

# Best Sellers Fiction

This Week **FICTION**

| This Week |  | Last Week | Weeks On List |
|-----------|--|-----------|---------------|
| 1         | <b>PLUM SPOOKY</b> , by Janet Evanovich. (St. Martin's, \$27.95.) The bounty hunter Stephanie Plum hunts an evil genius and his sidekick, who are hiding in New Jersey's Pine Barrens.   | 1         | 3             |
| 2         | <b>THE HOST</b> , by Stephenie Meyer. (Little, Brown, \$25.99.) Aliens have taken control of the minds and bodies of most human beings, but one woman won't surrender.   | 2         | 37            |
| 3         | <b>THE STORY OF EDGAR SAWTELLE</b> , by David Wroblewski. (Ecco, \$25.95.) A young mute who can communicate with the dogs his family raises takes refuge with three of them in the Wisconsin woods after his father's death.                 | 5         | 33            |
| 4         | <b>AGINCOURT</b> , by Bernard Cornwell. (Harper, \$27.99.) An English archer with a complicated past joins Henry V at the famous battle against the French in 1415.  |           | 1             |
| 5         | <b>BLACK OPS</b> , by W. E. B. Griffin. (Putnam, \$26.95.) An Army officer and special presidential agent is targeted for death — but by whom?   | 3         | 4             |
| 6         | <b>SCARPETTA</b> , by Patricia Cornwell. (Putnam, \$27.95.) The forensic pathologist Kay Scarpetta takes on a new assignment in New York.  | 6         | 8             |
| 7         | <b>MOUNTING FEARS</b> , by Stuart Woods. (Putnam, \$25.95.) In the weeks before an election, a president must deal with crises ranging from loose nukes in Pakistan to the reappearance of a rogue C.I.A. agent to a threatened sex scandal. | 4         | 2             |
| 8*        | <b>THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY</b> , by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. (Dial, \$22.) A journalist travels to the island of Guernsey to meet residents who resisted the Nazi occupation.                           | 8         | 19            |
| 9         | <b>CROSS COUNTRY</b> , by James Patterson. (Little, Brown, \$27.99.) Alex Cross chases the leader of a lethal teenage gang.  | 7         | 10            |
| 10        | <b>THE HOUR I FIRST BELIEVED</b> , by Wally Lamb. (Harper, \$29.95.) A man reconstructs five generations of family history.  | 10        | 11            |
| 11        | <b>THE PIANO TEACHER</b> , by Janice Y. K. Lee. (Viking, \$25.95.) An Englishwoman in 1950s Hong Kong discovers devastating secrets from the years of the Japanese occupation.   | 11        | 2             |
| 12*       | <b>FROM DEAD TO WORSE</b> , by Charlaine Harris. (ACE, \$24.95.) Following a deadly explosion at a vampire summit, the cocktail waitress Sookie Stackhouse faces danger.   | 12        | 5             |
| 13        | <b>BEAT THE REAPER</b> , by Josh Bazell. (Little, Brown, \$24.99.) A former hit man for the mob who has become a doctor is threatened when a gangster patient recognizes him.  | 14        | 2             |
| 14        | <b>FIRE AND ICE</b> , by Julie Garwood. (Ballantine, \$26.) A reporter and her bodyguard uncover a conspiracy in Alaska.   | 9         | 4             |
| 15        | <b>A MERCY</b> , by Toni Morrison. (Knopf, \$23.95.) In 17th-century America, a slave mother urges a Northern farmer to buy her daughter so that she can have a better life; from the Nobel Prize-winning author of "Beloved."               | 15        | 11            |

This Week **HARDCOVER FICTION EXTENDED**

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| 16 | <b>DIVINE JUSTICE</b> , by David Baldacci. (Grand Central)                |
| 17 | <b>THE LUCKY ONE</b> , by Nicholas Sparks. (Grand Central)                |
| 18 | <b>ECLIPSE</b> , by Richard North Patterson. (Holt)                       |
| 19 | <b>THE TEMPTATION OF THE NIGHT JASMINE</b> , by Lauren Willig. (Dutton)   |
| 20 | <b>MIDNIGHT</b> , by Sister Souljah. (Atria)                              |
| 21 | <b>THE GATE HOUSE</b> , by Nelson DeMille. (Grand Central)                |
| 22 | <b>ARCTIC DRIFT</b> , by Clive Cussler and Dirk Cussler. (Putnam)         |
| 23 | <b>RUNNING HOT</b> , by Jayne Ann Krentz. (Putnam)                        |
| 24 | <b>THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO</b> , by Stieg Larsson. (Knopf)        |
| 25 | <b>DAEMON</b> , by Daniel Suarez. (Dutton)                                |
| 26 | <b>THE CHARLEMAGNE PURSUIT</b> , by Steve Berry. (Ballantine)             |
| 27 | <b>KNIT TWO</b> , by Kate Jacobs. (Putnam)                                |
| 28 | <b>RUNNER</b> , by Thomas Perry. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)              |
| 29 | <b>THREE WEEKS TO SAY GOODBYE</b> , by C. J. Box. (St. Martin's Minotaur) |
| 30 | <b>THE BEST OF EVERYTHING</b> , by Kimberla Lawson Roby. (William Morrow) |
| 31 | <b>THE PRIVATE PATIENT</b> , by P. D. James. (Knopf)                      |
| 32 | <b>ON THE GRIND</b> , by Stephen J. Cannell. (St. Martin's)               |
| 33 | <b>A RULE AGAINST MURDER</b> , by Louise Penny. (St. Martin's Minotaur)   |
| 34 | <b>BREAKNECK</b> , by Erica Spindler. (St. Martin's)                      |
| 35 | <b>LARK AND TERMITE</b> , by Jayne Anne Phillips. (Knopf)                 |

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# Best Sellers NonFiction

| This Week | NONFICTION   | Last Week | Weeks On List |
|-----------|--|-----------|---------------|
| 1         | <b>OUTLIERS</b> , by Malcolm Gladwell. (Little, Brown, \$27.99.) Why some people succeed — it has to do with luck and opportunity as well as ability — from the author of “Blink” and “The Tipping Point.”                                     | 1         | 10            |
| 2         | <b>GUILTY</b> , by Ann Coulter. (Crown Forum, \$27.95.) The columnist argues that liberals victimize everyone else by pretending to be victims themselves.(†)  | 2         | 3             |
| 3         | <b>DEWEY</b> , by Vicki Myron with Bret Witter. (Grand Central, \$19.99.) The kitten left freezing in the returned-book slot of an Iowa public library and his rise to fame.   | 3         | 19            |
| 4         | <b>WHY WE SUCK</b> , by Denis Leary. (Viking, \$26.95.) Sardonic essays from the actor and comedian, currently the co-creator and star of the TV series “Rescue Me.”   | 6         | 10            |
| 5*        | <b>AMERICAN LION</b> , by Jon Meacham. (Random House, \$30.) Andrew Jackson, the seventh president, in the White House, by Newsweek’s editor.  | 5         | 11            |
| 6         | <b>MULTIPLE BLESSINGS</b> , by Jon Gosselin, Kate Gosselin and Beth Carson. (Zondervan, \$19.) A couple has sextuplets.  | 11        | 14            |
| 7*        | <b>THE AMERICAN JOURNEY OF BARACK OBAMA</b> , by the editors of Life magazine. (Little, Brown, \$24.99.) Photographs and essays, starting with Obama’s birth in Hawaii.  | 7         | 11            |
| 8         | <b>THE AUDACITY OF HOPE</b> , by Barack Obama. (Crown, \$25.) The president asks Americans to move beyond political divisions.   |           | 35            |
| 9         | <b>DREAMS FROM MY FATHER</b> , by Barack Obama. (Crown, \$25.95.) Obama on life as the son of a black African father and a white American mother.  |           | 4             |
| 10        | <b>TOO FAT TO FISH</b> , by Artie Lange with Anthony Bozza. (Spiegel & Grau, \$24.95.) Humorous memories from the comedian, a member of the cast of “The Howard Stern Show.”   | 4         | 11            |
| 11*       | <b>ANIMALS MAKE US HUMAN</b> , by Temple Grandin and Catherine Johnson. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$26.) Being attentive to animals’ emotions, both positive and negative, can help them have a better life.                                 | 15        | 3             |
| 12        | <b>THE ASCENT OF MONEY</b> , by Niall Ferguson. (Penguin Press, \$29.95.) A financial history of the world.  | 10        | 7             |
| 13        | <b>THE BREAKTHROUGH</b> , by Gwen Ifill. (Doubleday, \$24.95.) The PBS correspondent describes the rise of a younger generation of black political leaders who are the beneficiaries of the civil rights movement — including President Obama. |           | 1             |
| 14        | <b>HOT, FLAT, AND CROWDED</b> , by Thomas L. Friedman. (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$27.95.) How a green revolution can renew America, by the New York Times columnist.  | 9         | 20            |
| 15        | <b>ARE YOU THERE, VODKA? IT’S ME, CHELSEA</b> , by Chelsea Handler. (Simon Spotlight Entertainment, \$24.95.) Humorous personal essays from the stand-up comedian.   | 16        | 28            |

| This Week | HARDCOVER NONFICTION EXTENDED  |
|-----------|--|
| 16        | <b>A BOLD FRESH PIECE OF HUMANITY</b> , by Bill O’Reilly. (Broadway)                             |
| 17        | <b>A. LINCOLN</b> , by Ronald C. White Jr. (Random House)  |
| 18        | <b>TIME PRESIDENT OBAMA</b> , edited by Adi Ignatius. (Time Books)                               |
| 19        | <b>WISHFUL DRINKING</b> , by Carrie Fisher. (Simon & Schuster)                                   |
| 20        | <b>THE INHERITANCE</b> , by David E. Sanger. (Harmony)   |
| 21        | <b>WE CAN HAVE PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND</b> , by Jimmy Carter. (Simon & Schuster)                  |
| 22        | <b>YES WE CAN</b> , by Scout Tufankjian. (powerHouse)  |
| 23        | <b>THE SNOWBALL</b> , by Alice Schroeder. (Bantam)   |
| 24        | <b>THE RETURN OF DEPRESSION ECONOMICS AND THE CRISIS OF 2008</b> , by Paul Krugman. (Norton)     |
| 25        | <b>CRITICAL</b> , by Tom Daschle with Scott S. Greenberger and Jeanne M. Lambrew. (Thomas Dunne) |
| 26        | <b>THE BLACK SWAN</b> , by Nassim Nicholas Taleb. (Random House)                                 |
| 27        | <b>NOTHING TO FEAR</b> , by Adam Cohen. (Penguin Press)  |
| 28        | <b>MICHELLE</b> , by Liza Mundy. (Simon & Schuster)  |
| 29        | <b>THINGS I’VE BEEN SILENT ABOUT</b> , by Azar Nafisi. (Random House)                            |
| 30        | <b>A LONG TIME COMING</b> , by Evan Thomas and the staff of Newsweek. (PublicAffairs)            |
| 31        | <b>THE POST-AMERICAN WORLD</b> , by Fareed Zakaria. (Norton)                                     |
| 32        | <b>WHEN YOU ARE ENGULFED IN FLAMES</b> , by David Sedaris. (Little, Brown)                       |
| 33        | <b>MY STROKE OF INSIGHT</b> , by Jill Bolte Taylor. (Viking)                                     |
| 34        | <b>LETTER TO MY DAUGHTER</b> , by Maya Angelou. (Random House)                                   |
| 35        | <b>STREET GANG</b> , by Michael Davis. (Viking)  |

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# Paperback Best Sellers Trade Fiction

| This Week | TRADE FICTION  | Weeks On List |
|-----------|--|---------------|
| 1         | <b>THE SHACK</b> , by William P. Young. (Windblown Media, \$14.99.) A man whose daughter was abducted is invited to an isolated shack, apparently by God.(†)   | 36            |
| 2         | <b>SUNDAYS AT TIFFANY'S</b> , by James Patterson and Gabrielle Charbonnet. (Grand Central, \$13.99.) A woman finds an unexpected love.   | 3             |
| 3         | <b>THE READER</b> , by Bernhard Schlink. (Vintage, \$13.95.) A German high school student falls in love with a former Auschwitz employee.  | 8             |
| 4         | <b>REVOLUTIONARY ROAD</b> , by Richard Yates. (Vintage, \$14.95.) Frank and April Wheeler, a beautiful young couple living in 1950s America, see their supposedly perfect life come undone.                          | 8             |
| 5         | <b>PEOPLE OF THE BOOK</b> , by Geraldine Brooks. (Penguin, \$15.) An expert unlocks the secrets of a rare manuscript.  | 4             |
| 6*        | <b>A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS</b> , by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, \$16.) A friendship between two Afghan women against the backdrop of 30 years of war.  | 9             |
| 7         | <b>FIREFLY LANE</b> , by Kristin Hannah. (St. Martin's Griffin, \$14.95.) A friendship between two women in the Pacific Northwest endures for more than three decades as they make different choices in their lives. | 3             |
| 8         | <b>STILL ALICE</b> , by Lisa Genova. (Pocket, \$15.) A 50-year-old Harvard professor is diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's disease.  | 3             |
| 9         | <b>THE APPEAL</b> , by John Grisham. (Delta, \$14.) Political and legal intrigue ensue when a Mississippi court rules against a company accused of dumping toxic waste.  | 10            |
| 10        | <b>THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO</b> , by Junot Díaz. (Riverhead, \$14.) A nerdy Dominican-American struggles to escape a family curse.   | 21            |
| 11        | <b>THE SENATOR'S WIFE</b> , by Sue Miller. (Vintage, \$14.95.) A woman lives with her husband's persistent infidelity.   | 1             |
| 12        | <b>WATER FOR ELEPHANTS</b> , by Sara Gruen. (Algonquin, \$13.95.) A young man — and an elephant — save a Depression-era circus.  | 73            |
| 13*       | <b>THE ALCHEMIST</b> , by Paulo Coelho. (HarperOne, \$13.95.) A Spanish shepherd boy travels to Egypt in search of treasure.   | 72            |
| 14        | <b>THE WHITE TIGER</b> , by Aravind Adiga. (Free Press, \$14.) A chauffeur in India relates the story of his transformation from manservant to entrepreneur to murderer; the winner of the 2008 Man Booker Prize.    | 15            |
| 15        | <b>THE FRIDAY NIGHT KNITTING CLUB</b> , by Kate Jacobs. (Berkley, \$14.) A group of women meet weekly at a New York City yarn shop.  | 49            |
| 16        | <b>CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC</b> , by Sophie Kinsella. (Dial, \$14.) A London financial journalist struggles with debt and romance.  | 4             |
| 17*       | <b>WORLD WITHOUT END</b> , by Ken Follett. (New American Library, \$22.) Love and intrigue in Kingsbridge, the medieval English cathedral town at the center of Follett's "Pillars of the Earth."                    | 16            |
| 18        | <b>CHANGE OF HEART</b> , by Jodi Picoult. (Washington Square, \$16.) A prisoner on death row begins performing miracles.   | 8             |
| 19        | <b>LOVING FRANK</b> , by Nancy Horan. (Ballantine, \$14.) A story of the romance between Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Borthwick Cheney.  | 38            |
| 20        | <b>THE KITE RUNNER</b> , by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, \$15.95 and \$14.) An Afghan-American returns to Kabul to learn how a childhood friend has fared under the Taliban.   | 71            |

| This Week | TRADE FICTION EXTENDED   |
|-----------|--|
| 21        | <b>THE ELEGANCE OF THE HEDGEHOG</b> , by Muriel Barbery. (Europa)        |
| 22        | <b>OLIVE KITTERIDGE</b> , by Elizabeth Strout. (Random House)            |
| 23        | <b>THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN</b> , by Karen Kingsbury. (Center Street)         |
| 24        | <b>ONLY PLEASURE</b> , by Lora Leigh. (St. Martin's Griffin)             |
| 25        | <b>OUT STEALING HORSES</b> , by Per Petterson. (Picador)                 |
| 26        | <b>THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES</b> , by Sue Monk Kidd. (Penguin)             |
| 27        | <b>REMEMBER ME?</b> , by Sophie Kinsella. (Dial)                         |
| 28        | <b>THE WEDNESDAY LETTERS</b> , by Jason F. Wright. (Berkley)             |
| 29        | <b>THE ENCHANTRESS OF FLORENCE</b> , by Salman Rushdie. (Random House)   |
| 30        | <b>SHADOW COUNTRY</b> , by Peter Matthiessen. (Modern Library)           |
| 31        | <b>SONG YET SUNG</b> , by James McBride. (Riverhead)                     |
| 32        | <b>THE CHOICE</b> , by Nicholas Sparks. (Grand Central)                  |
| 33        | <b>MY SISTER'S KEEPER</b> , by Jodi Picoult. (Washington Square)         |
| 34        | <b>THE PILLARS OF THE EARTH</b> , by Ken Follett. (New American Library) |
| 35        | <b>THE ROAD</b> , by Cormac McCarthy. (Vintage)                          |

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# Paperback Best Sellers Mass-Market Fiction

| This Week | MASS-MARKET FICTION   | Weeks On List |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| 1         | <b>KISS OF A DEMON KING</b> , by Kresley Cole. (Pocket, \$7.99.) A ruthless warrior and an evil beauty engage in a smoldering relationship; part of the Immortals After Dark series.                                      | 1             |
| 2         | <b>THE APPEAL</b> , by John Grisham. (Dell, \$7.99.) Political and legal intrigue ensue when a Mississippi court rules against a company accused of dumping toxic waste.  | 10            |
| 3         | <b>REVOLUTIONARY ROAD</b> , by Richard Yates. (Vintage, \$7.99.) Frank and April Wheeler, a beautiful young couple living in 1950s America, see their supposedly perfect life come undone.                                | 4             |
| 4         | <b>PLUM LUCKY</b> , by Janet Evanovich. (St. Martin's, \$6.99.) Stephanie's grandmother finds a bag of cash and goes to Atlantic City, pursued by the money's owner.  | 3             |
| 5         | <b>THE FIRST PATIENT</b> , by Michael Palmer. (St. Martin's, \$9.99.) When he becomes doctor to his friend the president, a physician discovers a deadly conspiracy.  | 3             |
| 6         | <b>CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC</b> , by Sophie Kinsella. (Dell, \$7.99.) A London financial journalist struggles with debt and romance.   | 1             |
| 7         | <b>LADY KILLER</b> , by Lisa Scottoline. (Harper, \$7.99.) When her high school rival disappears, possibly as a result of foul play, a lawyer must confront her past.   | 4             |
| 8*        | <b>THE PAGAN STONE</b> , by Nora Roberts. (Jove, \$7.99.) Three men and three women unite to battle the demon of Hawkins Hollow; Book 3 of the Sign of Seven trilogy.   | 9             |
| 9         | <b>THE SHOOTERS</b> , by W. E. B. Griffin. (Jove, \$9.99.) An Army officer on the trail of a missing drug enforcement agent is undermined by the military and intelligence communities.                                   | 4             |
| 10        | <b>DEAD UNTIL DARK</b> , by Charlaine Harris. (Ace, \$7.99.) Sookie Stackhouse, a telepathic cocktail waitress in rural Louisiana, falls in love with a bad-boy vampire.  | 20            |
| 11        | <b>BETRAYAL</b> , by John Lescroart. (Signet, \$9.99.) The investigative pair Dismas Hardy and Abe Glitsky take over a case stemming from a conflict between a National Guard reservist and a private contractor in Iraq. | 4             |
| 12        | <b>MARRIED IN SEATTLE</b> , by Debbie Macomber. (Mira, \$7.99.) A reissue of "First Comes Marriage" (1991) and "Wanted: Perfect Partner" (1995).  | 4             |
| 13*       | <b>T IS FOR TRESPASS</b> , by Sue Grafton. (Berkley, \$7.99.) Kinsey Millhone must contend with a woman who has stolen a nurse's identity in order to take advantage of Kinsey's elderly neighbor.                        | 9             |
| 14        | <b>SHADOW MUSIC</b> , by Julie Garwood. (Ballantine, \$7.99.) A romance set in medieval Scotland.   | 4             |
| 15        | <b>GLITTER BABY</b> , by Susan Elizabeth Phillips. (Avon, \$7.99.) In this reissue of a 1987 book, the daughter of a 1950s starlet struggles to find self-acceptance and love.  | 4             |
| 16        | <b>BLASPHEMY</b> , by Douglas Preston. (Forge, \$9.99.) A C.I.A. operative tracks scientists with a huge supercollider who are poised to discover the secret of creation.   | 3             |
| 17        | <b>THE 6 SACRED STONES</b> , by Matthew Reilly. (Pocket, \$7.99.) The supersoldier Jack West Jr. must rebuild a legendary device to save the world from Armageddon.   | 3             |
| 18        | <b>STAR BRIGHT</b> , by Catherine Anderson. (Signet, \$7.99.) A woman fakes her death to escape her murderous husband and takes refuge at a ranch, where temptation awaits.   | 3             |
| 19*       | <b>FINAL JUSTICE</b> , by Fern Michaels. (Zebra, \$6.99.) The women of the Sisterhood pursue a presidential pardon; Book 12 of the Sisterhood series.   | 4             |
| 20        | <b>LIVING DEAD IN DALLAS</b> , by Charlaine Harris. (Ace, \$7.99.) A vampire asks Sookie Stackhouse to find one of his missing companions.  | 19            |

| This Week | MASS-MARKET FICTION EXTENDED   |
|-----------|--|
| 21        | <b>MURDER GAME</b> , by Christine Feehan. (Jove)                       |
| 22        | <b>CLUB DEAD</b> , by Charlaine Harris. (Ace)                          |
| 23        | <b>DEAD TO THE WORLD</b> , by Charlaine Harris. (Ace)                  |
| 24        | <b>DEAD AS A DOORNAIL</b> , by Charlaine Harris. (Ace)                 |
| 25        | <b>DOUBLE CROSS</b> , by James Patterson. (Vision)                     |
| 26        | <b>THE READER</b> , by Bernhard Schlink. (Vintage)                     |
| 27        | <b>ALL TOGETHER DEAD</b> , by Charlaine Harris. (Ace)                  |
| 28        | <b>FINAL BREATH</b> , by Kevin O'Brien. (Pinnacle)                     |
| 29        | <b>LIGHT OF THE MOON</b> , by Luanne Rice. (Bantam)                    |
| 30        | <b>THE 6TH TARGET</b> , by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro. (Vision) |
| 31        | <b>VEIL OF MIDNIGHT</b> , by Lara Adrian. (Dell)                       |
| 32        | <b>THE VENETIAN BETRAYAL</b> , by Steve Berry. (Ballantine)            |
| 33        | <b>BOOK OF THE DEAD</b> , by Patricia Cornwell. (Berkley)              |
| 34        | <b>THE DEATH DEALER</b> , by Heather Graham. (Mira)                    |
| 35        | <b>DEFINITELY DEAD</b> , by Charlaine Harris. (Ace)                    |

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# Paperback NonFiction Best Sellers List

| This Week | NONFICTION  | Weeks On List |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| 1         | <b>DREAMS FROM MY FATHER</b> , by Barack Obama. (Three Rivers, \$14.95.) Obama on life as the son of a black African father and a white American mother.  | 132           |
| 2         | <b>THE AUDACITY OF HOPE</b> , by Barack Obama. (Three Rivers, \$14.95, Vintage, \$7.99.) Obama asks Americans to move beyond political divisions.   | 57            |
| 3         | <b>TEAM OF RIVALS</b> , by Doris Kearns Goodwin. (Simon & Schuster, \$21.) The political genius of Abraham Lincoln.   | 26            |
| 4         | <b>THREE CUPS OF TEA</b> , by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. (Penguin, \$15.) A former climber builds schools in villages in Pakistan and Afghanistan.  | 104           |
| 5         | <b>MARLEY &amp; ME</b> , by John Grogan. (Harper, \$13.95 and \$7.99.) Lessons learned from a neurotic dog.   | 46            |
| 6         | <b>THE MIDDLE PLACE</b> , by Kelly Corrigan. (Voice, \$14.95.) A woman's struggle with cancer, her own and her father's, helps her gain a new maturity.   | 5             |
| 7         | <b>I HOPE THEY SERVE BEER IN HELL</b> , by Tucker Max. (Citadel/Kensington, \$15.95.) Life as a self-absorbed, drunken womanizer.   | 69            |
| 8         | <b>THE TIPPING POINT</b> , by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, \$14.95.) A study of social epidemics, otherwise known as fads.  | 225           |
| 9         | <b>EAT, PRAY, LOVE</b> , by Elizabeth Gilbert. (Penguin, \$15.) A writer's yearlong journey in search of self.  | 105           |
| 10        | <b>90 MINUTES IN HEAVEN</b> , by Don Piper with Cecil Murphey. (Revell, \$12.99.) A minister on the otherworldly experience he had after an accident.   | 118           |
| 11*       | <b>BLINK</b> , by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, \$15.99.) The importance of instinct to the workings of the mind.  | 67            |
| 12        | <b>PRESIDENT OBAMA</b> , by the Poynter Institute. (Andrews McMeel, \$14.99.) A collection of more than 75 newspaper front pages from Nov. 5, 2008.   | 1             |
| 13        | <b>THE OMNIVORE'S DILEMMA</b> , by Michael Pollan. (Penguin, \$16.) Tracking food from soil to plate.   | 71            |
| 14*       | <b>CHANGE WE CAN BELIEVE IN</b> , with a foreword by Barack Obama. (Three Rivers, \$13.95.) Speeches and policy proposals from Obama's presidential campaign.   | 11            |
| 15        | <b>MY HORIZONTAL LIFE</b> , by Chelsea Handler. (Bloomsbury, \$14.95.) A memoir of one-night stands.  | 15            |
| 16        | <b>SAME KIND OF DIFFERENT AS ME</b> , by Ron Hall and Denver Moore with Lynn Vincent. (Nelson, \$14.99.) The unlikely friendship between a homeless drifter and a successful art dealer who meet at a shelter in Texas. | 15            |
| 17*       | <b>THE FORGOTTEN MAN</b> , by Amity Shlaes. (Harper Perennial, \$15.95.) A reinterpretation of the New Deal and the Great Depression.   | 12            |
| 18        | <b>A LONG WAY GONE</b> , by Ishmael Beah. (Sarah Crichton/Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$12.) A former child soldier from Sierra Leone describes his ordeal.  | 22            |
| 19        | <b>THE ZOOKEEPER'S WIFE</b> , by Diane Ackerman. (Norton, \$14.95.) How a Warsaw couple sheltered Jews and members of the Resistance during World War II.   | 16            |
| 20        | <b>INFIDEL</b> , by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. (Free Press, \$15.) A memoir by the Somali-born advocate for Muslim immigrant women.   | 13            |

| This Week | NONFICTION EXTENDED  |
|-----------|--|
| 21        | <b>A WHOLE NEW MIND</b> , by Daniel H. Pink. (Riverhead)   |
| 22        | <b>THE GOD DELUSION</b> , by Richard Dawkins. (Mariner)  |
| 23        | <b>ANIMAL, VEGETABLE, MIRACLE</b> , by Barbara Kingsolver with Steven L. Hopp and Camille Kingsolver. (Harper Perennial) |
| 24        | <b>DEFIANCE</b> , by Nechama Tec. (Oxford University)  |
| 25        | <b>ESCAPE</b> , by Carolyn Jessop with Laura Palmer. (Broadway)  |
| 26        | <b>THE NINE</b> , by Jeffrey Toobin. (Anchor)  |
| 27        | <b>GANG LEADER FOR A DAY</b> , by Sudhir Venkatesh. (Penguin)  |
| 28        | <b>THE SHOCK DOCTRINE</b> , by Naomi Klein. (Picador)  |
| 29        | <b>BEAUTIFUL BOY</b> , by David Sheff. (Mariner)   |
| 30        | <b>HERE IF YOU NEED ME</b> , by Kate Braestrup. (Back Bay/Little, Brown)   |
| 31        | <b>THE DEFINING MOMENT</b> , by Jonathan Alter. (Simon & Schuster)   |
| 32        | <b>THE GEOGRAPHY OF BLISS</b> , by Eric Weiner. (Twelve)   |
| 33        | <b>THE BRAIN THAT CHANGES ITSELF</b> , by Norman Doidge. (Penguin)   |
| 34        | <b>THE WORLD IS FLAT</b> , by Thomas L. Friedman. (Picador)  |
| 35        | <b>LONE SURVIVOR</b> , by Marcus Luttrell with Patrick Robinson. (Back Bay/Little, Brown)                                |

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# Advice, How-To and Miscellaneous

| This Week                 | HARDCOVER   | Weeks On List | This Week                 | PAPERBACK   | Weeks On List |
|---------------------------|---|---------------|---------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1                         | <b>THE LAST LECTURE</b> , by Randy Pausch with Jeffrey Zaslow. (Hyperion, \$21.95.) Thoughts on “seizing every moment” from Pausch, a Carnegie Mellon professor who died of pancreatic cancer at age 47.            | 42            | 1                         | <b>SUZE ORMAN’S 2009 ACTION PLAN</b> , by Suze Orman. (Spiegel & Grau, \$9.99.) Managing your money in hard times.  | 4             |
| 2                         | <b>WHAT’S AGE GOT TO DO WITH IT?</b> , by Robin McGraw. (Thomas Nelson, \$24.99.) Advice for women on staying healthy and happy, from the wife of the talk-show host Dr. Phil McGraw.                               | 3             | 2                         | <b>BROKEN OPEN</b> , by Elizabeth Lesser. (Villard, \$14.95.) Turning difficult experiences — illness, divorce, loss of a job, loss of a loved one — into opportunities for growth.                   | 2             |
| 3                         | <b>FLAT BELLY DIET!</b> , by Liz Vaccariello and Cynthia Sass. (Rodale, \$25.95.) Nutrition advice and workout tips from the editors of Prevention magazine.  | 10            | 3                         | <b>HE’S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU</b> , by Greg Behrendt and Liz Tuccillo. (Simon Spotlight Entertainment, \$15.) How a woman can tell when a relationship is going nowhere.                             | 3             |
| 4                         | <b>THE SECRET</b> , by Rhonda Byrne. (Atria/Beyond Words, \$23.95.) The law of attraction as a key to getting what you want.  | 107           | 4                         | <b>WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU’RE EXPECTING</b> , by Heidi Murkoff and Sharon Mazel. (Workman, \$14.95.) Advice for parents-to-be.(†)   | 395           |
| 5                         | <b>HIGH VOLTAGE TATTOO</b> , by Kat Von D. (HarperCollins, \$29.95.) A chronicle of tattoo culture, by the star of “LA Ink” on the Learning Channel.  | 1             | 5                         | <b>THE LOVE DARE</b> , by Stephen and Alex Kendrick with Lawrence Kimbrough. (B&H, \$14.99.) A 40-day challenge for spouses to practice unconditional love.(†)  | 18            |
| 6                         | <b>BAREFOOT CONTESSA BACK TO BASICS</b> , by Ina Garten. (Clarkson Potter, \$35.) Cooking techniques and nearly 100 new recipes for elegant meals.  | 13            | 6                         | <b>TWILIGHT</b> , by Mark Cotta Vaz. (Little, Brown, \$16.99.) A behind-the-scenes look at the film based on the vampire romance for young adults by Stephenie Meyer.                                 | 15            |
| 7                         | <b>THE GREAT DEPRESSION AHEAD</b> , by Harry S. Dent Jr. (Free Press, \$27.) A financial prognosticator anticipates further market crashes and an extended downturn, but sees a way for savvy investors to prosper. | 2             | 7*                        | <b>THE BIGGEST LOSER FAMILY COOKBOOK</b> , by Devin Alexander with Melissa Roberson. (Rodale, \$21.95.) Eating healthily on a budget, with 125 recipes and tips from “The Biggest Loser” contestants. | 4             |
| 8*                        | <b>FOOD MATTERS</b> , by Mark Bittman. (Simon & Schuster, \$25.) An eco-conscious guide to eating, with recipes for reducing your waistline and your carbon footprint.  | 1             | 8                         | <b>SKINNY BITCH</b> , by Rory Freedman and Kim Barnouin. (Running Press, \$13.95.) Vegan diet advice from the world of modeling.  | 81            |
| 9                         | <b>THE ULTRAMIND SOLUTION</b> , by Mark Hyman. (Scribner, \$27.50.) How to pinpoint underlying biological problems to improve brain performance and allay depression, anxiety and more.                             | 3             | 9                         | <b>THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES</b> , by Gary Chapman. (Northfield, \$13.99.) How to communicate love in a way a spouse will understand.   | 78            |
| 10                        | <b>STRENGTHS BASED LEADERSHIP</b> , by Tom Rath and Barry Conchie. (Gallup, \$24.95.) Three keys to being a more effective leader. (†)  | 1             | 10                        | <b>THE PURPOSE-DRIVEN LIFE</b> , by Rick Warren. (Zondervan, \$14.99.) Finding meaning in one’s life through God.   | 40            |
| <b>HARDCOVER EXTENDED</b> |   |               | <b>PAPERBACK EXTENDED</b> |   |               |
| 11                        | <b>THE TOTAL MONEY MAKEOVER</b> , by Dave Ramsey. (Nelson)  |               | 11                        | <b>A NEW EARTH</b> , by Eckhart Tolle. (Plume)  |               |
| 12                        | <b>THE 4 DAY DIET</b> , by Ian K. Smith. (St. Martin’s)   |               | 12                        | <b>THE WISDOM OF MENOPAUSE</b> , by Christiane Northrup. (Bantam)   |               |
| 13                        | <b>THE BEST LIFE DIET COOKBOOK</b> , by Bob Greene. (Simon & Schuster)  |               | 13                        | <b>DINERS, DRIVE-INS AND DIVES</b> , by Guy Fieri with Ann Volkwein. (Morrow)   |               |
| 14                        | <b>BREAKTHROUGH</b> , by Suzanne Somers. (Crown)  |               | 14                        | <b>JIM CRAMER’S REAL MONEY</b> , by James J. Cramer. (Simon & Schuster)   |               |
| 15                        | <b>THE 4-HOUR WORKWEEK</b> , by Timothy Ferriss. (Crown)  |               | 15                        | <b>THE BEST LIFE DIET</b> , by Bob Greene. Foreword by Oprah Winfrey. (Simon & Schuster)  |               |

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# Children's Best Sellers

| <i>This Week</i> | PICTURE BOOKS  | <i>Weeks On List</i> |
|------------------|--|----------------------|
| 1                | <b>BARACK OBAMA: SON OF PROMISE, CHILD OF HOPE</b> , by Nikki Grimes. Illustrated by Bryan Collier. (Simon & Schuster, \$16.99.) Yes, he can; a children's biography of the president. (Ages 5 to 10)                  | 15                   |
| 2                | <b>LISTEN TO THE WIND: THE STORY OF DR. GREG AND THREE CUPS OF TEA</b> , by Greg Mortenson and Susan L. Roth. (Dial, \$16.99.) A school grows in Pakistan. (Ages 4 to 8)   | 1                    |
| 3                | <b>CHANGE HAS COME</b> , with words by Barack Obama. Illustrated by Kadir Nelson. (Simon & Schuster, \$12.99.) Drawings inspired by the 44th president. (All ages)   | 2                    |
| 4                | <b>WABI SABI</b> , by Mark Reibstein. Illustrated by Ed Young. (Little, Brown Young Readers, \$16.99.) Wabi Sabi the cat seeks the meaning of her name. (Ages 4 to 8)  | 6                    |
| 5                | <b>SWING!</b> , written and illustrated by Rufus Butler Seder. (Workman, \$12.95.) Athletic children seem to move when you flip the page. (Ages 4 to 8)  | 15                   |
| 6                | <b>GALLOP!</b> , written and illustrated by Rufus Butler Seder. (Workman, \$12.95.) Animals seem to move when you flip the page. (Ages 4 to 8)   | 63                   |
| 7                | <b>BARACK</b> , by Jonah Winter. Illustrated by AG Ford. (Collins/Katherine Tegen/HarperCollins, \$17.99.) The Obama story. (Ages 4 to 7)  | 3                    |
| 8                | <b>NAKED MOLE RAT GETS DRESSED</b> , written and illustrated by Mo Willems. (Hyperion, \$16.99.) The rodent as individualist, and trendsetter. (Ages 3 and up)   | 3                    |
| 9                | <b>TEN LITTLE FINGERS AND TEN LITTLE TOES</b> , by Mem Fox. Illustrated by Helen Oxenbury. (Harcourt, \$16.) A celebration of fingers, toes and love. (Ages 4 to 8)  | 14                   |
| 10               | <b>BIG WORDS FOR LITTLE PEOPLE</b> , by Jamie Lee Curtis. Illustrated by Laura Cornell. (Joanna Cotler/HarperCollins, \$16.99.) A boisterous family improves its vocabulary, and thus its relationships. (Ages 4 to 8) | 20                   |

| <i>This Week</i> | CHAPTER BOOKS   | <i>Weeks On List</i> |
|------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1                | <b>THE 39 CLUES: ONE FALSE NOTE</b> , by Gordon Korman. (Scholastic, \$12.99.) A sequel to "The Maze of Bones." (Ages 8 to 12)  | 8                    |
| 2                | <b>3 WILLOWS</b> , by Ann Brashares. (Delacorte, \$18.99.) A new Sisterhood introduces three girls during their last summer before high school. (Ages 12 and up)      | 2                    |
| 3                | <b>THE HUNGER GAMES</b> , by Suzanne Collins. (Scholastic, \$17.99.) In a dystopian future, a girl fights for survival on live TV. (Ages 12 and up)                   | 20                   |
| 4                | <b>THE 39 CLUES: THE MAZE OF BONES</b> , by Rick Riordan. (Scholastic, \$12.99.) A brother and sister seek the source of their family's power. (Ages 8 to 12)         | 20                   |
| 5                | <b>THE GRAVEYARD BOOK</b> , by Neil Gaiman. Illustrated by Dave McKean. (HarperCollins, \$17.99.) To avoid a killer, a boy lives in a cemetery. (Ages 10 and up)      | 17                   |
| 6                | <b>THIRTEEN REASONS WHY</b> , by Jay Asher. (Razorbill, \$16.99.) Before committing suicide a girl sends explanatory audiotapes to 13 people. (Ages 14 and up)        | 14                   |
| 7                | <b>THIRTY DAYS HAS SEPTEMBER: COOL WAYS TO REMEMBER STUFF</b> , by Chris Stevens. (Scholastic, \$9.99.) Mnemonics, downsized. (Ages 9 to 12)                          | 1                    |
| 8                | <b>IDENTICAL</b> , by Ellen Hopkins. (McElderry/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99.) Incest and drug abuse come between twin daughters in a political family. (Ages 14 and up) | 13                   |
| 9                | <b>BURNING UP</b> , by Joe, Kevin and Nick Jonas. (Disney-Hyperion, \$21.99.) The Jonas Brothers band on tour. (Ages 9 to 12)   | 10                   |
| 10               | <b>WE ARE THE SHIP</b> , by Kadir Nelson. (Disney-Jump at the Sun, \$18.99.) The story of Negro League baseball. (Ages 9 to 12)                                       | 3                    |

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# Children's Best Sellers

| <i>This Week</i> | PAPERBACK BOOKS  | <i>Weeks On List</i> |
|------------------|--|----------------------|
| 1                | <b>THREE CUPS OF TEA: YOUNG READERS EDITION</b> , by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. (Puffin, \$8.99.) A former climber builds schools in Pakistani and Afghan villages. (Ages 9 to 12) | 1                    |
| 2                | <b>THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX</b> , by Kate DiCamillo. Illustrated by Timothy Basil Ering. (Candlewick, \$7.99.) A mouse, a rat and a girl on a magic trip. (Ages 10 and up)                       | 52                   |
| 3                | <b>BARACK OBAMA: AN AMERICAN STORY</b> , by Roberta Edwards. Illustrated by Ken Call. (Grosset & Dunlap, \$3.99.) A biography of the "skinny kid" president. (Ages 7 to 9)                     | 22                   |
| 4                | <b>BARACK OBAMA: UNITED STATES PRESIDENT</b> , by Roberta Edwards. Illustrated by Ken Call. (Grosset & Dunlap, \$4.99.) The "skinny kid's" political journey continues. (Ages 6 to 8)          | 3                    |
| 5                | <b>THE BOOK THIEF</b> , by Markus Zusak. (Knopf, \$11.99.) A girl saves books from Nazi burning and shares them with a Jewish man in hiding. (Ages 14 and up)                                  | 72                   |
| 6                | <b>HOTEL FOR DOGS</b> , by Erica David. (Simon & Schuster, \$5.99.) A novelization of the movie. (Ages 4 to 8)   | 1                    |
| 7                | <b>CORALINE</b> , by Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean. (HarperFestival, \$6.99.) A movie tie-in. (Ages 9 to 12)   | 2                    |
| 8                | <b>THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS</b> , by John Boyne. (Random House, \$8.99.) A boy's innocence is eroded in evil times. (Ages 12 and up)   | 12                   |
| 9                | <b>TWEAK</b> , by Nic Sheff. (Atheneum, \$9.99.) The "Beautiful Boy" of his father's book tells his own story of methamphetamine addiction. (Ages 14 and up)                                   | 3                    |
| 10               | <b>MICHELLE OBAMA: AN AMERICAN STORY</b> , by David Colbert. (Houghton Mifflin, \$16.) A life in context. (Ages 9 to 12)   | 1                    |

| <i>This Week</i> | SERIES   | <i>Weeks On List</i> |
|------------------|--|----------------------|
| 1                | <b>THE TWILIGHT SAGA</b> , by Stephenie Meyer. (Megan Tingley/Little, Brown, hardcover and paper) Vampires and werewolves in high school. (Ages 12 and up)             | 77                   |
| 2                | <b>DIARY OF A WIMPY KID</b> , written and illustrated by Jeff Kinney. (Abrams, hardcover only) A boy records the hazards of adolescent life. (Ages 9 to 12)            | 2                    |
| 3                | <b>INKHEART</b> , by Cornelia Funke. (Scholastic, hardcover and paper) The characters of a book come to life and ensnare its readers. (Ages 10 and up)                 | 18                   |
| 4                | <b>HARRY POTTER</b> , by J. K. Rowling. (Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic, hardcover and paper) A young wizard hones his skills while fighting evil. (Ages 10 and up)       | 208                  |
| 5                | <b>HOUSE OF NIGHT</b> , by P. C. Cast and Kristin Cast. (St. Martin's, paper only) Vampires in school. (Ages 14 and up)  | 22                   |
| 6                | <b>INHERITANCE</b> , by Christopher Paolini. (Knopf, hardcover and paper) A teenager and his dragon learn the secrets of a fantasy world. (Ages 12 and up)             | 19                   |
| 7                | <b>NIGHT WORLD</b> , by L. J. Smith. (Simon Pulse, paper only) Supernatural races form secret societies. (Ages 14 and up)  | 8                    |
| 8                | <b>VAMPIRE ACADEMY</b> , by Richelle Mead. (Razorbill, paper only) The undead at boarding school. (Ages 12 and up)   | 6                    |
| 9                | <b>MAGIC TREE HOUSE</b> , by Mary Pope Osborne. Illustrated by Sal Murdocca. (Stepping Stone/Random House, hardcover and paper) Children travel in time. (Ages 6 to 9) | 203                  |
| 10               | <b>BLUE BLOODS</b> , by Melissa de la Cruz. (Hyperion, hardcover and paper) A vampire blood feud. (Ages 14 and up)   | 6                    |

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## Editor's Choice

**THE WOMEN**, by T. Coraghessan Boyle. (Viking, \$27.95.) Approaching Frank Lloyd Wright's complexities through the lens of his messy romantic relationships, Boyle's novel is both historically diligent and a mesmerizing independent work of the imagination.

**BANQUET AT DELMONICO'S:** *Great Minds, the Gilded Age, and the Triumph of Evolution in America*, by Barry Werth. (Random House, \$27.) A witty account of Darwinism's reception after the Civil War.

**ANGELS AND AGES:** *A Short Book About Darwin, Lincoln, and Modern Life*, by Adam Gopnik. (Knopf, \$24.95.) The crucial comparison in Gopnik's set of parallel lives is between two excellent writers.

**DARWIN'S SACRED CAUSE:** *How a Hatred of*

*Slavery Shaped Darwin's Views on Human Evolution*, by Adrian Desmond and James Moore. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$30.) Darwin's starting point, the authors say, "was the abolitionist belief in blood kinship."

**THE ART INSTINCT:** *Beauty, Pleasure, and Human Evolution*, by Denis Dutton. (Bloomsbury, \$25.) A philosophy professor ties our preferences in literature, music and art to the drives of prehistoric humans.

**SECURING THE CITY:** *Inside America's Best Counterterror Force — the NYPD*, by Christopher Dickey. (Simon & Schuster, \$26.) Much credit for success goes to Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly.

**BLINDSPOT:** *By a Gentleman in Exile and a Lady in Disguise*, by Jane Kamensky and Jill Lepore. (Spiegel & Grau, \$24.95.) A novel of colonial America on the brink of Revolution, in the modes of 18th-century fiction.

**JOSEPH P. KENNEDY PRESENTS:** *His Hollywood Years*, by Cari Beauchamp. (Knopf, \$35.) Kennedy's film stint was profitable and at times visionary.

**THE BOOK OF UNHOLY MISCHIEF**, by Elle Newmark. (Atria, \$26.) This atmospheric novel finds its heart in the kitchens of Renaissance Venice.

The full reviews of these and other recent books are on the Web: [nytimes.com/books](http://nytimes.com/books).

## Paperback Row

**THE CONSCIENCE OF A LIBERAL**, by Paul Krugman. (Norton, \$15.95.) Like the book by Barry Goldwater whose title it evokes, this one argues for a fundamental ideological reorientation — in the opposite direction. Krugman, a Princeton economist and New York Times Op-Ed columnist who won the Nobel Prize last year, argues that the extreme inequality in the contemporary United States results from political choices, not economic laws. The book's strongest chapter makes the case for universal health care. Krugman "discusses complex economic questions with rare lucidity," Peter Beinart wrote in *The Times*, and his arguments for "fundamentally changing — or changing back — the relationship between America's government and its citizens" will "prove vital" to the new administration.

**SONG YET SUNG**, by James McBride. (Riverhead, \$15.) Set on Maryland's Eastern Shore — Harriet Tubman territory — this novel about antebellum fugitive slaves has a heroine reminiscent of Tubman. This is the second novel by McBride, who is best known for his memoir, "The Color of Water." In the Book Review, Madison Smartt Bell praised McBride's "dispassionate tone" as "a radically new way of telling this old story."

**THE STAR MACHINE**, by Jeanine Basinger. (Vintage, \$18.95.) "The importance of stardom has diminished over time," Basinger, the chairwoman of the film studies department at Wesleyan University, writes in this sprawling book. She examines the gears and levers of the old Hollywood studio machine, focusing on the careers of several stars whose experiences illustrate its operation.

**LONG TIME LEAVING: Dispatches From Up South**, by Roy Blount Jr. (Counterpoint, \$15.95.) Blount, who grew up in Georgia and now lives

in Massachusetts, writes that "I hover between Southern and Northern" and that "part of being an American is feeling like the child of a broken home." This collection of essays reveals his love of language and music, his impeccable comic timing, and what short'nin' bread really is.

**LINCOLN AND DOUGLAS: The Debates That Defined America**, by Allen C. Guelzo. (Simon & Schuster, \$17.) Lincoln's debates with Stephen A. Douglas in the summer and fall of 1858 have the status of myth, but they were, William Grimes wrote in *The Times*, "part of an often dirty political campaign, not a series of Socratic dialogues." Guelzo presents the debates in context, bringing them "back down to earth." Grimes said. **THE BEST AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAYS ON LINCOLN**, edited by Sean Wilentz (Palgrave Macmillan, \$16.95), collects 11 scholarly classics, including Richard Hofstadter on Lincoln and the self-made myth, and an excerpt from Edmund Wilson's "Patriotic Gore." The essays, assembled for the Organization of American Historians, illustrate "how historians' approaches to Lincoln have evolved in recent decades," Wilentz writes in the introduction. For more on the Lincoln literature, see William Safire's essay, beginning on this issue's cover.

**OBEDIENCE**, by Will Lavender. (Three Rivers, \$13.95.) This first novel is an academic puzzle mystery, and "it's a genuine, if slightly perverse, kick to follow every byzantine clue in this bizarre game," our reviewer, Marilyn Stasio, said.

**THE WAGNER CLAN: The Saga of Germany's Most Illustrious and Infamous Family**, by Jonathan Carr. (Grove, \$16.95.) "The Wagner tale is a matchless mirror of Germany's convulsive rise, fearful fall and resurrection over nearly 200 years," Carr writes in this lively retelling, tracing the Wag-

ners' connections to nationalism, anti-Semitism and the Führer himself, as well as the recent struggle over the direction of the Bayreuth festival.

**RECONCILIATION: Islam, Democracy, and the West**, by Benazir Bhutto. (Harper Perennial, \$15.99.) Bhutto finished this book days before she was assassinated in December 2007. In it she presents her vision of Islam as "an open, pluralistic and tolerant religion" hijacked by extremists, and her belief that Islam and the West need not find themselves on a collision course. In the Book Review, Fareed Zakaria called this a "book of enormous intelligence, courage and clarity" and said it "contains the best-written and most persuasive modern interpretation of Islam I have read."

**THE GREAT DERANGEMENT: A Terrifying True Story of War, Politics, and Religion**, by Matt Taibbi. (Spiegel & Grau, \$14.95.) This is Taibbi's nihilistic account of his travels in the months leading up to the election, which took him to Iraq, the halls of Congress, a meeting of the 9/11 truth movement and John Hagee's Texas church. Americans "more than ever" are "hating instead of seeing the big picture," he concludes.

**WHITE HOUSE GHOSTS: Presidents and Their Speechwriters**, by Robert Schlesinger. (Simon & Schuster, \$18.) The process of White House speechwriting has become much more complex since the era of Franklin Roosevelt, Schlesinger shows in this lively history, although the best ghostwriters are still so in tune with the boss that they sound and think like him. Today, with speechwriters advertising their contributions, "the White House ghosts" have "come fully into view," Schlesinger observes.

ELSA DIXLER