



BOOKS

10 books to add to your reading list in March



(Photos by Ecco; Norton; FSG; Henry Holt; Dey Street; Knopf; Graywolf; Doubleday)

By **Bethanne Patrick**

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READING LIST

10 books for your February reading list

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Critic [Bethanne Patrick](#) recommends 10 promising titles, fiction and nonfiction, to consider for your March reading list.

Whether your March begins with the traditional winds or snow or rain, we've got books for you to hunker down with until things take a turn for the milder. Novels include a comedy of retail manners, two titles that continue character studies and an important retelling of a classic American tale. In nonfiction, two memoirs take on ideas of manhood, while journalists consider revolution and radical caregiving. Happy reading!

(Gray, Philip)

James

By Percival Everett

Doubleday: 320 pages, \$28

(March 19)

Whether or not you've seen "American Fiction," the new film for which Jeffrey Wright received an Oscar nomination, or read the book from which it's adapted — Percival Everett's "Erasure" — once you've picked up Everett's "James," a retelling of "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," you'll know that only Everett could take on the task of allowing Mark Twain's character Jim to show what was missing from the original story.

The Tree Doctor

By Marie Mutsuki Mockett

Graywolf Press: 256 pages, \$17

(March 19)

In her brilliant second novel, Mockett delicately combines how we approach time and mortality, as her narrator leaves her family in Hong Kong during the global pandemic to care for her aging mother in California. Once she's in Carmel, the narrator (who remains anonymous) begins to care for her mother's neglected garden — and embarks on a downright indelicate affair with a local arborist, hired to help bring a dormant cherry tree back to life.