first case as a private investigator brings her face-to-face with the demons in her own past. I hope Maisie is around for a long, long time."—Kristine Kaufman, The Snow Goose Bookstore, Stanwood, WA



**6 THE DOGS OF BABEL: A Novel**, by Carolyn Parkhurst (Little Brown, \$21.95, 0316168688) "This is a beautifully written

