

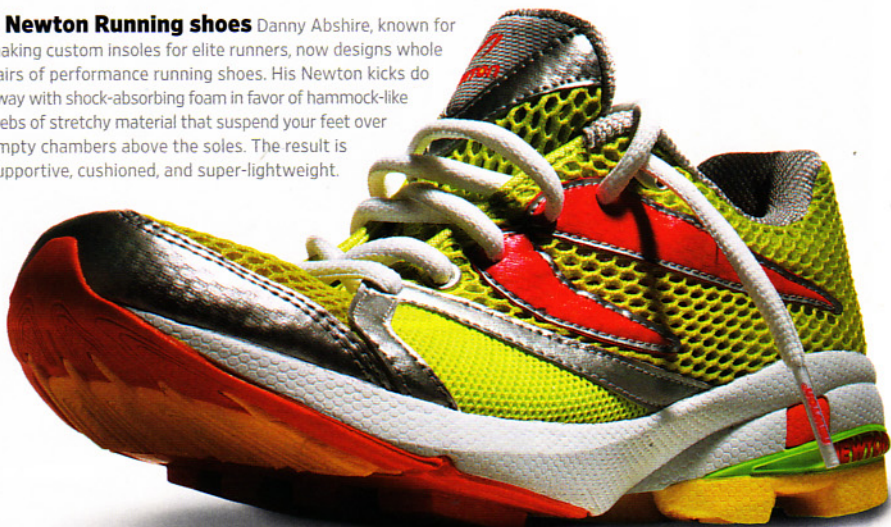


2 Amy Winehouse: Back to Black
Party trick: Put on this album and ask your friends to describe the singer. Bet they won't say a Jewish girl from London. Bad girl Winehouse, whose voice recalls Dinah Washington and the Shangri-Las, is a hoot when she croons swear words and her backup singers echo in perfect girl-group style.

3

Hot Fuzz Yarp! Simon Pegg and Edgar Wright, the duo behind 2004's cult hit *Shaun of the Dead*, succeed in doing for buddy cops what they did for zombies. This uproarious film is both a loving homage and a deft spoof, with all-star cameos including Steve Coogan, Stephen Merchant, and Bill Nighy. It opened in theaters on April 20.

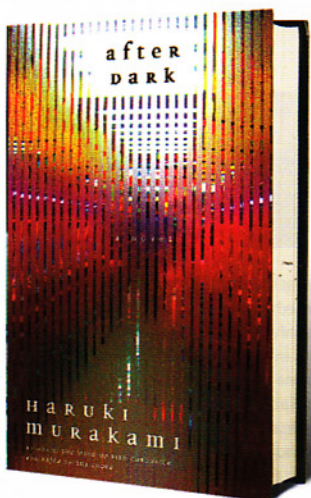
4 Newton Running shoes Danny Abshire, known for making custom insoles for elite runners, now designs whole pairs of performance running shoes. His Newton kicks do away with shock-absorbing foam in favor of hammock-like webs of stretchy material that suspend your feet over empty chambers above the soles. The result is supportive, cushioned, and super-lightweight.



5 Jack Kirby's Fourth World Omnibus: Vol. 1

In the 1970s, comic-book luminary Jack Kirby published four titles that were unprecedentedly ambitious, staggeringly original, and utterly insane. This rerelease—an acid-tinged reimagining of the superhero formula Kirby created in *Captain America*, *The Hulk*, and *X-Men*—presents each mind-bending issue in the order they first appeared.

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7 After Dark, by Haruki Murakami

In his gripping new novel, the prolific Japanese author replaces the omnipotent narrator with an invisible surveillance camera (creepy!) that tracks a seven-hour, late-night drift through Tokyo. Thanks to its inventive storytelling and detailed description of each scene's imagined soundtrack, *After Dark* almost feels more like a film than a book.

Office Tigers *The Office* goes to India. At times this TV series—airing in May on the Sundance Channel—feels so much like a mockumentary that you half expect Rainn Wilson to show up. But the Indian workers in this outsourcing firm are real, and so, unfortunately, are the American bosses who try to inspire their crew in a very Michael Scott kind of way.

8 Law School in a Box

We've always wondered what *Marbury v. Madison* was all about, but we were too lazy to go to law school. Thank heavens for mental floss' Law School in a Box, which provides just enough legal know-how to win an argument in a bar, even if you can't pass the bar exam.



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The Chronicles of a Bohemian Teenager, by Get Cape. Wear Cape. Fly. What would happen if you squeezed Billy Bragg, Frodo Baggins, and Seth Cohen into a spinning phone booth? Out would step Sam Duckworth, the waifish wonder-boy behind this soaring CD of emo-tronic angst.

10 involver.com

Sure, Twitter's fine if you must know what your friends are doing right now. But what are they doing next week? Try *involver.com*, which lets you list events you plan to attend and tag them with keywords.