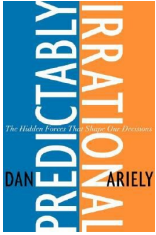


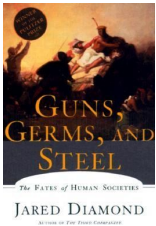
Nonfiction

For Book Clubs



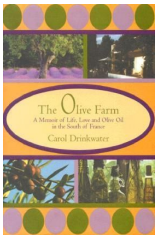
[Predictably Irrational](#) by Dan Ariely (330 ARIEL)

An evaluation of the sources of illogical decisions explores the reasons why irrational thought often overcomes level-headed practices, offering insight into the structural patterns that cause people to make the same mistakes repeatedly.



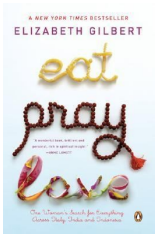
[Guns, Germs, and Steel](#) by Jared Diamond (303.4 DIAMO)

Dismantles racially based theories of human history by revealing the environmental factors he feels are responsible for history's broadest patterns. Covers 13,000 years of human history, beginning when stone-age gatherers constituted the entire population.



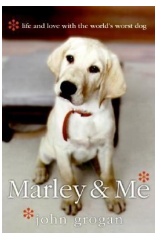
[The Olive Farm](#) by Carol Drinkwater (944 DRINK)

When Carol Drinkwater and her fiancé, Michel, are given the opportunity to purchase ten acres of an abandoned olive farm in the South of France, they find the region's splendor impossible to resist.



[Eat, Pray, Love](#) by Elizabeth Gilbert (B GILBERT)

Traces the author's decision to quit her job and travel the world for a year after suffering a midlife crisis and divorce, a journey that took her to three places in her quest to explore her own nature and learn the art of spiritual balance.

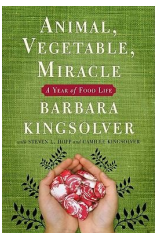


[Blink](#) by Malcolm Gladwell (153.4 GLADW)

Explores the process by which people make decisions, explaining how the difference between good and bad decision making is directly related to the details on which people focus, and offers advice on how to improve decision making skills.

[Marley & Me: Life and Love with the World's Worst Dog](#) by John Grogan (636.752 GROGA)

This funny, unforgettable book follows the life story of an exuberant Labrador Retriever who gets into perpetual trouble and experiences a range of inspiring adventures, from shutting down an entire beach to guarding a seventeen year old neighbor after a stabbing attack.



[Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life](#) by Barbara Kingsolver (641.097 KINGS)

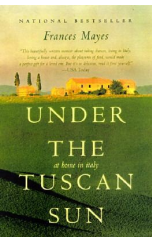
Kingsolver and her family moved to rural Appalachia and decided to spend a year eating a locally produced diet. Follow their family as they plant, pull weeds, harvest their own animals, and save heritage crops from extinction. Part memoir, part journalistic investigation, part recipes, and all passion.





[Into Thin Air](#) by Jon Krakauer (796.5 KRA)

A powerful, cautionary tale of adventure gone horribly wrong, *Into Thin Air* became an instant bestseller upon publication. A childhood dream of some day ascending Mt. Everest, a lifelong love of climbing, and an expense account all propelled writer Jon Krakauer to the top of the Himalayas in May 1996. With a guide claiming "We've got the mountain wired," Krakauer found that for 65 grand, you could climb the world's tallest peak. This hubris, and a freak storm, claimed the lives of seven members of his expedition, and narrowly avoided killing Krakauer and many more.



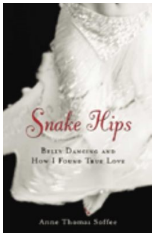
[Under the Tuscan Sun](#) by Frances Mayes (945 MAY)

Frances Mayes purchased and began restoring an abandoned villa in the Tuscan countryside. She uses her experiences with writing, traveling, and cooking to tempt readers with the pleasures of Italian life.



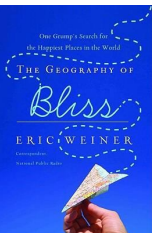
[Julie and Julia](#) by Julie Powell (641.5 POWEL)

Nearing thirty and trapped in a dead-end secretarial job, Julie Powell resolved to reclaim her life by cooking, in a single year, every one of the 524 recipes in Julia Child's 1961 classic, *Mastering the art of French cooking*. Her unexpected reward, a new life lived with gusto.



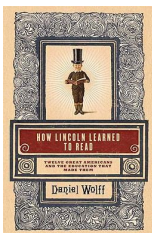
[Snake Hips](#) by Anne Thomas Soffee (793.3 SOFFE)

This hilariously uplifting memoir follows an Arab American woman's merry life as she shimmies her way from getting dumped by her tattoo-artist boyfriend to coming to grips with being single, ample, and 30. Feeling lost and heartbroken, Anne Thomas Soffee moves back home to Richmond, Virginia. Against the wishes of her extended family and friends, she enrolls in a belly dancing class hoping to heal her heart and reconnect with her Lebanese roots. Wildly funny adventures ensue as a newly confident Soffee embarks on romantic adventures with a domineering sheik and a beautiful Lebanese boy-next-door.



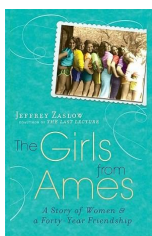
[The Geography of Bliss](#) by Eric Weiner (910.4 WEINE)

Part foreign affairs discourse, part humor, and part twisted self-help guide, this book takes the reader from America to Iceland to India in search of happiness, or, in the crabby author's case, moments of "un-unhappiness." The book uses a mixture of travel, psychology, science and humor to investigate not what happiness is, but where it is.



[How Lincoln Learned to Read](#) by Daniel J. Wolff (370.973 WOLFF)

Wolff presents an engaging, provocative history of American ideas, told through the educations (both in and out of school) of 12 great figures, from Benjamin Franklin to Elvis Presley.



[The Girls from Ames](#) by Jeffrey Zaslow (305.409 ZASLO)

Follows the inspiring story of a group of female friends from Ames, Iowa. They bonded as children, then remained friends through college, careers, marriage, motherhood, dating, divorce, and death. Together these women share a lifetime of memories and dreams.



[The Tender Bar](#) by J.R. Moehringer (B MOEHRINGE)

In a memoir of growing up with a single mother, the author describes how he received valuable life lessons and friendship from an assortment of characters at the neighborhood bar, who provided him with a kind of fatherhood by committee.