

What Traders Are Watching

Folks – Here is the compilation of my annual “Spring Break Reading” survey of my readers. I had over 600 people respond, so a very solid sampling around Wall Street and the Globe. I’ve tried to organize it by Genre (best I could!!), and obviously me listing the book in no way is a sign that I read, or support the material. I would ask you to do your own homework, to determine if the book is appropriate. I put the most popular books (by recommendation frequency) first in genre, followed in alphabetical order of the others. I plan on buying dozens of these listed – some sound really great – They are all available on Amazon. Enjoy, this was a battle to organize – Dave Lutz, JonesTrading

The most frequently mentioned books include: *Shoe Dog; Red Notice; The Undoing Project; Dark Matter; Hillbilly Elegy; Black Edge; Born to Run; Sapiens; Grit; Tools of Titans; A Man for All Markets; Killing the Rising Sun; I Am Pilgrim; Fed Up; Dreamland; The Given Day; Prisoners of Geography; Superforecasting; Dead Wake; Living with a SEAL; Seveneves; Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life; The Four Agreements; Thank You For Being Late; A man called Ove; Power of the Dog; A New Day One; The Underground Railroad; Under a Big Black Sun; All the Light We Cannot See; Before the Fall; Titan The Life of J.D. Rockefeller; Extreme Ownership: How U.S. Navy SEALs Lead and Win; Art of the Deal*

[Click on Hyperlinks to take you to the Genre \(May be Ctrl+Click\):](#)

FICTION: [MYSTERY & THRILLER](#) - [FICTION CRIME / SPY THRILLER](#) - [SCIENCE FICTION](#) - [HISTORICAL](#) - [GENERAL FICTION](#)

NON-FICTION: [FAMILY & KIDS](#) - [FOOD & DRINK](#) – [GENERAL NONFICTION](#) - [HISTORY](#) - [TRAVEL](#) – [BIOGRAPHY](#) - [WAR PRE 9/11](#) - [WAR POST 9/11](#) – [POLITICAL/RELIGION](#) - [SCIENCE](#) – [BEHAVIORAL](#) – [BIZ STRATEGY](#) - [FINANCE, POST CREDIT CRUNCH](#) – [FINANCE GENERAL](#) - [TRADING & INVESTING](#)

[SPORTS](#)

FICTION / MYSTERY / THRILLER

I Am Pilgrim - Terry Hayes (4) - Delivers thrills and spills...A full tilt mix of Homeland, The Wire and The Bourne Ultimatum" Mail on Sunday "I Am Pilgrim is a 21st century thriller: a high concept plot, but with finely drawn protagonists. The plot twists and turns like a python in a sack. The style is visceral, gritty and cinematic...A satisfying and ambitious book, written with skill and verve"

Before the Fall by Noah Hawley (3) - "From the Emmy, PEN, Peabody, Critics' Choice, and Golden Globe Award-winning creator of the TV show Fargo comes the thriller of the year."

Descent – Tim Johnston (2) - The Rocky Mountains have cast their spell over the Courtlands, who are taking a family vacation before their daughter leaves for college. But when Caitlin and her younger brother, Sean, go out for an early morning run and only Sean returns, the mountains become as terrifying as they are majestic

Blood On Snow by Jo Nesbo - a fast, tight, darkly lyrical stand-alone novel that has at its center the perfectly sympathetic antihero: an Oslo contract killer who draws us into an unexpected meditation on death and love.

Dark Descent by Clive Barker - “traces the complex history of horror in literature back to the earliest short stories.”

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley - The story of Victor Frankenstein's terrible creation and the havoc it caused has enthralled generations of readers and inspired countless writers of horror and suspense

Heart Shaped Box – Joe Hill (Stephen King’s Son) - “Wild, mesmerizing, perversely witty....A Valentine from hell.”

Home - Harlan Coben - Ten years after the high-profile kidnapping of two young boys, only one returns home in Harlan Coben’s gripping thriller (Latest in Myron Bolitar Series)

In Cold Blood – Truman Capote - The intensively researched, atmospheric narrative of the lives of the Clutter family of Holcomb, Kansas, and of the two men, Richard Eugene Hickock and Perry Edward Smith, who brutally killed them on the night of November 15, 1959, is the seminal work of the “new journalism.”

Pines – Blake Crouch - Secret service agent Ethan Burke arrives in Wayward Pines, Idaho, with a clear mission: locate and recover two federal agents who went missing in the bucolic town one month earlier. But within minutes of his arrival, Ethan is involved in a violent accident. He comes to in a hospital, with no ID, no cell phone, and no briefcase. The medical staff seems friendly enough, but something feels...off.

Red Sparrow – Jason Matthews - Matthews, whose 33 years as a CIA field operative enriches his first novel with startling verisimilitude, from griping about meddling, deskbound bureaucrats at Langley to the flat statement that Russia’s SVR, successor to the KGB, sees the Cold War as alive and well, and that in Putin’s Russia, “nothing has changed since Stalin.” Espionage aficionados will love this one

Rules of Prey by John Sandford - First in the "prey" Series - “Rules of Prey is so chilling that you’re almost afraid to turn the pages. So mesmerizing you cannot stop...A crackle of surprises.” —*Carl Hiaasen
Slow Horses by Mick Herron - The first book in CWA Gold Dagger Award-winning British espionage series starring a team of MI5 agents united by one common bond: They’ve screwed up royally and will do anything to redeem themselves.

Surrender New York –Caleb Carr - "a contemporary, edge-of-your-seat thriller featuring criminal psychologist Dr. Trajan Jones, the world’s leading expert on the life and work of one Dr. Laszlo Kreizler, the hero of The Alienist, in whose brilliant but unconventional footsteps he follows"

The Conclave by Robert Harris - "The Pope is dead - Behind the locked doors of the Sistine Chapel, one hundred and twenty Cardinals from all over the globe will cast their votes in the world’s most secretive election. They are holy men. But they have ambition. And they have rivals"

The Fireman by Joe Hill - a chilling novel about a worldwide pandemic of spontaneous combustion that threatens to reduce civilization to ashes and a band of improbable heroes who battle to save it, led by one powerful and enigmatic man known as the Fireman.

The Goldfinch - Donna Tartt - a mesmerizing, tell-all-your-friends triumph, hailed by Stephen King as "a rarity that comes along perhaps half a dozen times per decade, a smartly written literary novel that connects with the heart as well as the mind.

The Magus - John Fowles - a young Englishman, Nicholas Urfe, accepts a teaching position on a Greek island where his friendship with the owner of the islands most magnificent estate leads him into a nightmare. As reality and fantasy are deliberately confused by staged deaths, erotic encounters, and terrifying violence, Urfe becomes a desperate man fighting for his sanity and his life. A work rich with symbols, conundrums and labyrinthine twists of event

The Power of One by Bryce Courtenay - "has everything: suspense, the exotic, violence; mysticism, psychology and magic; schoolboy adventures, drama.""

The Sympathizer: A Novel by Viet Thanh Nguyen - The narrator, a communist double agent, is a "man of two minds," a half-French, half-Vietnamese army captain who arranges to come to America after the Fall of Saigon, and while building a new life with other Vietnamese refugees in Los Angeles is secretly reporting back to his communist superiors in Vietnam

The Wolf Road: A Novel by Beth Lewis – "an intimate cat-and-mouse tale of revenge and redemption, played out against a vast, unforgiving landscape—told by an indomitable young heroine fighting to escape her past and rejoin humanity."

Thunderstruck by Erik Larson - In Thunderstruck, Erik Larson tells the interwoven stories of two men—Hawley Crippen, a very unlikely murderer, and Guglielmo Marconi, the obsessive creator of a seemingly supernatural means of communication—whose lives intersect during one of the greatest criminal chases of all time.

FICTION CRIME / SPY THRILLER

The Chemist by Stephenie Meyer (2) - "She used to work for the U.S. government, but very few people ever knew that. An expert in her field, she was one of the darkest secrets of an agency so clandestine it doesn't even have a name. And when they decided she was a liability, they came for her without warning. "

James Bond books by Ian Fleming - The Classic British Spy Series

Memorial Day (A Mitch Rapp Novel Book 5) by Vince Flynn - Fearless counterterrorism operative Mitch Rapp is called upon to fight against the world's most deadly terrorists in this harrowing political thriller

Michael Bennett series by James Patterson - "there is some good killing"

Red Sparrow by Jason Matthews - In the vein of "I Am Pilgrim" - In the tradition of John le Carré, the bestselling, impossible-to-put-down, espionage thriller that is "a primer in twenty-first century spying"

Shining City - Tom Rosenstiel. DC Thriller featuring an ex-Special forces soldier and a vacancy on the Supreme Court - Its 24-hour attempt "to solve murders three thousand miles and three months apart" delivers

The Oregon Files Series - Clive Cussler - Golden Buddha the First - "The Corporation, a group of highly intelligent and skilled mercenaries, under the leadership of Juan Cabrillo, board a brand new ship. It's a state-of-the-art seagoing marvel with unthinkable technology at its disposal. And it's designed to look like a rusty old lumber hauler"

SCIENCE FICTION

1Q84 - Haruki Murakami - A love story, a mystery, a fantasy, a novel of self-discovery, a dystopia to rival George Orwell's—1Q84 is Haruki Murakami's most ambitious undertaking yet: an instant best seller in his native Japan, and a tremendous feat of imagination from one of our most revered contemporary writers.

Ancillary Mercy – Ann Leckie - "the stunning conclusion to the New York Times bestselling trilogy"

The Force Awakens - Alan Dean Foster - More than thirty years ago, Star Wars burst onto the big screen and became a cultural phenomenon. Now the next adventures in this blockbuster saga are poised to captivate old and new fans alike—beginning with the highly anticipated Star Wars: The Force Awakens.

The Fountainhead - Ayn Rand - This instant classic is the story of an intransigent young architect, his violent battle against conventional standards, and his explosive love affair with a beautiful woman who struggles to defeat him - As fresh today as it was then, here is a novel about a hero—and about those who try to destroy him.

The Martian - Andy Weir - After a dust storm nearly kills him and forces his crew to evacuate while thinking him dead, Mark finds himself stranded and completely alone with no way to even signal Earth that he's alive—and even if he could get word out, his supplies would be gone long before a rescue could arrive. Drawing on his ingenuity, his engineering skills—and a relentless, dogged refusal to quit—he steadfastly confronts one seemingly insurmountable obstacle after the next.

Wool - Hugh Howey - WOOL introduced the silo and its inhabitants. SHIFT told the story of their making. DUST will chronicle their undoing - Welcome to the underground

HISTORICAL FICTION

Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man's Fight for Justice - Bill Browder (12) - John Grisham-like thriller, part business and political memoir, and in it Mr. Browder, an early hedge-fund investor in Russia, tells the story of how the Kremlin raided his fund, kicked him out of the country and perpetrated an elaborate financial fraud. The lawyer he hires to investigate the crime is murdered, and Mr. Browder seeks to avenge his death. It's a hard book to put down

The Given Day (4) - Dennis Lehane - This beautifully written novel of American history tells the story of two families—one black, one white—swept up in a maelstrom of revolutionaries and anarchists, immigrants and ward bosses, Brahmins and ordinary citizens, all engaged in a battle for survival and power at the end of World War I

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr (3) - beautiful, stunningly ambitious instant New York Times bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead (3) – “a magnificent tour de force chronicling a young slave's adventures as she makes a desperate bid for freedom in the antebellum South”

Under a Big Black Sun - John Doe (3) - "explores the nascent Los Angeles punk rock movement and its evolution to hardcore punk as it's never been told before. Authors John Doe and Tom DeSavia have woven together an enthralling story of the legendary West Coast scene from 1977-1982 by enlisting the voices of people who were there. The book shares chapter-length tales from the authors along with personal essays from famous (and infamous) players in the scene."

Pirate Hunters: Treasure, Obsession, and the Search for a Legendary Pirate Ship By Robert Kurson (2) - "A thrilling adventure of danger and deep-sea diving, historic mystery and suspense, by the author of Shadow Divers"

The Killer Angels: A Novel of the Civil War - Michael Shaara (2) - This novel reveals more about the Battle of Gettysburg than any piece of learned nonfiction on the same subject. Michael Shaara's account of the three most important days of the Civil War features deft characterizations of all of the main actors, including Lee, Longstreet, Pickett, Buford, and Hancock

11/22/63 - Stephen King - On November 22, 1963, three shots rang out in Dallas, President Kennedy died, and the world changed. What if you could change it back? Stephen King's heart-stoppingly dramatic new novel is about a man who travels back in time to prevent the JFK assassination—a thousand page tour de force.

A **Gentleman in Moscow, Amor Towles** - a transporting novel about a man who is ordered to spend the rest of his life inside a luxury hotel - "'The Grand Budapest Hotel' and 'Eloise' meets all the Bond villains."

A thousand splendid suns - Khaled Hosseini - an incredible chronicle of thirty years of Afghan history and a deeply moving story of family, friendship, faith, and the salvation to be found in love.

Any Human Heart by William Boyd - masterful new novel tells, in a series of intimate journals, the story of Logan Mountstuart—writer, lover, art dealer, spy—as he makes his often precarious way through the twentieth century. Breakfast at Tiffany's by Truman Capote - "Short, brilliant. Evokes a time and place but also timeless"

City of Thieves - David Benioff - a captivating novel about war, courage, survival — and a remarkable friendship that ripples across a lifetime.

Devil in the White City by Erik Larson - The book is based on real characters and events. The book is set in Chicago in 1893, intertwining the true tales of Daniel H. Burnham, the architect behind the 1893 World's Fair, and Dr. H. H. Holmes, the serial killer who lured his victims to their deaths in his elaborately constructed "Murder Castle."

Down and Out in Paris and London by George Orwell - This unusual fictional account, in good part autobiographical, narrates without self-pity and often with humor the adventures of a penniless British writer among the down-and-out of two great cities. In the tales of both cities we learn some sobering Orwellian truths about poverty and society.

Empire of the Summer Moon- S. C. Gwynne - In the tradition of Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee, a stunningly vivid historical account of the forty-year battle between Comanche Indians and white settlers for control of the American West, centering on Quanah, the greatest Comanche chief of them all.

Lost City of the Monkey God by Douglas Preston - "A five-hundred-year-old legend. An ancient curse. A stunning medical mystery. And a pioneering journey into the unknown heart of the world's densest jungle."

Mr. New Orleans: The Life of a Big Easy Underworld Legend by Matthew Randazzo - Wiseguys called him "the Keith Richards of the American Mafia" and JFK hero Jim Garrison denounced him as "one of the most notorious vice operators in the history of New Orleans"

Pompeii: A Novel by Robert Harris - "All along the Mediterranean coast, the Roman empire's richest citizens are relaxing in their luxurious villas, enjoying the last days of summer. The world's largest navy lies peacefully at anchor in Misenum. The tourists are spending their money in the seaside resorts of Baiae, Herculaneum, and Pompeii...."

Salt to the Sea By Ruta Sepetys - this masterful work of historical fiction is inspired by the real-life tragedy that was the sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff—the greatest maritime disaster in history

Shadow Divers by Robert Kurson - The True Adventure of Two Americans Who Risked Everything to Solve One of the Last Mysteries of World War II

The After Party: A Novel by Anton DiSclafani - "a story of lifelong female friendship – in all its intimate agony and joy – set within a world of wealth, beauty, and expectation."

The Kitchen House: A Novel by Kathleen Grissom - "a dark secret threatens to expose the best and worst in everyone tied to the estate at a thriving plantation in Virginia in the decades before the Civil War."

The Last Days of Night: A Novel by Graham Moore - "A thrilling novel based on actual events, about the nature of genius, the cost of ambition, and the battle to electrify America"

The Nix: A novel by Nathan Hill - From the suburban Midwest to New York City to the 1968 riots that rocked Chicago and beyond, The Nix explores—with sharp humor and a fierce tenderness—the resilience of love and home, even in times of radical change.

The Shogun Queen by Lesley Downer - "set in Japan, I was delighted to discover that so many of the details in this story were based on true events and historical facts and Lesley Downer has interpreted all of this in a beautifully written book that really captured my imagination."

The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl by Timothy Egan – “an epic story of blind hope and endurance almost beyond belief; it is also, as Tim Egan has told it, a riveting tale of bumptious charlatans, conmen, and tricksters, environmental arrogance and hubris, political chicanery, and a ruinous ignorance of nature's ways”

GENERAL FICTION

A man called Ove by Fredrik Backman (3) - Meet Ove. He’s a curmudgeon—the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him “the bitter neighbor from hell.”

Power of the Dog – Don Winslow (3) - crime/thriller novel by Don Winslow, based on the DEA's involvement with the War on Drugs.

Down the Rabbit Hole (An Echo Falls Mystery) by Peter Abrahams (2) - Welcome to Echo Falls, home of a thousand secrets. Ingrid is in the wrong place at the wrong time. Or at least her shoes are. And getting them back will mean getting tangled up in a murder investigation as complicated as the mysteries solved by her idol, Sherlock Holmes. With soccer practice, schoolwork, and the lead role in her town's production of Alice in Wonderland, Ingrid is swamped

The Sellout – Paul Beatty (2) - The novel takes place in and around Los Angeles and concerns a protagonist who grows artisanal marijuana and watermelons

American Wife: A Novel By Curtis Sittenfeld - “What a remarkable (and brave) thing: a compassionate, illuminating, and beautifully rendered portrait of a fictional Republican first lady with a life and husband very much like our actual Republican first lady’s. Curtis Sittenfeld has written a novel as impressive as it is improbable.”

4 3 2 1: A Novel by Paul Auster – “a sweeping and surprising story of birthright and possibility, of love and of life itself” – a “monumental assemblage of competing and complementary fiction”

A Dog's Purpose - W. Bruce Cameron - shares the soulful and surprising story of one devoted dog who finds the meaning of his own existence through the lives of the humans he teaches to laugh and love

A little life by Hanya Yanagihara - An epic about love and friendship in the twenty-first century that goes into some of the darkest places fiction has ever traveled and yet somehow improbably breaks through into the light

Anna Karenina – Leo Tolstoy - "Leo Tolstoy's Anna Karenina, first published between 1873 and 1877, is widely considered to be one of the greatest works of fiction"

Atlas Shrugged – Ann Rand - Atlas Shrugged is the astounding story of a man who said that he would stop the motor of the world--and did. Tremendous in scope, breathtaking in its suspense, Atlas Shrugged stretches the boundaries further than any book you have ever read. It is a mystery, not about the murder of a man's body, but about the murder--and rebirth--of man's spirit.

Bright, Precious Days - by Jay McInerney - From the best-selling author of Bright Lights, Big City: a sexy, vibrant, cross-generational New York story--a literary and commercial triumph of the highest order.

Confederacy of Dunces by John Kennedy Toole - "an American comic masterpiece. John Kennedy Toole's hero, one Ignatius J. Reilly, is "huge, obese, fractious, fastidious, a latter-day Gargantua, a Don Quixote of the French Quarter. His story bursts with wholly original characters, denizens of New Orleans' lower depths, incredibly true-to-life dialogue, and the zaniest series of high and low comic adventures"

Cryptonomicon - Neal Stephenson - With this extraordinary first volume in what promises to be an epoch-making masterpiece, Neal Stephenson hacks into the secret histories of nations and the private obsessions of men, decrypting with dazzling virtuosity the forces that shaped this century

High Rise by J G Ballard - When a class war erupts inside a luxurious apartment block, modern elevators become violent battlegrounds and cocktail parties degenerate into marauding attacks on “enemy” floors. In this visionary tale, human society slips into violent reverse as once-peaceful residents, driven by primal urges, re-create a world ruled by the laws of the jungle.

Moonglow: A Novel by Michael Chabon - unfolds as the deathbed confession of a man the narrator refers to only as “my grandfather.” It is a tale of madness, of war and adventure, of sex and marriage and desire, of existential doubt and model rocketry, of the shining aspirations and demonic underpinnings of American technological accomplishment at midcentury, and, above all, of the destructive impact—and the creative power—of keeping secrets and telling lies

One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez - tells the story of the rise and fall, birth and death of the mythical town of Macondo through the history of the Buendia family. Inventive, amusing, magnetic, sad, and alive with unforgettable men and women—brimming with truth, compassion, and a lyrical magic that strikes the soul—this novel is a masterpiece in the art of fiction.

Rogue Lawyer by John Grisham – “he actually ended it properly unlike typically when he just loses interest and ends the book”

Small Great Things By Jodi Picoult - With incredible empathy, intelligence, and candor, Jodi Picoult tackles race, privilege, prejudice, justice, and compassion—and doesn't offer easy answers.

Submission by Michel Houellebecq. Renowned French author predicts the election of first Muslim president in France in 2022. Well written and insightful

Testimony: A Novel by Anita Shreve - At a New England boarding school, a sex scandal is about to break. Even more shocking than the sexual acts themselves is the fact that they were caught on videotape

The Archer by Bernard Cornwell - Book One of the Grail Quest

The art of racing in the rain by Garth Stein - Enzo knows he is different from other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul (and an obsession with opposable thumbs), he has educated himself by watching television extensively, and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver.

The First Fifteen Lives of Harry August - by Claire North - This wonderful novel, narrated by Harry, ranges back and forth in time as he recounts episodes from his various lives, but it's all held together by a compelling mystery involving nothing less than the end of the world itself (a thousand years in the future). Beautifully written and structured, the book should be a big hit with SF fans

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman - Bod is an unusual boy who inhabits an unusual place—he's the only living resident of a graveyard. Raised from infancy by the ghosts, werewolves, and other cemetery denizens, Bod has learned the antiquated customs of his guardians' time as well as their ghostly teachings—such as the ability to Fade so mere mortals cannot see him.

The Light Between Oceans: A Novel by M.L. Stedman - After four harrowing years on the Western Front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, nearly half a day's journey from the coast. To this isolated island, where the supply boat comes once a season, Tom brings a young, bold, and loving wife, Isabel... A boat has washed up onshore carrying a dead man and a living baby.

The Red Car: A Novel by Marcy Dermansky - "evokes yet another edgy, capricious, and beautifully haunting heroine—one whose search for realization is as wonderfully unpredictable and hypnotic as the twists and turns of the Pacific Coast Highway. Tautly wound, transgressive, and mordantly funny, The Red Car is an incisive exploration of one woman's unusual route to self-discovery."

The Vegetarian - Han Kang - A beautiful, unsettling novel about rebellion and taboo, violence and eroticism, and the twisting metamorphosis of a soul

NON-FICTION, FAMILY/KIDS

The Happiest Baby on the Block (2) - by Harvey Karp - The New Way to Calm Crying and Help Your Newborn Baby Sleep Longer

Be Prepared – Gary Greenberg/Jeannie Hayden - A practical handbook for new dads

Echoland by Per Petterson - 12-year-old Arvid and his family are on holiday, staying with his grandparents in Denmark. Arvid is confused by the underlying tension between his mother and grandmother, and is grappling with his own sense of self: he's on the cusp of becoming a teenager, feeling awkward in his own skin, and is unsure of his emotions

Lily and the Octopus by Steven Rowley - reminds us how it feels to love fiercely, how difficult it can be to let go, and how the fight for those we love is the greatest fight of all.

NON-FICTION, FOOD / DRINK / HEALTH

When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi (2) - a profoundly moving, exquisitely observed memoir by a young neurosurgeon faced with a terminal cancer diagnosis who attempts to answer the question What makes a life worth living?

Eat Pray Love 10th-Anniversary Edition: by Elizabeth Gilbert (2) - One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India and Indonesia

\$64 Tomato - William Alexander - How One Man Nearly Lost His Sanity, Spent a Fortune, and Endured an Existential Crisis in the Quest for the Perfect Garden

American Wine: A Coming-of-Age Story by Tom Acitelli - "The underdog story of how the United States came to dominate fine wine"

Heat by Bill Buford – An Amateur's Adventures as Kitchen Slave, Line Cook, Pasta-Maker, and Apprentice to a Dante-Quoting Butcher in Tuscany - "maybe the best food book ever written."

Japanese Farm Food by Nancy Singleton Hachisu - a unique look into life on a Japanese farm through 165 simple, clear-flavored recipes along with personal stories and over 350 stunning photographs. It is a book about love, community, and life in rural Japan

Meat Eater - Steven Rinella - Adventures from the Life of an American Hunter

The Ten (Food) Commandments by Jay Rayner - Britain's culinary Moses brings us the new foodie rules to live by, celebrating what and how we eat, The Ten Commandments may have had a lot going for them, but they don't offer those of us located in the 21st Century much in the way of guidance when it comes to our relationship with our food. And Lord knows we need it.

The Underground Culinary Tour by Damian Mogavero - How the New Metrics of Today's Top Restaurants Are Transforming How America Eats

NON-FICTION, GENERAL

Dead Wake, the last crossing of the Lusitania by Erik Larson (4) - "From the bestselling author and master of narrative nonfiction comes the enthralling story of the sinking of the Lusitania"

Dreamland, Sam Quinones (4) – Story of the US Opioid Epidemic – “weaves together two classic tales of capitalism run amok whose unintentional collision has been catastrophic”

A New Day One: Trauma, Grace and a Young Man's Journey from Foster Care to Yale. Rodney J. Walker (3) - Whether you're an inner-city youth or a high-networth businessman, there's something to be learned from Rodney's incredible story - "Raised in the Chicago foster care system and now a Yale graduate"

Powerhouse by James Andrew Miller (2) - The Untold Story of Hollywood's Creative Artists Agency

The Fourth Turning: An American Prophecy (2) - What the Cycles of History Tell Us About America's Next Rendezvous with Destiny – “Not really a snoozer but this thing I have been reading is crazy interesting what these guys have more or less predicted back in 1998”

A Long Way Home by Saroo Brierley - This is the miraculous and triumphant story of Saroo Brierley, a young man who used Google Earth to rediscover his childhood life and home in an incredible journey from India to Australia and back again

Alexa: 150 Funniest Things to Ask Alexa by Steve Magrant – “you are going to learn 150 helpful and useful things you can ask Alexa, along with some of the more charming things she will say when you do. There's no end to the ways this device can impress you, and the more you know to ask, the more she will be able to answer.”

Atomised, Michel Houellebecq - Atomised (Les Particules elementaires) tells the stories of the two brothers, but the real subject of the novel is the dismantling of contemporary society and its assumptions, its political incorrectness, and its caustic and penetrating asides on everything from anthropology to the problem pages of girls' magazines

Between Shades of Gray By Ruta Sepetys - It is a long and harrowing journey, spanning years and covering 6,500 miles, but it is through incredible strength, love, and hope - “A brilliant story of love and survival.”

Blue on Blue: An Insider’s Story of Good Cops Catching Bad Cops by Charles Campisi - One of the most authentic and consistently illuminating portraits of police work ever, Blue on Blue describes the fascinating inner workings of the world’s largest police force and Chief Charles Campisi’s unprecedented two decades putting bad cops behind bars.

But What If We’re Wrong? - Chuck Klosterman - asks questions that are profound in their simplicity: How certain are we about our understanding of gravity? How certain are we about our understanding of time? What will be the defining memory of rock music, five hundred years from today? How seriously should we view the content of our dreams? How seriously should we view the content of television?

China’s Asian Dream by Tom Miller - Empire Building along the New Silk Road

Command and Control, Nuclear Weapons, the Damascus Accident, and the Illusion of Safety - Eric Schlosser - Famed investigative journalist Eric Schlosser digs deep to uncover secrets about the management of America’s nuclear arsenal. A ground-breaking account of accidents, near-misses, extraordinary heroism, and technological breakthroughs, Command and Control explores the dilemma that has existed since the dawn of the nuclear age

Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond - Based on years of embedded fieldwork and painstakingly gathered data, this masterful book transforms our understanding of extreme poverty and economic exploitation while providing fresh ideas for solving a devastating, uniquely American problem. Its unforgettable scenes of hope and loss remind us of the centrality of home, without which nothing else is possible.

Finks: How the CIA Tricked the World's Best Writers - Joel Whitney - "a tale of two CIAs, and how they blurred the line between propaganda and literature. One CIA created literary magazines that promoted American and European writers and cultural freedom, while the other toppled governments, using assassination and censorship as political tools"

Fortune Smiles by Adam Johnson - In six masterly stories, Johnson delves deep into love and loss, natural disasters, the influence of technology, and how the political shapes the personal. “Nirvana,” which won the prestigious Sunday Times short story prize, portrays a programmer whose wife has a rare disease finding solace in a digital simulacrum of the president of the United States

Future Crimes by Marc Goodman - With explosive insights based on a career in law enforcement and counterterrorism, leading authority on global security Marc Goodman takes readers on a vivid journey through the darkest recesses of the Internet. He explores how bad actors are primed to hijack the technologies of tomorrow - "Everything Is Connected, Everyone Is Vulnerable and What We Can Do About It"

I Burned for Your Peace: Augustine's Confessions Unpacked by Peter Kreeft - delves into one of the most beloved Christian classics of all time--Augustine's Confessions. He collects key passages and offers incisive commentary, making Confessions accessible to any reader who is both intellectually curious and spiritually hungry.

Isaac's Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History. Terrific account of the catastrophic hurricane that hit Galveston, TX in 1900. Riveting stuff.

Lilac Girls By Martha Hall Kelly - reveals the power of unsung women to change history in their quest for love, freedom, and second chances.

Modern Life by Jean Jullien - French artist Jean Jullien uncovers the humor and simple beauty that exists in the people, places, and things that surround him. Understanding that visual communication can often be the most direct and immediately understood, Jullien cleverly and candidly reveals in his artwork the hilarious realities and universal truths of human behavior and modern life that connect us all.

Never Can Say Goodbye: Writers on Their Unshakable Love for New York by Sari Botton - "Gets right to the heart of what it feels like to be a New Yorker—slightly insane, broke, and madly in love. These essays made me laugh out loud with recognition. New York City isn't an easy place to live, but is anything easy really worth doing?"

Norwegian Wood: Chopping, Stacking, and Drying Wood the Scandinavian Way by Lars Mytting – "even if you don't care about chopping wood and making fires its still a pretty cool coffee table book"

Nothing is True and Everything is Possible - Peter Pomerantsev - Professional killers with the souls of artists, would-be theater directors turned Kremlin puppet-masters, suicidal supermodels, Hell's Angels who hallucinate themselves as holy warriors, and oligarch revolutionaries: welcome to the glittering, surreal heart of twenty-first-century Russia

Of Mice and Men – John Steinbeck - A controversial tale of friendship and tragedy during the Great Depression

Once Upon a Time in Russia – Ben Mezrich - The Rise of the Oligarchs - A True Story of Ambition, Wealth, Betrayal, and Murder

Overdressed by Elizabeth Cline - sets out to uncover the true nature of the cheap fashion juggernaut. What are we doing with all these cheap clothes? And more important, what are they doing to us, our society, our environment, and our economic well-being?

Plant: Exploring the Botanical World By Phaidon Editors - This richly illustrated collection will spark new appreciation for the endless variety and splendor that spring from the earth's surface. In addition to radiant, richly detailed photographs, PLANT features micrograph scans, watercolors and other works of art that capture organisms that are as beautiful as they are necessary.

Ratman by Howie Carr - The Trial and Conviction of Whitey Bulger

Seinfeldia: How a Show About Nothing Changed Everything by Jennifer Keishin Armstrong - The hilarious behind-the-scenes story of two guys who went out for coffee and dreamed up Seinfeld—the cultural sensation that changed television and bled into the real world, altering the lives of everyone it touched.

Sixth Extinction by Elizabeth Kolbert - A major book about the future of the world, blending intellectual and natural history and field reporting into a powerful account of the mass extinction unfolding before our eyes

Spilled Milk by KL Randis - "Randis later would testify at a criminal trial against her father, who was sentenced to prison for his crimes. He was sentenced to up to 16 years in 2004. Her painful — and ultimately triumphant — story is recounted

The Accidental Life by Terry McDonell: A celebration of the writing and editing life, as well as a look behind the scenes at some of the most influential magazines in America (and the writers who made them what they are).

The Impossible Fortress: A Novel by Jason Rekulak - "A sweet, funny, and moving tribute to nerds and misfits everywhere."

The Inevitable - Kevin Kelly - a guide through the twelve technological imperatives that will shape the next thirty years and transform our lives

The Orphan Master's Son - Adam Johnson - In this epic, critically acclaimed tour de force, Adam Johnson provides a riveting portrait of a world rife with hunger, corruption, and casual cruelty but also camaraderie, stolen moments of beauty, and love.

The Son - Philipp Meyer - an epic of the American West and a multigenerational saga of power, blood, land, and oil that follows the rise of one unforgettable Texas family, from the Comanche raids of the 1800s to the to the oil booms of the 20th century.

The White Tiger - Aravind Adiga - A stunning literary debut critics have likened to Richard Wright's Native Son, The White Tiger follows a darkly comic Bangalore driver through the poverty and corruption of modern India's caste society. "This is the authentic voice of the Third World, like you've never heard it before"

NON-FICTION, HISTORY

Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Tell You Everything You Need to Know About Global Politics by Tim Marshall (4) – "All leaders are constrained by geography. Their choices are limited by mountains, rivers, seas and concrete. Yes, to understand world events you need to understand people, ideas and movements...but if you don't know geography, you'll never have the full picture"

In the Kingdom of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette (2) - New York Times bestselling author Hampton Sides returns with a white-knuckle tale of polar exploration and survival in the Gilded Age

Three Days in January: Dwight Eisenhower's Final Mission by Bret Baier (2) – "masterfully casts the period between Eisenhower's now-prophetic farewell address on the evening of January 17, 1961, and Kennedy's inauguration on the afternoon of January 20 as the closing act of one of modern America's greatest leaders — during which Eisenhower urgently sought to prepare both the country and the next president for the challenges ahead."

The Prince of Providence by Mike Stanton - The Rise and Fall of Buddy Cianci, America's Most Notorious Mayor of Providence, Rhode Island"

A Torch Kept Lit: Great Lives of the Twentieth Century; William F. Buckley, Jr - sheds light on a tumultuous period in American history—from World War II to Watergate, the “death” of God to the Grateful Dead—as told in the inimitable voice of one of our most elegant literary stylists. William F. Buckley, Jr. is back—just when we need him most.

Albion's Seed - David Fischer - a history of American folkways as they have changed through time, and it argues a thesis about the importance for the United States of having been British in its cultural origins. "One of the best history books I've ever read, totally remade how I thought about US history. Fantastic."

All Who Go Do Not Return - Shulem Deen - A moving and revealing exploration of Hasidic life, and one man's struggles with faith, family, and community

American Sanctuary: Mutiny, Martyrdom, and National Identity in the Age of Revolution by A. Roger Ekirch - A bloody mutiny forced Americans to decide if the country was truly a haven for lovers of liberty—even those who had killed for its sake.

Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage - The astonishing saga of polar explorer Ernest Shackleton's survival for over a year on the ice-bound Antarctic seas, as Time magazine put it, "defined heroism - acknowledged as the definitive account of the Endurance's fateful trip."

Generations: The History of America's Future, 1584 to 2069 - posit the history of America as a succession of generational biographies, beginning in 1584 and encompassing every-one through the children of today. Their bold theory is that each generation belongs to one of four types, and that these types repeat sequentially in a fixed pattern

Heaven's Ditch by Jack Kelly - The technological marvel of its age, the Erie Canal grew out of a sudden fit of inspiration. Proponents didn't just dream; they built a 360-mile waterway entirely by hand and largely through wilderness. As excitement crackled down its length, the canal became the scene of the most striking outburst of imagination in American history.

In the Heart of the Sea - Nathaniel Philbrick - In 1819, the Essex left Nantucket for the South Pacific with twenty crew members aboard. In the middle of the South Pacific the ship was rammed and sunk by an angry sperm whale. The crew drifted for more than ninety days in three tiny whaleboats, succumbing to weather, hunger, disease, and ultimately turning to drastic measures in the fight for survival

Killing Pablo - Mark Bowden - the story of the fifteen-month manhunt for Colombian cocaine cartel kingpin Pablo Escobar, whose escape from his lavish, mansionlike jail drove a nation to the brink of chaos. In a gripping, up-close account, acclaimed journalist Mark Bowden exposes the never-before-revealed details

Last Bus to Wisdom by Ivan Doig - The final novel from a great American storyteller - Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination

Light of Paris by Eleanor Brown - Woman finds writings of her grandmother's time in Paris

Mad Madame LaLaurie by Victoria Love - "On April 10, 1834 Firefighters smashed through a padlocked attic door in the burning home of Creole society couple Delphine and Louis LaLaurie. The horrible discovery of chained and mutilated slaves spawned a legend that has endured for over 150 years."

No Wall Too High by Xu Hongci - Mao Zedong's labor reform camps, known as the laogai, were notoriously brutal. Modeled on the Soviet Gulag, they subjected their inmates to backbreaking labor, malnutrition, and vindictive wardens. They were thought to be impossible to escape—but one man did

Origins of Totalitarianism by Hannah Arendt - Arendt explores the institutions and operations of totalitarian movements, focusing on the two genuine forms of totalitarian government in our time—Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia—which she adroitly recognizes were two sides of the same coin, rather than opposing philosophies of Right and Left.

Rifleman by Howie Carr - Stevie "the Rifleman" Flemmi was, for forty years, one of the most feared gangsters in Boston, and for much of that time, he was the partner of Whitey Bulger, the sixteen-year fugitive with a \$2 million reward on his head who was captured in 2011.

Rubicon: The Last Years of the Roman Republic by Tom Holland - A vivid historical account of the social world of Rome as it moved from republic to empire. In 49 B.C., the seven hundred fifth year since the founding of Rome, Julius Caesar crossed a small border river called the Rubicon and plunged Rome into cataclysmic civil war

Salt, a World History by Mark Kurlansky - ' substance so valuable it served as currency, salt has influenced the establishment of trade routes and cities, provoked and financed wars, secured empires, and inspired revolutions"

Six Frigates – Ian Toll - The Epic History of the Founding of the U.S. Navy

The American Miracle by Michael Medved- The history of the United States displays an uncanny pattern: At moments of crisis, when the odds against success seem overwhelming and disaster looks imminent, fate intervenes to provide deliverance and progress. Historians may categorize these incidents as happy accidents, callous crimes, or the product of brilliant leadership, but the most notable leaders of the past four hundred years have identified this good fortune as something else—a reflection of divine providence

The Autumn of the Patriarch by Gabriel Garcia Marquez - "a brilliant tale of a Caribbean tyrant and the corruption of power."

The Big Oyster - History on the Half Shell – Mark Kurlansky - tells the remarkable story of New York by following the trajectory of one of its most fascinating inhabitants—the oyster.

The Boston Girl, Anita Diamant - An unforgettable novel about a young Jewish woman growing up in Boston in the early twentieth century, told "with humor and optimism...through the eyes of an irresistible heroine"

The Comedians: Drunks, Thieves, Scoundrels, and the History of American Comedy by Kliph Nesteroff - "a narrative exploration of the way comedians have reflected, shaped, and changed American culture over the past one hundred years."

The French Quarter: An Informal History of the New Orleans Underworld by Herbert Asbury - "The New Orleans underworld consisted of much more than the local bordellos. It was also well known as the early gambling capital of the United States, and sported one of the most violent records of street crime in the country"

The Great Leader and the fighter pilot by Blaine Harden - tells the riveting story of Kim Il Sung's rise to power and the young North Korean fighter pilot who dared to defy him

The Last Madam: A Life In The New Orleans Underworld by Chris Wiltz - In 1916, at age fifteen, Norma Wallace arrived in New Orleans. Sexy and shrewd, she quickly went from streetwalker to madam and by 1920 had opened what became a legendary house of prostitution. There she entertained a steady stream of governors, gangsters, and movie stars until she was arrested at last in 1962

The Mayor: Joe Riley and the Rise of Charleston by Brian Hicks - Riley led the city through disasters and divisiveness, tragedy and triumph, all the while transforming Charleston from a sleepy Southern town devastated by civil war into one of the most vibrant, fastest-growing cities in the nation - and the most popular tourist destination in the world

The Skies Belong to Us by Brendan I. Koerner - Love and Terror in the Golden Age of Hijacking - "In an America torn apart by the Vietnam War and the demise of '60s idealism, airplane hijackings were astonishingly routine. Over a five-year period starting in 1968, the desperate and disillusioned seized commercial jets nearly once a week, using guns, bombs, and jars of acid"

The Sugar King of Havana by John Paul Rathbone: The Rise and Fall of Julio Lobo, Cuba's Last Tycoon - "a rare portrait of Cuba's glittering past—and a hopeful window into its future."

War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy - broadly focuses on Napoleon's invasion of Russia in 1812 and follows three of the most well-known characters in literature: Pierre Bezukhov, the illegitimate son of a count who is fighting for his inheritance and yearning for spiritual fulfillment; Prince Andrei Bolkonsky, who leaves his family behind to fight in the war against Napoleon; and Natasha Rostov, the beautiful young daughter of a nobleman who intrigues both men.

Washington's Farewell: The Founding Father's Warning to Future Generations – John Avlon - George Washington's Farewell Address was a prophetic letter from a "parting friend" to his fellow citizens about the forces he feared could destroy our democracy: hyper-partisanship, excessive debt, and foreign wars.

TRAVEL

Angels by Denis Johnson - Driven by restless souls, bad booze, and desperate needs, Jamie and Bill bounce from bus stations to cheap hotels as they ply the strange, fascinating, and dangerous fringe of American life

Astoria: John Jacob Astor and Thomas Jefferson's Lost Pacific Empire - Peter Stark - the thrilling, true-adventure tale of the 1810 Astor Expedition, an epic, now forgotten, three-year journey to forge an American empire on the Pacific Coast. Peter Stark offers a harrowing saga in which a band of explorers battled nature, starvation, and madness to establish the first American settlement in the Pacific Northwest and opened up what would become the Oregon trail

Atlas Obscura - By Joshua Foer - Reveals more than 600 wild and wondrous sites in this eccentric album of odd and obscure destinations from around the world. Sure to inspire a new generation of adventure-seekers or reignite the wanderlust in any serious traveler

Cry, The Beloved Country – Alan Paton - " the most famous and important novel in South Africa's history, was an immediate worldwide bestseller in 1948. Alan Paton's impassioned novel about a black man's country under white man's law is a work of searing beauty."

Deep by James Nestor: Freediving, Renegade Science, and What the Ocean Tells Us about Ourselves – "a voyage from the ocean's surface to its darkest trenches, the most mysterious places on Earth"

Etel Adnan - The Weight of the World - By Etel Adnan - Discover the paintings, drawings, poetry, films, ceramics and tapestries of Lebanese-born Etel Adnan, called one of the most influential artists of the 21st century. Adnan's work explores themes of love and war, but her bright, austere art ultimately offers an antidote to the chaos, angst and cynicism so rampant around the world today.

Explore Different Countries in Edward Rutherford Novels - "NY is excellent, Paris good. Russka good. Sarum (England) ok. London so/so"

Jerusalem: The Biography, by Simon Sebag Montefiore - From King David to Barack Obama, from the birth of Judaism, Christianity and Islam to the Israel-Palestine conflict, this is the epic history of three thousand years of faith, slaughter, fanaticism and coexistence.

The Marches: A Borderland Journey between England and Scotland by Rory Stewart – “an exploration of the Marches—the borderland between England and Scotland—and the people, history, and conflicts that have shaped it”

The River of Doubt by Candice Millard – true story of Teddy Roosevelt, his son & some scientists and guides heading out to map & explore an uncharted branch of the Amazon river. Pretty fascinating, particularly if you like outdoor/adventure books

Travels – Michael Crichton - From the bestselling author of Jurassic Park, Timeline, and Sphere comes a deeply personal memoir full of fascinating adventures as he travels everywhere from the Mayan pyramids to Kilimanjaro.

NON-FICTION, BIOGRAPHY

Shoe Dog by Phil Knight (14) - "Was expecting a tale of how Nike rose to global domination, but instead got a very humble, human story about regrets and perseverance"

Born to Run- Bruce Springsteen (6) Great story, honest autobiography by the boss - I'm not the biggest boss fan but respect his catalog...his story is frcking great (the story behind what is public) and he and his dad both suffer from severe depression...really interesting read. One of best stories ive read in a long time....and I don't agree with his politics

Titan The Life of J.D. Rockefeller - Ron Chernow (3) D1760- Very long biography with a section early on that was hard to get through but well worth the read. You will be amazed at just how vast his wealth was and how great of impact he had on the world even today.

The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace: A Brilliant Young Man Who Left Newark for the Ivy League - Jeff Hobbs (2) - A heartfelt, and riveting biography of the short life of a talented young African-American man who escapes the slums of Newark for Yale University only to succumb to the dangers of the streets—and of one's own nature—when he returns home.

Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow - A New York Times Bestseller, and the inspiration for the hit Broadway musical Hamilton!

Altamont: The Rolling Stones, the Hells Angels, and the Inside Story of Rock's Darkest Day by Joel Selvin

Andrew Carnegie by David Nasaw - brings new life to the story of one of America's most famous and successful businessmen and philanthropists—in what will prove to be the biography of the season

Ben Franklin by Walter Isaacson

Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood by Trevor Noah

Born Standing Up: A Comic's Life Paperback by Steve Martin

Comfortably Numb: The Inside Story of Pink Floyd by Mark Blake

Einstein - Walter Isaacson

Grinding it out – Ray Kroc - Not your typical self-made tycoon, Kroc was fifty-two years old when he opened his first franchise. In Grinding It Out, you'll meet the man behind McDonald's, one of the largest fast-food corporations in the world with over 32,000 stores around the globe

Hit and Run by Nancy Griffin – “tells the improbable and often hilarious story of how two Hollywood film packagers went on a campaign to reinvent themselves as studio executives -- at Sony's expense. Veteran reporters chronicle the rise of Jon Peters, a former hairdresser, seventh-grade dropout, and juvenile delinquent”

I, Me, Mine by George Harrison - the closest we will ever come to George Harrison's autobiography.

Is this the real life? by Mark Blake - The untold story of Queen

It's Not Easy Bein' Me: A Lifetime of No Respect But Plenty of Sex and Drugs – Rodney Dangerfield

Lemmy: The Definitive Biography- Mick Wall - "the story of the only rock'n'roller never to sell his soul for silver and gold, while keeping the devil, as he put it, 'very close to my side'"

Life Is Not an Accident: A Memoir of Reinvention by Jay Williams - This big-hearted memoir by the most promising professional basketball player of his generation details his rise to NBA stardom, the terrible accident that ended his career and plunged him into a life-altering depression, and how he ultimately found his way out of the darkness

Low Country Heart, Reflections on a writing life by Pat Conroy - Conroy wrote Prince of Tide and many others

Mao, The Unknown Story by Madam Chang - The most authoritative life of the Chinese leader ever written
Master of the Senate, Robert Caro - The Years of Lyndon Johnson

Open: An Autobiography – Andre Agassi

Rebel Yell: The Violence, Passion, and Redemption of Stonewall Jackson - S. C. Gwynne: This book takes an in-depth look at the life and career of Stonewall Jackson, a Confederate Civil War general who is often considered one of the greatest American military figures of all time. More than just his military accomplishments, Gwynne also dives into Jackson's personal life, explaining his rise to power in the South.

Screw it, Lets Do it - Sir Richard Branson

Sons of Wichita by Daniel Schulman - How the Koch Brothers Became America's Most Powerful and Private Dynasty

Substance: Inside New Order: Coming Up and Coming Down by Peter Hook - "Two acclaimed albums and an upcoming US tour - Joy Division had the world at their feet. Then, on the eve of that tour and the beginning of what would surely have been an international success story, the band's troubled lead singer, Ian Curtis, killed himself"

The King of Oil: The Secret Lives of Marc Rich by Daniel Ammann - "Billionaire oil trader Marc Rich for the first time talks at length about his private life (including his expensive divorce from wife Denise); his invention of the spot oil market, which made his fortune and changed the world economy; his lucrative and unpublicized dealings with Ayatollah Khomeini's Iran, Fidel Castro's Cuba"

The Patriarch, David Nasaw - The Remarkable Life and Turbulent Times of Joseph P. Kennedy

The Pigeon Tunnel: Stories From My Life by John Le Carre - From his years serving in British Intelligence during the Cold War, to a career as a writer that took him from war-torn Cambodia to Beirut on the cusp of the 1982 Israeli invasion to Russia before and after the collapse of the Berlin Wall, le Carré has always written from the heart of modern times

The Wright Brothers by David McCullough - Two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize David McCullough tells the dramatic story-behind-the-story about the courageous brothers who taught the world how to fly: Wilbur and Orville Wright.

Thomas Jefferson: Writings by Thomas Jefferson, edited by Merrill Peterson

Van Halen Rising by Greg Renoff - Based on more than 230 original interviews — including with former Van Halen bassist Michael Anthony and power players like Pete Angelus, Marshall Berle, Donn Landee, Ted Templeman, and Neil Zlozower — Van Halen Rising is the first book to tell the untold story of how these rock legends made the unlikely journey from Pasadena, California, to the worldwide stage.

When Giants Walked the Earth: A Biography of Led Zeppelin - Veteran rock journalist Mick Wall unflinchingly tells the story of the band that pushed the envelope on both creativity and excess, even by rock 'n' roll standards.

NON-FICTION, WAR - PRE 9/11

The Undoing Project - Michael Lewis (10) - "a compelling collaboration between two men who have the dimensions of great literary figures. They became heroes in the university and on the battlefield—both had important careers in the Israeli military—and their research was deeply linked to their extraordinary life experiences"

Killing the Rising Sun: How America Vanquished World War II Japan by Bill O'Reilly (5) – “Told in the same page-turning style of Killing Lincoln, Killing Kennedy, Killing Jesus, Killing Patton, and Killing Reagan, this epic saga details the final moments of World War II like never before.”

Hero of the Empire: The Boer War, a Daring Escape and the Making of Winston Churchill (3) - excellent read about Churchill's capture and subsequent prison escape during the Boer war.

A Spy Among Friends: Kim Philby and the Great Betrayal - Ben Macintyre (2) - Told with heart-pounding suspense and keen psychological insight, and based on personal papers and never-before-seen British intelligence files, A Spy Among Friends is Ben Macintyre's best book yet, a high-water mark in Cold War history telling

The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah (2) - With courage, grace and powerful insight, bestselling author Kristin Hannah captures the epic panorama of WWII and illuminates an intimate part of history seldom seen: the women's war. The Nightingale tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion and circumstance, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in German-occupied, war-torn France

A Man Called Intrepid - William Stevenson - The classic real-life story of the superspy whose vast intelligence network helped defeat the Nazis in World War II.

A Question of Honor - Lynne Olson - the gripping, little-known story of the refugee Polish pilots who joined the RAF and played an essential role in saving Britain from the Nazis, only to be betrayed by the Allies after the war.

A Soldier of the Great War, Mark Helprin - Energetic prose, poetic images of great intensity and an antic imagination combine in this gripping moral fable narrated by a septuagenarian irrevocably altered by WW I.

A WWII Journal: February 4, 1942 – January 7, 1946 by Randy Graham - This is the story of Dad's participation in WWII as a B-17 pilot stationed in North Africa. This remembrance is written from a compilation of Dad's letters, his diary and journal entries from the period 1942 through 1946.

American Warlords, Jonathan Jordan - the intimate true story of President Franklin Roosevelt's inner circle of military leadership, the team of rivals who shaped World War II and America.

Bodyguard of Lies: The Extraordinary True Story Behind D-Day - Anthony Cave Brown - one of the most exciting volumes ever written about the Second World War. Telling the most complete story of the biggest and most complicated intelligence operation in the history of war, Bodyguard of Lies presents a large and fascinating cast of heroes and rogues and sweeps through dozens of dramatic stories of plot and counterplot, stealth and treachery, lies and deceptions

Churchill's Secret War by Madhusree Mukerjee -The British Empire and the Ravaging of India during World War II

For Whom The Bell Tolls - Ernest Hemingway - The story of Robert Jordan, a young American in the International Brigades attached to an antifascist guerilla unit in the mountains of Spain, it tells of loyalty and courage, love and defeat, and the tragic death of an ideal

Gates of Fire by Steven Pressfield - At Thermopylae, a rocky mountain pass in northern Greece, the feared and admired Spartan soldiers stood three hundred strong. Theirs was a suicide mission, to hold the pass against the invading millions of the mighty Persian army.

Killing the Bismarck: Destroying the Pride of Hitler's Fleet by Iain Ballantyne - The Royal Navy's pursuit and subsequent destruction of Bismarck was an epic of naval warfare

Last of the Breed by Louis L'Amour - the compelling story of U.S. Air Force Major Joe Mack, a man born out of time. When his experimental aircraft is forced down in Russia and he escapes a Soviet prison camp, he must call upon the ancient skills of his Indian forebears to survive the vast Siberian wilderness

Legends and Lies: The Patriots - Bill O'Reilly - an exciting and eye-opening look at the Revolutionary War through the lives of its leaders

Lost in Shangri-La—Mitchell Zuckoff -a non-fiction book about a US military airplane called "The Gremlin Special", which crashed on May 13, 1945 in New Guinea, and the subsequent rescue of the survivors.

Machete Season - Jean Hatzfeld - During the spring of 1994, in a tiny country called Rwanda, some 800,000 people were hacked to death, one by one, by their neighbors in a gruesome civil war. Several years later, journalist Jean Hatzfeld traveled to Rwanda to interview ten participants in the killings

Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor E. Frankl - Psychiatrist Viktor Frankl's memoir has riveted generations of readers with its descriptions of life in Nazi death camps and its lessons for spiritual survival

Matterhorn by Karl Marlantes- A Novel of the Vietnam War

Pumpkinflowers: A Soldier's Story by Matti Friedman - "Part memoir, part reportage, part history, Friedman's powerful narrative captures the birth of today's chaotic Middle East and the rise of a twenty-first-century type of war in which there is never a clear victor and media images can be as important as the battle itself."

Relentless Strike by Sean Naylor - The Secret History of Joint Special Operations Command

The Train to Crystal City by Jan Jarboe Russell: FDR's Secret Prisoner Exchange Program and America's Only Family Internment Camp During World War II

The War Below by James Scott - the riveting story of the heroic and tragic US submarine force that helped win World War II in the Pacific.

Waterloo: The History of Four Days, Three Armies, and Three Battles by Bernard Cornwell - "the definitive, illustrated history of one of the greatest battles ever fought—a riveting nonfiction chronicle published to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Napoleon's last stand."

Where Diver's Dare: Hunt for the Last U-Boat by Randall Peffer - "In the tradition of Shadow Divers, this is the gripping true account of the search for German U-boat U-550, the last unfound, diveable wreck of a U-boat off the United States coast, and the battle in which it was sunk."

NON-FICTION, WAR - POST 9/11

Living with a SEAL: 31 Days Training with the Toughest Man on the Planet (4) - Jesse Itzler - Living with a SEAL is like a buddy movie if it starred the Fresh Prince of Bel-Air... and Rambo. Jesse is about as easy-going as you can get. SEAL is...not. He even shows up at Jesse's apartment with an inflatable raft just in case the Itzler family ever has to escape Manhattan by crossing the Hudson River.

Extreme Ownership: How U.S. Navy SEALs Lead and Win by Jocko Willink (3) – "gripping firsthand accounts of heroism, tragic loss, and hard-won victories in SEAL Team Three's Task Unit Bruiser, they learned that leadership—at every level—is the most important factor in whether a team succeeds or fails"

Black Flags: The Rise of ISIS by Joby Warrick (2) - "traces how the strain of militant Islam behind ISIS first arose in a remote Jordanian prison and spread with the unwitting aid of two American presidents."

Fearless: The Undaunted Courage and Ultimate Sacrifice of Navy SEAL Team SIX Operator Adam Brown (2) - Eric Blehm - Fearless takes you deep into SEAL Team SIX, straight to the heart of one of its most legendary operators.

The Cartel - Don Winslow (2) - a gripping, true-to-life, ripped-from-the-headlines epic story of power, corruption, revenge, and justice spanning the past decade of the Mexican-American drug wars.

Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War - Mary Roach - explores the science of keeping human beings intact, awake, sane, uninfected, and uninfested in the bizarre and extreme circumstances of war.

Hammerhead Six - Ronald Fry - How Green Berets Waged an Unconventional War Against the Taliban to Win in Afghanistan's Deadly Pech Valley

Heart & the Fist by Eric Greitens - The Education of a Humanitarian, the Making of a Navy SEAL

Stronger - Jeff Bauman - When Jeff Bauman woke up on Tuesday, April 16th, 2013 in the Boston Medical Center, groggy from a series of lifesaving surgeries and missing his legs, the first thing he did was try to speak. When he realized he couldn't, he asked for a pad and paper and wrote down seven words: "Saw the guy. Looked right at me," setting off one of the biggest manhunts in the country's history.

The Association of Small Bombs, by Karan Mahajan - It "is not the first novel about the aftermath of a terrorist attack, but it is the finest I've read at capturing the seduction and force of the murderous, annihilating illogic that increasingly consumes the globe."

War Dogs: Tales of Canine Heroism, History, and Love by Rebecca Frankel - a riveting mix of on-the-ground reporting her own hands-on experiences in the military working dog world, and a look at the science of dogs' special abilities—from their amazing noses and powerful jaws to their enormous sensitivity to the emotions of their human companions

Winter is Coming - Gary Kasparov - Why Vladimir Putin and the Enemies of the Free World Must Be Stopped

NON-FICTION, POLITICAL

Hillbilly Elegy (7) – JD Vance - "General Petraeus (now a consultant for KKR) was in our office a couple weeks ago. He recommended this book as an insight that helps explain why people voted for Brexit and the support for Sanders and Trump."

Art of the Deal - Donald Trump (3) - Donald J. Trump lays out his professional and personal worldview in this classic work—a firsthand account of the rise of America's foremost deal-maker.

Trump: The Greatest Show on Earth - Wayne Barrett (3)

1984 - George Orwell - "London is a grim city where Big Brother is always watching you and the Thought Police can practically read your mind. Winston is a man in grave danger for the simple reason that his memory still functions. Drawn into a forbidden love affair, Winston finds the courage to join a secret revolutionary organization called The Brotherhood"

A World in Disarray By Richard Haass - An examination of a world increasingly defined by disorder and a United States unable to shape the world in its image, from the president of the Council on Foreign Relations

Adios, America: the Left's Plan to Turn Our Country into a Third World Hellhole by Ann Coulter - touches the third rail in American politics, attacking the immigration issue head-on and flying in the face of La Raza, the Democrats, a media determined to cover up immigrants' crimes, churches that get paid by the government for their "charity," and greedy Republican businessmen and campaign consultants—all of whom are profiting handsomely from mass immigration

American Nations: A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America by Colin Woodard – "Particularly relevant in understanding who voted for who in this presidential election year, this is an endlessly fascinating look at American regionalism and the eleven "nations" that continue to shape North America"

Clinton Cash by Peter Schweizer - The Untold Story of How and Why Foreign Governments and Businesses Helped Make Bill and Hillary Rich

Coming Apart: The State of White America, 1960-2010 by Charles Murray - "explains why white America has become fractured and divided in education and class"

Death by China - Peter Navvaro - "documents the myriad ways that a powerful, wealthy, and corrupt Chinese Communist Party emboldened by a growing nationalistic frenzy is becoming the biggest threat to global peace, prosperity, and health since Nazi Germany."

Illiberal Reformers – Thomas C. Leonard - reexamines the economic progressives whose ideas and reform agenda underwrote the Progressive Era dismantling of laissez-faire and the creation of the regulatory welfare state, which, they believed, would humanize and rationalize industrial capitalism

No Place to Hide: Edward Snowden, the NSA, and the US Surveillance State by Glenn Greenwald -

Notes on Democracy by HL Mencken - Even if you think you have read it all, this book will rattle you to the very core, for it causes a rethinking of the whole structure of the political system

Strangers in their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right – Arlie Hochschild.

The Euro and the Battle of Ideas by Markus K. Brunnermeier - "argues that the core problem with the Euro lies in the philosophical differences between the founding countries of the Eurozone, particularly Germany and France. But the authors also show how these seemingly incompatible differences can be reconciled to ensure Europe's survival."

The Man Without a Face by Masha Gessen - The Unlikely Rise of Vladimir Putin

White Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America by Nancy Isenberg - upends history as we know it by taking on our comforting myths about equality and uncovering the crucial legacy of the ever-present, always embarrassing—if occasionally entertaining—poor white trash

NON-FICTION, SCIENCE

Dark Matter by Blake Crouch (8) - "a brilliantly plotted tale that is at once sweeping and intimate, mind-bendingly strange and profoundly human—a relentlessly surprising science-fiction thriller about choices, paths not taken, and how far we'll go to "

Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind Hardcover by Yuval Noah Harari (6) - From a renowned historian comes a groundbreaking narrative of humanity's creation and evolution—a #1 international bestseller—that explores the ways in which biology and history have defined us and enhanced our understanding of what it means to be "human."

Seveneves by Neal Stephenson (4) - The story tells of the efforts to preserve human society in the wake of apocalyptic events on Earth, following the disintegration of the Moon

Brave New Weed – Joe Dolce (2) - adventures into the fascinating "brave new world" of cannabis, tracing its history and possible future as he investigates the social, medical, legal, and cultural ramifications of this surprisingly versatile plant.

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline (2) - My Summary: A fun book about the future where humanity interacts mainly through an virtual reality system. The man who created the system is leaving his fortune to the lucky person who uncovers his clues left scattered throughout the system. Those clues have a very distinct 1980's pop culture reference that you will surely find fun

Adventures of a Curious Character by Richard P. Feynman - A New York Times bestseller—the outrageous exploits of one of this century's greatest scientific minds and a legendary American original. Here he recounts in his inimitable voice his experience trading ideas on atomic physics with Einstein and Bohr and ideas on gambling with Nick the Greek; cracking the uncrackable safes guarding the most deeply held nuclear secrets; accompanying a ballet on his bongo drums; painting a naked female toreador.

Chaos: Making a New Science - James Gleick - Introduces a whole new readership to chaos theory, one of the most significant waves of scientific knowledge in our time. Gleick's engaging narrative focuses on the key figures whose genius converged to chart an innovative direction for science. In Chaos, Gleick makes the story of chaos theory not only fascinating but also accessible to beginners, and opens our eyes to a surprising new view of the universe

Children of Time - Adrian Tchaiversky - "critically acclaimed, stand-alone novel Children of Time, is the epic story of humanity's battle for survival on a terraformed planet."

Deep Survival: Who Lives, Who Dies, and Why - Laurence Gonzales - "Unique among survival books... stunning... enthralling. Deep Survival makes compelling, and chilling, reading."

Dune by Frank Herbert - A stunning blend of adventure and mysticism, environmentalism and politics, Dune won the first Nebula Award, shared the Hugo Award, and formed the basis of what is undoubtedly the grandest epic in science fiction.

Give and Take: Why Helping Others Drives our Success - Adam Grant - Backed up by anecdotes of success across a range of industries and scenarios, as well as numerous academic studies, the arguments of Give and Take are grounded in ample research...His writing style draws you in...it's an interesting take on game theory in a practical context, and the notion that givers can succeed is an inspirational one.

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child by JK Rowling - "The Eighth Story. Nineteen Years Later."

How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big - Scott Adams - So how did he go from hapless office worker and serial failure to the creator of Dilbert, one of the world's most famous syndicated comic strips, in just a few years? In How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big, Adams shares the strategy he has used since he was a teen to invite failure in, embrace it, then pick its pocket.

Lab Girl by Hope Jahren - Geobiologist Hope Jahren has spent her life studying trees, flowers, seeds, and soil. Lab Girl is her revelatory treatise on plant life—but it is also a celebration of the lifelong curiosity, humility, and passion that drive every scientist

Let There Be Water – Seth Siegel - Israel's Solution for a Water-Starved World

Leviathan Wakes (The Expanse Book 1) by James S. A. Corey - Two hundred years after migrating into space, mankind is in turmoil. When a reluctant ship's captain and washed-up detective find themselves involved in the case of a missing girl, what they discover brings our solar system to the brink of civil war, and exposes the greatest conspiracy in human history.

Resilience: Hard-Won Wisdom for Living a Better Life – Eric Greitens - Best-selling author, Navy SEAL, and humanitarian Eric Greitens offer a masterpiece of warrior wisdom that will change your life.

Seeking Wisdom: From Darwin to Munger by Peter Bevelin – “Bevelin cites an encyclopedic range of thinkers: from first-century BCE Roman poet Publius Terentius to Mark Twain—from Albert Einstein to Richard Feynman—from 16th Century French essayist Michel de Montaigne to Berkshire Hathaway Chairman Warren Buffett. In the book, he describes ideas and research findings from many different fields”

Seven Brief Lessons on Physics by Carlo Rovelli - This playful, entertaining, and mind-bending introduction to modern physics briskly explains Einstein's general relativity, quantum mechanics, elementary particles, gravity, black holes, the complex architecture of the universe, and the role humans play in this weird and wonderful world

Sleeping Giants by Sylvain Neuvel - Book 1 of 2 in Themis Files - "A page-turning debut in the tradition of Michael Crichton, World War Z, and The Martian, Sleeping Giants is a thriller fueled by an earthshaking mystery—and a fight to control a gargantuan power."

Stories of Your Life and Others by Ted Chiang – A collection of short stories – ‘Story of your life’ was the basis for the film “Arrival”

Swansong by Robert McCammon - It's about the long-term aftermath of an all out nuclear war in which America is left as wasteland. It blends the horror of a nuclear apocalypse with supernatural and magical forces

The Brain That Changes Itself by Norman Doidge - Stories of Personal Triumph from the Frontiers of Brain Science

The Epigenetics Revolution by Bessa Carey - How Modern Biology Is Rewriting Our Understanding of Genetics, Disease, and Inheritance

The Gene – Siddhartha Mukherjee - a magnificent history of the gene and a response to the defining question of the future: What becomes of being human when we learn to “read” and “write” our own genetic information?

The Hike by Drew Magary - a fantasy saga unlike any you’ve read before, weaving elements of folk tales and video games into a riveting, unforgettable adventure of what a man will endure to return to his family

The Talent Code - Daniel Coyle - What is the secret of talent? How do we unlock it? In this groundbreaking work, journalist and New York Times bestselling author Daniel Coyle provides parents, teachers, coaches, businesspeople—and everyone else—with tools they can use to maximize potential in themselves and others.

The Trials of Apollo, Book 1: The Hidden Oracle by Rick Riordan - After angering his father Zeus, the god Apollo is cast down from Olympus. Weak and disoriented, he lands in New York City as a regular teenage boy. Now, without his godly powers, the four-thousand-year-old deity must learn to survive in the modern world until he can somehow find a way to regain Zeus's favor

The Vaccine Race: Science, Politics, and the Human Costs of Defeating Disease by Meredith Wadman – “An aborted fetus from Sweden, used without the mother’s consent, led to a vaccine for rubella and spurred the biotech gold rush.”

The Wisest One in the Room by Thomas Gilovich - Renowned psychologists describe the most useful insights from social psychology that can help make you “wise”: wise about why people behave the way they do, and wise about how to use that knowledge

"What Doesn't Kill Us: How Freezing Water, Extreme Altitude and Environmental Conditioning Will Renew Our Lost Evolutionary Strength by Scott Carney - traces our evolutionary journey back to a time when survival depended on how well we adapted to the environment around us."

Zoom: From Atoms and Galaxies to Blizzards and Bees: How Everything Moves by Bob Berman - From the speed of light to moving mountains--and everything in between--ZOOM explores how the universe and its objects move

NON-FICTION, BEHAVIORAL

Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance – Angela Duckworth (5) - pioneering psychologist Angela Duckworth shows anyone striving to succeed—be it parents, students, educators, athletes, or business people—that the secret to outstanding achievement is not talent but a special blend of passion and persistence she calls “grit.”

Tools of Titans by Timothy Ferris (5) - The Tactics, Routines, and Habits of Billionaires, Icons, and World-Class Performers

The Four Agreements by Don Miguel Ruiz (3) - “Very spiritual book. You read it and you just go, Goddamn. You know, how can I be more honest, accept things that don’t go as planned? When you try to combat everything, at the end of the day you realize that you’re responsible for yourself” says the Patriot’s Tom Brady about his favorite self-help book

Rebirth: A Fable of Love, Forgiveness, and Following Your Heart by Kamal Ravikant (2) – “an inspiring novel about the magic that happens when you learn to follow your heart”

A Curious Mind: The Secret to a Bigger Life - Brian Glazer - a brilliantly entertaining peek into the weekly “curiosity conversations” that have inspired Grazer to create some of America’s favorite and iconic movies and television shows—from 24 to A Beautiful Mind.

Age of Anger: A History of the Present by Pankaj Mishra - “How can we explain the origins of the great wave of paranoid hatreds that seem inescapable in our close-knit world—from American shooters and ISIS to Donald Trump, from a rise in vengeful nationalism across the world to racism and misogyny on social media?”

Algorithms to live by - Brian Christian - A fascinating exploration of how computer algorithms can be applied to our everyday lives, helping to solve common decision-making problems and illuminate the workings of the human mind

Autobiography of a Yogi by Paramahansa Yogananda - " a beautifully written account of an exceptional life and a profound introduction to the ancient science of Yoga and its time-honored tradition of meditation. Profoundly inspiring, it is at the same time vastly entertaining, warmly humorous and filled with extraordinary personages. "

Dangerous Personalities by Joe Navarro - "An FBI Profiler Shows You How to Identify and Protect Yourself from Harmful People"

Ghettoside: A True Story of Murder in America - Ghettoside is a fast-paced narrative of a devastating crime, an intimate portrait of detectives and a community bonded in tragedy, and a surprising new lens into the great subject of why murder happens in our cities—and how the epidemic of killings might yet be stopped

Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow by Noah Harari. Just out, the follow-up to “Sapiens.” Where mankind is going, out quest to become gods.

If You're so smart, why aren't you happy? - Raj Raghunathan - If intelligence helps with decision-making, smart people should naturally make better life choices. So why are so many of the smartest, brightest, most successful people profoundly unhappy?

Leadership and Self-Deception: Getting out of the box by The Arbinger Institute - Through a story everyone can relate to about a man facing challenges on the job and in his family, the authors expose the fascinating ways that we can blind ourselves to our true motivations and unwittingly sabotage the effectiveness of our own efforts to achieve success and increase happiness.

Love 2.0: Finding Happiness and Health in Moments of Connection by Barbara L. Fredrickson Ph.D - Even more than happiness and optimism, love holds the key to improving our mental and physical health as well as lengthening our lives

Mastermind: How to Think Like Sherlock Holmes by Maria Konnikova – “Beginning with the “brain attic”—Holmes’s metaphor for how we store information and organize knowledge—Konnikova unpacks the mental strategies that lead to clearer thinking and deeper insights”

Messy : the power of disorder to transform our lives by Tim Harford - shows that if you want to be creative and resilient, you need a little more disorder in your world.

Mitch Albom's 4 Book Set (Tuesdays with Morrie, Have a Little Faith, for One More Day, Five People You Meet in Heaven) by Mitch Albom

Peak: Secrets from the New Science of Expertise by Anders Ericsson - condenses three decades of original research to introduce an incredibly powerful approach to learning that is fundamentally different from the way people traditionally think about acquiring a skill.

Pivot By Jenny Blake - Taking a page from Silicon Valley’s age of disruption, former Google executive Jenny Blake helps readers identify and embrace their strengths and then take small steps from that solid foundation. According to Pivot, there’s no need for risky leaps of faith. Indeed, small steps are almost always a step in the right direction.

Talent Code by Daniel Coyle - What is the secret of talent? How do we unlock it? In this groundbreaking work, journalist and New York Times bestselling author Daniel Coyle provides parents, teachers, coaches, businesspeople—and everyone else—with tools they can use to maximize potential in themselves and others

The Art of Learning: A Journey in the Pursuit of Excellence by Josh Waitzkin - "A remarkable story of personal achievement and shares the principles of learning and performance that have propelled him to the top—twice."

The book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a changing world - this is an interview between the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu

The Gift of Fear: And Other Survival Signals That Protect Us from Violence Mass Market by Gavin de Becker – “Shattering the myth that most violent acts are unpredictable, de Becker, whose clients include top Hollywood stars and government agencies, offers specific ways to protect yourself and those you love, including...how to act when approached by a stranger...when you should fear someone close to you...what to do if you are being stalked”

The Like Switch by Jack Schafer - From a former FBI Special Agent specializing in behavior analysis and recruiting spies comes a handbook filled with his proven strategies on how to instantly read people and influence how they perceive you, so you can easily turn on the like switch

The Road To Character by David Brooks - Responding to what he calls the culture of the Big Me, which emphasizes external success, Brooks challenges us, and himself, to rebalance the scales between our “résumé virtues”—achieving wealth, fame, and status—and our “eulogy virtues,” those that exist at the core of our being: kindness, bravery, honesty, or faithfulness, focusing on what kind of relationships we have formed.

The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F*ck: A Counterintuitive Approach to Living a Good Life by Mark Manson - " a superstar blogger cuts through the crap to show us how to stop trying to be "positive" all the time so that we can truly become better, happier people."

Weapons of Math Destruction by Cathy O'neil - A former Wall Street quant sounds an alarm on the mathematical models that pervade modern life — and threaten to rip apart our social fabric - "how big data increases income inequality & threatens democracy"

NON-FICTION, BIZ STRATEGY

Alibaba: The House That Jack Ma Built by Duncan Clark (2) - "An engrossing, insider's account of how a teacher built one of the world's most valuable companies—rivaling Walmart & Amazon—and forever reshaped the global economy."

It's Your Ship: Management Techniques from the Best Damn Ship in the Navy by D. Michael Abrashoff (2) – “The story of Captain D. Michael Abrashoff and his command of USS Benfold has become legendary inside and outside the Navy. Now Abrashoff offers this fascinating tale of top-down change for anyone trying to navigate today's uncertain business seas.”

"The Zurich Axioms (2): The rules of risk and reward used by generations of Swiss bankers by Max Gunther - The Zurich Axioms: The rules of risk and reward used by generations of Swiss bankers Jun 3, 2005 by Max Gunther"

Competing Against Luck - By Clayton M. Christensen - Gets to the heart of business and product development success, concluding that the only things a company needs to know about its customers are their “jobs to be done.” This provocative approach and organized framework are at the crux of discovering the “why” behind customer choices and actions—and are the first often-missed steps toward making innovation inevitable for companies and entrepreneurs alike.

Creativity inc by Ed Catmull - Overcoming the Unseen Forces That Stand in the Way of True Inspiration - “just might be the most thoughtful management book ever.”

Good profit - Charles G. Koch - drawing on revealing, honest, and previously untold stories from his nearly six decades in business, Koch walks the reader through the five dimensions of MBM to show how to apply its framework to generate more good profit in any business, industry, or organization of any size

How Star Wars Conquered the Universe - Chris Taylor - The Past, Present, and Future of a Multibillion Dollar Franchise It's not about the coffee – Howard Behar - shares inside stories of key turning points for Starbucks, as it fought to hang on to its culture while growing exponentially.

Matchmakers, David Evans - Many of the most dynamic public companies, from Alibaba to Facebook to Visa, and the most valuable start-ups, such as Airbnb and Uber, are matchmakers that connect one group of customers with another group of customers.

Onward by Howard Schultz - How Starbucks Fought for Its Life without Losing Its Soul

Originals, by Adam Grant - examines how people can champion new ideas—and how leaders can fight groupthink

Start with Why by Simon Sinek - Why are some people and organizations more innovative, more influential, and more profitable than others? Why do some command greater loyalty from customers and employees alike? Even among the successful, why are so few able to repeat their success over and over?

The Lords of Strategy by Walter Kiechel - this book is a revealing account of how these iconoclasts and the organizations they led revolutionized the way we think about business, changed the very soul of the corporation, and transformed the way we work.

The Outsiders by William N. Thorndike: Eight Unconventional CEOs and Their Radically Rational Blueprint for Success
"The Search by John Battelle - How Google and Its Rivals Rewrote the Rules of Business and Transformed Our Culture"

To Pixar and Beyond: My Unlikely Journey with Steve Jobs to Make Entertainment History by Lawrence Levy - After Steve Jobs was unceremoniously dismissed from Apple, he turned his attention to a little-known graphics art company that he owned called Pixar.

NON-FICTION FINANCE, POST CREDIT CRUNCH

Black Edge: Inside Information, Dirty Money, and the Quest to Bring Down the Most Wanted Man on Wall Street (6)

Fed Up: An Insider's Take on Why the Federal Reserve is Bad for America by Danielle DiMartino Booth (4) - A Federal Reserve insider pulls back the curtain on the secretive institution that controls America's economy

Straight to Hell: True Tales of Deviance, Debauchery, and Billion-Dollar Deals - Over the past three years, the notorious @GSElevator Twitter feed has offered a hilarious, shamelessly voyeuristic look into the real world of international finance. Hundreds of thousands followed the account, Goldman Sachs launched an internal investigation, and when the true identity of the man behind it all was revealed, it created a national media sensation—but that's only part of the story.

The Devil's Casino: Friendship, Betrayal, and the High Stakes Games Played Inside Lehman Brothers by Vicky Ward - "a much bigger story than Lehman losing at the risky game of collateralized debt obligations, swaps, and leverage."

The People's Police - Norman Spinrad – Focus on the Great Deflation. The dollar will surge, prices and wages will fall. Who suffers in that scenario? Everyone with a mortgage. Americans end up like Icelanders not so long ago, saddled with debts they can't pay with now-deflated incomes. The next stage is foreclosures and evictions.

The Rational Optimist: How Prosperity Evolves - Matt Ridley - makes the case for an economics of hope, arguing that the benefits of commerce, technology, innovation, and change—what Ridley calls cultural evolution—will inevitably increase human prosperity.

The Rise and Fall of Nations: Forces of Change in the Post-Crisis World by Ruchir Sharma - "Quite simply the best guide to the global economy today."

NON-FICTION, FINANCE

Superforecasting: The Art and Science of Prediction (4) by Philip E. Tetlock - An Economist Best Book of 2015 - "The most important book on decision making since Daniel Kahneman's Thinking, Fast and Slow." - shows us how we can

learn from this elite group. Weaving together stories of forecasting successes (the raid on Osama bin Laden's compound) and failures (the Bay of Pigs) and interviews with a range of high-level decision makers

Thank You For Being Late: An Optimist's Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations by Thomas Friedman (3) - Not a defense of globalism, but an examination of how fast the world is changing.

Chaos Monkeys: Obscene Fortune and Random Failure in Silicon Valley - Antonio Garcia Martinez (2) - Liar's Poker meets The Social Network in an irreverent exposé of life inside the tech bubble, from industry provocateur Antonio García Martínez, a former Twitter advisor, Facebook product manager and startup founder/CEO.

Dream Big By Cristiane Correa - How the Brazilian Trio behind 3G Capital (2) - Jorge Paulo Lemann, Marcel Telles and Beto Sicupira - acquired Anheuser-Busch, Burger King and Heinz.

How Google Works' by Eric Schmidt and Jonathan Rosenberg (2) - If you've wondered how exactly Google is able to create a work environment that manages to be both fun and efficient, Google's former CEO and current chair Eric Schmidt and former SVP of products Jonathan Rosenberg break it down for you.

Zero to One - Peter Thiel (2) - presents at once an optimistic view of the future of progress in America and a new way of thinking about innovation: it starts by learning to ask the questions that lead you to find value in unexpected places. "This book delivers completely new and refreshing ideas on how to create value in the world."

All The Evil of This World by Jared Dillian – From the Author of the "Daily Dirtnap" blog - There are humans behind the big, bad vilified banks, there are humans behind the calculations of Wall Street, there are humans behind all the legal and illegal financial machinations in the news--they are not always the best humans, and they are not always the worst humans

Dark Money by Jane Mayer (2) - The Hidden History of the Billionaires Behind the Rise of the Radical Right – "discusses the results of the most recent election and Donald Trump's victory, and how, despite much discussion to the contrary, this was a huge victory for the billionaires who have been pouring money in the American political system."

End of Alchemy by Mervyn King - "the most important book to come out of the financial crisis. Agree or disagree, King's visionary ideas deserve the attention of everyone from economics students to heads of state."

From Those Wonderful Folks Who Gave You Pearl Harbor - Jerry Della Femina - Front Line Dispatches from the Advertising War

In The Plex: How Google Thinks, Works, and Shapes Our Lives by Steven Levy - Few companies in history have ever been as successful and as admired as Google, the company that has transformed the Internet and become an indispensable part of our lives. How has Google done it?

King of Captial by David Carey - The Remarkable Rise, Fall, and Rise Again of Steve Schwarzman and Blackstone

Misbehaving, by Richard Thaler - The Making of Behavioural Economics

More Than You Know: Finding Financial Wisdom in Unconventional Places - Michael Mauboussin

Opening Belle by Maureen Sherry - funny insider novel about a female Wall Street executive also trying to be a mother and a wife is a "compulsively readable...cheeky—and at times, romantic—battle-cry for any woman who's ever strived to have it all and been told by a man that she couldn't"

Paypal wars – Eric M Jackson - PayPal's history - as told by former insider Eric Jackson - is an engrossing study of human struggle and perseverance against overwhelming odds. The entrepreneurs that Thiel and Levchin recruited to overhaul world currency markets first had to face some of the greatest trials ever thrown at a Silicon Valley company before they could make internet history

Private Empire: ExxonMobil and American Power - by Steve Coll - An “extraordinary” and “monumental” exposé of Big Oil from two-time Pulitzer Prize winner

The Colder War - Marin Katusa - How the Global Energy Trade Slipped from America’s Grasp

The Complacent Class: The Self-Defeating Quest for the American Dream by Tyler Cowen - The forces unleashed by the Great Stagnation will eventually lead to a major fiscal and budgetary crisis: impossibly expensive rentals for our most attractive cities, worsening of residential segregation, and a decline in our work ethic. The only way to avoid this difficult future is for Americans to force themselves out of their comfortable slumber—to embrace their restless tradition again.

The Everything Store - Brad Stone - Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon

The Evolution of Everything by Matt Ridley - Human society evolves. Change in technology, language, morality, and society is incremental, inexorable, gradual, and spontaneous. It follows a narrative, going from one stage to the next, and it largely happens by trial and error—a version of natural selection

The Second Machine Age: Work, Progress, and Prosperity in a Time of Brilliant Technologies - Erik Brynjolfsson - the best strategies for survival and offer a new path to prosperity. These include revamping education so that it prepares people for the next economy instead of the last one, designing new collaborations that pair brute processing power with human ingenuity, and embracing policies that make sense in a radically transformed landscape.

The Squeeze – Tom Bowrer - With unparalleled insight into BP and its safety record leading up to the disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, Tom Bower gives us a groundbreaking, in-depth, and authoritative twenty-year history of the hunt and speculation for our most vital natural resource.

NON-FICTION FINANCE, TRADING / INVESTING

A Man for All Markets: From Las Vegas to Wall Street, How I Beat the Dealer and the Market by Edward O. Thorp (5) - The incredible true story of the card-counting mathematics professor who taught the world how to beat the dealer and, as the first of the great quantitative investors, ushered in a revolution on Wall Street

Bernard Baruch: The Adventures of a Wall Street Legend - James Grant - Bernard Baruch was a self-made millionaire, legendary stock trader, and venture investor. For most of the first half of the 20th century, he epitomized the “good side” of Wall Street in the public mind. Celebrated as “Adviser to Presidents” and “The Park Bench Statesman,” he also became known as “The Man Who Sold out before the Crash.” James Grant’s much praised biography draws on a wealth of previously untapped material.

Chicken, Mules and Two Old Fools by Victoria Twead - "a colourful glimpse of Andalucían life. And a psychopathic chicken or two...charming...funny" - "No idea they'll become reluctant chicken farmers and own the most dangerous cockerel in Spain"

Long and Short: Confessions of a Portfolio Manager written by Lawrence Creatura. It is light hearted but still I learned some great research tools reading it. It's easy to read and perfect for Spring Break if you can handle something relevant to the business on vacation!

Margin of Safety by Seth Klarman - "Risk-Averse Value Investing Strategies for the Thoughtful Investor" - Available by resellers for \$1500

The (Mis) Behavior of Markets Benoit Mandelbrot - Mathematical superstar and inventor of fractal geometry, Benoit Mandelbrot, has spent the past forty years studying the underlying mathematics of space and natural patterns. What many of his followers don't realize is that he has also been watching patterns of market change

The Art of Execution: How the world's best investors get it wrong and still make millions by Lee Freeman-Shor - A riveting read for investors of every level, this book shows you exactly what to do and what not to do when your big idea is losing or winning - and demonstrates conclusively why the most important thing about investing is always the art of execution

The New Case for Gold by Jim Rickards - Providing clear instructions on how much gold to buy and where to store it, the short, provocative argument in this book will change the way you look at this "barbarous relic" forever.

Wealth & Wisdom - George McAuliffe - Timeless Quotations and Comments About Money and Investing

SPORTS

Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life by William Finnegan (4) - "an old-school adventure story, an intellectual autobiography, a social history, a literary road movie, and an extraordinary exploration of the gradual mastering of an exacting, little understood art. Today, Finnegan's surfing life is undiminished. Frantically juggling work and family, he chases his enchantment through Long Island ice storms..."

I'm Fascinated by Sacrifice Flies: Inside the Game We All Love by Tim Kurkjian (2) - From what Pete Rose was doing in the batting cage a few minutes after getting out of prison, to why everyone strikes out these days and why no one seems to care, I'm Fascinated By Sacrifice Flies will surprise even longtime baseball fans

Boys Among Men - Jonathan Abrams - How the Prep-to-Pro Generation Redefined the NBA and Sparked a Basketball Revolution

By the Numbers by Sean Manseau - It tries to settle the argument of what single athlete was best wearing his/her jersey #....00-100...so 99 and 23 are obvious but once you've pounded a few, it makes for GREAT cocktail conversation

Find A Way - Diana Nyad - "offers insights into the psychology of her three attempts to swim from Cuba to Florida"

Game 7, 1986: Failure and Triumph in the Biggest Game of My Life – Ron Darling - "reflects on the ways professional athletes must sometimes shoulder a personal disappointment as their teams find a way to win"

Integrating the Orioles: Baseball and Race in Baltimore – Bob Luke - The struggle to integrate the Baltimore Orioles mirrored the fight for civil rights in Baltimore. The Orioles debuted in 1954, the same year the Supreme Court struck down public school segregation. As Baltimore experienced demonstrations, white flight and a 1968 riot, team integration came slowly

Legacy by James Kerr – "What Rugby's All Blacks Can Teach Us About the Business of Life"

Moving the Chains: Tom Brady and the Pursuit of Everything by Charles P. Pierce - " explains how Brady reached the top of his profession and how he stays there"

Pitch by Pitch: My View of One Unforgettable Game by Bob Gibson

Road to Sparta by Dean Karnazes - Reliving the Ancient Battle and Epic Run That Inspired the World's Greatest Footrace

String Theory by David Foster Wallace - from "the best tennis-writer of all time"

The Art of Fielding - Chad Harbach - At Westish College, baseball star Henry Skrimshander seems destined for big league until a routine throw goes disastrously off course. In the aftermath of his error, the fates of five people are upended. Henry's fight against self-doubt threatens to ruin his future.

The Athlete gene by David Epstein - Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance

The Boys in the Boat - Daniel James Brown - Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Olympics

The Coaching Habit by Michael Bungay Stanier - Drawing on years of experience training more than 10,000 busy managers from around the globe in practical, everyday coaching skills, Bungay Stanier reveals how to unlock your peoples' potential.

The Game by Jon Pessah: Inside the Secret World of Major League Baseball's Power Brokers

The Legends Club by John Feinstein: Dean Smith, Mike Krzyzewski, Jim Valvano, and an Epic College Basketball Rivalry

The Match: The Day the Game of Golf Changed Forever - Mark Frost - In 1956, millionaires Eddie Lowery and George Coleman made an off-the-cuff bet on a golf match and inadvertently set up one of the sport's most climactic duels; this one casual game has become the sport's great suburban legend. Frost (The Greatest Game Ever Played) diligently covers the two pros slightly past their prime, Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson, who squared off against two top amateurs, Harvie Ward and Ken Venturi.

The Ones Who Hit the Hardest by Chad Millman - The Steelers, the Cowboys, the '70s, and the Fight for America's Soul

The Perfect Pass by S. C. Gwynne: The American Genius and the Reinvention of Football – “Basically tells you the history of the spread offense”

The Real Madrid Way - How Values Created the Most Successful Sports Team on the Planet By Steven G. Mandis - Delve into why the team with the most trophies in the world's most popular sport continues to win. Even to the author's surprise, success does not come from deep statistical analysis or simply accumulating the best players, but rather from how the team embodies the spirit and culture of its community—a valuable lesson for sports and global business teams alike.

The River Why by David James Duncan - "The classic novel of fly fishing and spirituality"

Three Nights in August by Buzz Bissinger - captures baseball's strategic and emotional essences through a point-blank account of one three-game series viewed through the keen eyes of legendary manager Tony La Russa

Tracking the Wild Coomba by Robert Cocuzzo - The Life of Legendary Skier Doug Coombs

Up, Up and Away by Jonah Keri - The Kid, the Hawk, Rock, Vladi, Pedro, le Grand Orange, Youppi!, the Crazy Business of Baseball, and the Ill-fated but Unforgettable Montreal Expos

Wanna Bet? by Don Wade: The Greatest True Stories About Gambling on Golf, from Titanic Thompson to Tiger Woods