



## Recommended Reading

READING LISTS ABOUND. However, the following list is unique because it contains the personal recommendations of our readers in their own words. We hope you find some selections from it to enjoy in the coming months and send us some of your suggestions to share.

### BOOKS THAT ARE MYSTERY PLUS

#### *Daughter of Time*

By Josephine Tey

Laid up in the hospital, Inspector Grant of Scotland Yard becomes pre-occupied by a portrait of Richard III. With the help of the British Museum and a young American researcher, Grant sets out to solve the mystery of whether Richard actually killed his two nephews and had them buried in the Tower of London.

#### *The Botanist and the Vintner: How Wine was Saved for the World* By Christy Campbell

This story is of a near disaster in the mid 19th century when French grapevines were ravaged by an unstoppable killer.

### BOOKS YOU WISH EVERYONE WOULD READ

#### *We Are All The Same*

by Jim Wooten

This is a heart-warming account of a South African boy, Nkosi Johnson, who was born with the AIDS virus. It describes the extraordinary efforts of his foster mother, Gail, to provide for him when Apartheid precluded easy access to social services by persons

of color. Wooten, a senior correspondent for ABC News, became personally involved in the boy's life, which results in poignant descriptions and vivid reporting.

### BOOKS THAT CHALLENGE THE INTELLECT AND ARE WORTH THE EFFORT

#### *Will in the World: How Shakespeare Became Shakespeare* By Stephen Greenblatt

#### *Shadowplay: The Hidden Beliefs and Coded Politics of William Shakespeare*

By Clare Asquith

Two books about how the life of Elizabethan England – especially the social and political struggle of church and state – found expression in the works of William Shakespeare make thought provoking reading. Scholars will argue about these analyses, but Shakespeare and his writing take on new life with these interpretations.

#### *The Fabric of the Cosmos*

By Brian Greene

This is NOT recreational reading, but it is without a doubt the best-written book I have ever read about the hardest questions in physics. Greene is a physicist, and passionately wants to

help people understand what he finds so fascinating, strange, and wonderful about spacetime, Newton and Einstein, string theory, etc. It is reassuring to learn that this stuff isn't easy for him to think about either!

### BOOKS SPECIAL TO THE NORTHWEST

#### *Vigilante Newspapers: A Tale of Sex, Religion, and Murder in the Northwest* by Gerald J. Baldasty

This riveting work of social history documents the role the news media played in spurring two murders and a suicide at the turn of the 20th century.

#### *A Life Disturbed:*

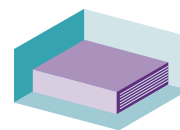
#### *My Pacific War Revisited*

by Merrel Clubb

Part letters, part memoir, and part analysis, this volume ranges over a vast, colorful, and weighted territory, exploring the psychological terrain of a life disturbed, and forever changed, by war.

#### *Bringing Indians to the Book* by Albert Furtwangler

Furtwangler recounts the ironies and misunderstandings that arose when resolutely literate early missionaries and explorers encountered the oral societies of Northwest Coast Indians.



### BOOKS THAT CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE

#### *Freakonomics*

By Stephen D. Levitt

An economist reveals in story form some surprising results of an open-minded analysis of facts regarding such questions as cheating in Sumo

wrestling, educational testing and office bagel sales, and why drug dealers live with their mothers.

*No god But God: The Origins, Evolution and Future of Islam*  
By Reza Aslan

In postulating that instead of a clash between East and West we are really seeing a fight for supremacy between Islamic groups – a “Reformation” – Aslan sets out in clear prose his fascinating view of the integration of history and religion.

**BOOKS FOR PLEASURE**

*Samuel Johnson is Indignant*  
By Lydia Davis

A couple suspects their friends see them as boring; a woman resolves to see herself as nothing but then concludes she’s set too high a goal; the childbearing conundrum is laid out. The stories, paragraph-long meditations, and humorous one-liners showcase the wordplay and distillation of meaning that have become Davis’s stylistic hallmarks.

*Kurt Wallander mysteries*  
By Henning Mankell

Mankell is a Swedish mystery writer and African theatre director. Go figure. I read a recent mystery of his, then went back to the beginning, and devoured, at last count, eight in a row. This is genre fiction featuring an all-too-human detective, very well done, and very atmospheric.

*In the Company of Cheerful Ladies*  
By Alexander McCall Smith

This is the latest in the series of human mysteries untangled by Botswana’s insightful lady detective Mma Ramotswe while enjoying her soothing bush tea. Moving into this world is a wonderful way to relax.

*Garlic and Sapphires*  
By Ruth Reichl

An account of Reichl’s experiences as an undercover food critic for the *New York Times*, this book includes some favorite recipes and reflections on tricks and disguises to hide her identity as she visited restaurants.

**BOOKS FOR HISTORY BUFFS**

*The Indian Slave Trade: The Rise of the English Empire in the American South 1670-1717*  
By Alan Gallay

This book provides historical documentation of the trading of Indian slaves as practiced by indigenous

Indian tribes and early European colonists in the American South. The book narrates the cultural clash between the Indian tribes and the new colonists producing ever-shifting alliances between the parties, as each group sought wealth and peace through trade and war. An eye-opening look at Indian and colonial life in early America.

*A People’s History of the United States: 1942-Present*  
By Howard Zinn

Using quotations from blacks, women, Native Americans and others, Zinn unfolds American historical events from the viewpoint of these seldom-heard sources. Not your high school history text of memory, this book will

NEW FROM WASHINGTON



**Neighbor Power**

*Building Community the Seattle Way*

Jim Diers

“Jim Diers was the Pied Piper for the Seattle neighborhood movement which built a national and international reputation for its new approach to planning, giving real meaning to the slogan ‘Power to the People.’”

– Paul Schell, former Seattle Mayor

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## BOOKS THAT TELL A LIFE'S STORY

*John James Audubon:  
The Making of an American*

By Richard Rhodes

This isn't just about birds, although  
they are there in their pre-settlement  
profusion. It's about an American pio-  
neering venture into the Ohio valley,  
New Orleans and on west. Audubon  
was a businessman going from riches  
to bust as well as a struggling and then  
highly successful artist.

*Picasso*

By Patrick O'Brian

Before he started writing his swash-  
buckling Aubrey-Maturin novels  
(*Master and Commander*, etc.), Patrick  
O'Brian wrote a terrific biography of  
Picasso which is still in print (30 years  
and counting) and quite marvelous.  
Picasso is an unruly topic for a biog-  
raphy, but O'Brian, a superlatively clear  
writer, did a brilliant job.

*Chronicles, Vol. 1*

By Bob Dylan

Stream of consciousness Dylan; it may  
not be what you expected, but it's fun  
to go along for the ride

## BOOKS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

*Giraffes? Giraffes!  
Volume 1 of the Haggis-On-Whey  
World of Unbelievable Brilliance*

By Dr. and Mr. Doris

Haggis-On-Whey

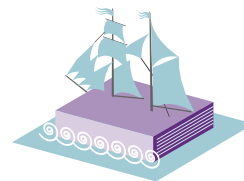
With this parody of children's science  
books by the eminent authority on  
everything Dr. Doris Haggis-On-Whey  
(seventeen degrees from eighteen

institutions of higher learning), and  
her husband Benny, scientific myster-  
ies are revealed with a wry humor and  
more than a little imagination. Learn  
everything about giraffes from their  
origin (from Neptune via conveyor  
belt) to why they have patches (they  
are not solar-power processors).

*Runny Babbit: A Billy Sook*

By Shel Silverstein

This new (posthumously published)  
book from children's poet and illustra-  
tor Shel Silverstein, creator of *Where the  
Sidewalk Ends*, *A Light in the Attic* and  
other favorites, is populated by the likes  
of Runny Babbit, Toe Jurtle, Ploppy  
Sig, Polly Dorkupine, and Pilly Belican  
(who owns the Sharber Bop). This is a  
great read aloud shock to bare.



## BOOKS THAT TAKE YOU TO A NEW PLACE

*Saturday*

By Ian McEwan

A successful London neurosurgeon  
witnesses a plane hurtling toward  
Heathrow. Post 9/11, we have all joined  
a "community of anxiety." McEwan  
explores what actions and compro-  
mises a responsible man might be  
willing to make to protect his territory  
and family.

*The Hungry Tide*

By Amitav Ghosh

Ghosh beautifully conjures places you  
have never imagined before. In this  
tale it is the Sundarbans, that set of  
low-lying mangrove islands that lie  
between land and ocean in the delta of  
the Ganges and Brahmaputra Rivers.  
Love, intrigue, a scientist's quest for

the River Dolphin and a little radical revolution carry the story along.

**River Town:**

***Two Years On the Yangtze***

By Peter Hessler

Hessler's two years in the Peace Corps as a college teacher in Fuling, China, result in an insightful portrayal of everyday life in rural China. As one of the first two foreigners in Fuling in 50 years, Hessler's astute observations of himself and his new home honestly convey the cultural differences he discovers in the world he has chosen to enter.

***The Kite Runner***

By Khaled Hosseini

This book, which begins "I became what I am today at the age of twelve...." is reminiscent of other tales of childhood guilt carried into adulthood except that this tale moves between the narrator's native Afghanistan and his current home in California and is caught in the shifting political winds that buffet him and the culture that is so much a part of his interior life. The characters linger long after the book is finished.

**BOOKS THAT KEEP YOU UP AT NIGHT**

***The End of Faith: Religion, Terror and the Future of Reason***

By Sam Harris

Harris addresses our willingness to suspend reason in favor of religious beliefs and warns how religious moderation or political correctness can result in a tolerance for and even an acceptance of naïve or potentially dangerous ideologies. Persons who would not believe that frozen yogurt could make one invisible, in a religious context might subscribe to philosophies that are no less unlikely, or worse,

utilize unverifiable magical thinking for political gain. This is a thoughtful if not chilling read!

***The World is Flat***

By Thomas Friedman

Friedman's chatty style wears pretty well in this investigation of accelerating globalization and what it means to us here in America. Many of Friedman's liberal readers are angry with him for supporting the invasion of Iraq, but that shouldn't be a reason to boycott this book. It gets way past the slogan-level arguments globalization tends to provoke.

***Collapse***

By Jared Diamond

Diamond, best known for *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, looks back at societies that have collapsed (and some that have not), looking for insights that might guide us today, when we, as a planet, are facing some of the same challenges that doomed some (but not all) earlier societies on a much smaller scale.

**BOOKS THAT HELP YOU ON YOUR WAY**

***The Street-Smart Naturalist: Field Notes from Seattle***

By David Williams

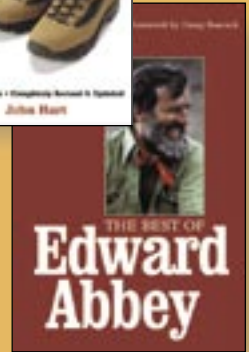
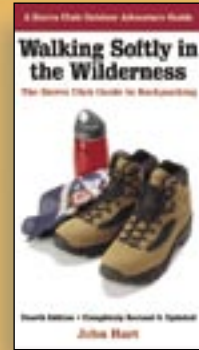
Combining natural history, science and personal insight, naturalist Williams is an entertaining and knowledgeable guide to the integration of a modern city with the natural world. Readers will learn a lot about both.

***Portland Hill Walks***

By Laura Foster

This newest guidebook for walkers through 20 Portland neighborhoods provides maps, history and lore about a city that is often rated among the nation's most livable. ☺

# Reading Adventure



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FOREWORD BY DOUG PEACOCK

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