

JUST THE FACTS BOOK DISCUSSION ARCHIVE

2024

DECEMBER — *The Secret to Superhuman Strength* by Alison Bechdel

NOVEMBER — *The Man who Loved Books Too Much...* by Allison Hoover Bartlett

OCTOBER — *Overdue: Reckoning with the Public Library* by Amanda Oliver

SEPTEMBER — *The Icepick Surgeon: Murder, Fraud, Sabotage, Piracy, and Other Dastardly Deeds Perpetrated in the Name of Science* by Sam Kean

AUGUST — *Stealing Rembrandts: The Untold Stories of Notorious Art Heists* by Anthony Amore and Tom Mashberg

JULY — *The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race* by Walter Isaacson

JUNE — *The Appalachian Trail: a Biography* by Philip D'anieri

MAY — *Good Talk: a memoir in Conversations* by Mira Jacob

APRIL — *Money: The True Story of a Made-Up Thing* by Jacob Goldstein

MARCH — *Yearbook* by Seth Rogen

FEBRUARY — *Queen of Our Times: the Life of Queen Elizabeth II* by Robert Hardman

JANUARY — *Americanon: An Unexpected*

U.S. History in Thirteen Bestselling Books by Jess McHugh

2023

DECEMBER — *Just Checking: Scenes from the Life of an Obsessive-Compulsive* by Emily Colas

NOVEMBER — *One Day: The Extraordinary Story of an Ordinary 24 Hours in America* by Gene Weingarten

OCTOBER — *Susan, Linda, Nina, and Cokie: The Extraordinary Story of the Founding Mothers of NPR* by Lisa Napoli

SEPTEMBER — *London's Number One Dog-Walking Agency* by Kate MacDougall

AUGUST — *Broken (in the Best Possible Way)* by Jenny Lawson

JULY — *Heaven and Hell: A History of the Afterlife* by Bart D. Ehrman

JUNE — *Marriage, a History: How Love Conquered Marriage* by Stephen Coontz

MAY — *A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare: 1599* by James S. Shapiro

APRIL — *Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law* by Mary Roach

MARCH — *The Science of Evil: On Empathy and the Origins of Cruelty* by Simon Baron-Cohen

FEBRUARY — *The Secret History of Home Economics: How Trailblazing Women Harnessed the Power of Home and Changed the Way We Live* by Danielle Dreilinger

JANUARY — *Weird: The Power of Being an Outsider in an Insider World* by Olga Khazan

2022

DECEMBER — *Defender: How a Legendary Black Newspaper Changed America: From the Age of the Pullman Porters to the Age of Obama* by Ethan Michaeli

NOVEMBER — *Smallest Lights in the Universe: A Memoir* by Sara Seager

OCTOBER — *The End of Everything (Astrophysically Speaking)* by Katie Mack

SEPTEMBER — *One Summer: America, 1927* by Bill Bryson

AUGUST — *Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family* by Robert Kloker

JULY — *Vesper Flights* by Helen MacDonald

JUNE — *Priest Daddy* by Patricia Lockwood

MAY — *Tomboy* by Lisa Selin Davis

APRIL — *The Geography of Bliss* by Eric Weiner

MARCH — *The Address Book* by Deirdre Mask

FEBRUARY — *Love with a Chance of*

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Drowning by Torre DeRoche

JANUARY — *Living to Tell the Tale* by Gabriel García Márquez

2021

DECEMBER — *All Creatures Great and Small* by James Harriot

NOVEMBER — N/A

OCTOBER — *A Season with the Witch: the Magic and Mayhem of Halloween in Salem, Massachusetts* by J.W. Ocker

SEPTEMBER — *Midnight in Chernobyl: the Untold Story of the World's Greatest Nuclear Disaster* by Adam Higginbotham

AUGUST — *The Reality Bubble: How Science Reveals the Hidden Truths that Shape Our World* by Ziya Tong

JULY — *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren

JUNE — *How to Do Nothing: Resisting the Attention Economy* by Jenny Odell

MAY — *Finding My Voice: When the Perfect Plan Crumbles, the Adventure Begins* by Valerie Jarrett

APRIL — *Prairie Fires: the American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder* by Caroline Fraser and Christina Moore

MARCH — *Underland: A Deep Time Journey* by Robert Macfarland

FEBRUARY — *The Monk of Mokha* by Dave Eggers

JANUARY — *Don't Sleep, There Are Snakes* by Daniel Everett

2020

DECEMBER — *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft* by Stephen King

NOVEMBER — *Daring to Drive: a Saudi Woman's Awakening* by Manal Al-Sharif

OCTOBER — *Behave: the Biology of Humans At Our Best and Worst* by Robert M. Sapolsky

SEPTEMBER — *The Lady from the Black Lagoon: Hollywood Monsters and the Lost Legacy of Milicent Patrick* by Mallory O'Meara

AUGUST — *Give People Money: How a Universal Basic Income Would End Poverty, Revolutionize Work, and Remake the World* by Annie Lowrey

JULY — *Canceled due to COVID-19*

JUNE — *Canceled due to COVID-19*

MAY — *Canceled due to COVID-19*

APRIL — *Canceled due to COVID-19*

MARCH — *Canceled due to COVID-19*

FEBRUARY — *She Has Her Mother's Laugh: The Powers, Perversions, and Potential of Heredity* by Carl Zimmer

JANUARY — *The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland* by Jim Defede

2019

DECEMBER — *Word By Word: The Secret Life of Dictionaries* by Kory Stamper

NOVEMBER — *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover

OCTOBER — *The Radium Girls: the Dark Story of America's Shining Women* by Kate Moore

SEPTEMBER — *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson

AUGUST — *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* by Matthew Desmond

JULY — *The End of Your Life Book Club* by Will Schwalbe

JUNE — *Killers of the Flower Moon: the Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann

MAY — *Eleanor and Hick: the Love Affair that Shaped a First Lady* by Susan Quinn

APRIL — *Rez Life: an Indian's Journey Through Reservation Life* by David Treuer

MARCH — *The Children's Blizzard* by David Laskin

FEBRUARY — *Modern Romance* by Aziz

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JANUARY — *The Inheritance: A Family on the Front Lines in the Battle Against Alzheimer's Disease* by Niki Kapsambelis

2018

DECEMBER — *Destiny of the Republic: a Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President* by Candice Millard

NOVEMBER — *West with the Night* by Beryl Markham

OCTOBER — *The Witches: Suspicion, Betrayal and Hysteria in 1692 Salem* by Stacy Schiff

SEPTEMBER — *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes: and Other Lessons from the Crematory* by Caitlin Doughty

AUGUST — *Proust and the Squid: the Story and Science of the Reading Brain* by Maryanne Wolf

JULY — *Midnight in Broad Daylight: a Japanese American Family Caught Between Two Worlds* by Pamela Rotner Sakamoto

JUNE — *Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant* by Roz Chast

MAY — *The Girls of Atomic City: the Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II* by Denise Kiernan

APRIL — *Empire of Sin: a Story of Sex, Jazz,*

Murder and the Battle for Modern New Orleans by Gary Krist

MARCH — *A Sting in the Tale* by Dave Goulson

FEBRUARY — *In the Darkroom* by Susan Faludi

JANUARY — *Nagasaki: Life After Nuclear War* by Susan Southard

2017

DECEMBER — *The Oregon Trail: a New American Journey* by Rinker Buck

NOVEMBER — *Hidden Figures: the American Dream and the Untold Story of Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race* by Margot Lee Shetterly

OCTOBER — *Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World* by Linda Hirshman

SEPTEMBER — *Do No Harm: Stories of Life, Death and Brain Surgery* by Henry Marsh

AUGUST — *Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War* by Mary Roach

JULY — *Ghost Ship: the Mysterious True Story of the Mary Celeste and Her Missing Crew* by Brian Hicks

JUNE — *Down the Rabbit Hole: Curious Adventures and Cautionary Tales of a Former*

Playboy Bunny by Holly Madison

MAY — *The Residence: Inside the Private World of the White House* by Kate Andersen Brower

APRIL — *Deep South: Four Seasons on Back Roads* by Paul Theroux

MARCH — *Furiously Happy: a Funny Book About Horrible Things* by Jenny Lawson

FEBRUARY — *The Road to Character* by David Brooks

JANUARY — *Deep Down Dark: the Untold Stories of 33 Men Buried in a Chilean Mine, and the Miracle that Set Them Free* by Hector Tobar

2016

DECEMBER — N/A

NOVEMBER — *How to be a Victorian: a Dawn-to-Dusk Guide to Victorian Life* by Ruth Goodman

OCTOBER — *So You've Been Publicly Shamed* by Jon Ronson

SEPTEMBER — *Fun Home: a Family Tragicomic* by Alison Bechdel

AUGUST — *What the Dog Saw and Other Adventures* by Malcolm Gladwell

JULY — *Tattoos on the Heart: the Power of Boundless Compassion* by Gregory Boyle

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JUNE — *Even this I Get to Experience* by Norman Lear

MAY — *Pay Any Price: Greed, Power and Endless War* by James Risén

APRIL — *Without You, There is No Us: My Time with the Sons of North Korea's Elite* by Suki Kim

MARCH — *Leaving Before the Rains Come* by Alexandra Fuller

FEBRUARY — *The Sober Truth: Debunking the Bad Science Behind 12-step Programs and the Rehab Industry* by Lance and Zachary Dodes

JANUARY — *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich

2015

DECEMBER — *I am Malala: the Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai

NOVEMBER — *Coming Clean: a Memoir* by Kimberly Rae Miller

OCTOBER — *Ghost Boy: The Miraculous Escape of a Misdiagnosed Boy Trapped in his Own Body* by Martin Pistorius

SEPTEMBER — *The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World* by Michael Pollan

AUGUST — *Stumbling on Happiness* by

Daniel Gilbert

JULY — *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern* by Stephen Greenblatt

JUNE — *A Moveable Feast* by Ernest Hemingway

MAY — *Hedy's Folly: the Life and Breakthrough Inventions of Hedy Lamarr, the Most Beautiful Woman in the World* by Richard Rhodes

APRIL — *Cooked: a Natural History of Transformation* by Michael Pollan

MARCH — *Walden on Wheels: on the Open Road from Debt to Freedom* by Ken Ilgunas

FEBRUARY — *The Forger's Spell: a True Story of Vermeer, Nazis, and the Greatest Art Hoax of the Twentieth Century* by Edward Dolnick

JANUARY — *Dogtripping* by David Rosenfelt

2014

DECEMBER — *The World's Strongest Librarian: a Memoir of Tourette's, Faith, Strength and the Power of Family* by Josh Hanagarne

NOVEMBER — *Quiet: the Power of Introverts in a World that Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain

OCTOBER — *After Visiting Friends: a Son's Story* by Michael Hainey

SEPTEMBER — *Heroes in the Night* by Tea Krulos

AUGUST — *Gulp: Adventures on the Alimentary Canal* by Mary Roach

JULY — *The Sibling Effect* by Jeffrey Kluger

JUNE — *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou

MAY — *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed

APRIL — *Brainwash: The Secret History of Mind Control* by Dominic Streatfeild

MARCH — *The Longest Road: Overland in Search of America, from Key West to the Arctic Ocean* by Philip Caputo

FEBRUARY — *The Great Pearl Heist: London's Greatest Thief and Scotland Yard's Hunt for the World's Most Valuable Necklace* by Molly Caldwell Crosby

JANUARY — *Visiting Tom: A Man, A Highway, and the Road to Roughneck Grace* by Michael Perry

2013

DECEMBER — N/A

NOVEMBER — *Gang Leader for a Day: A Rogue Sociologist Takes to the Streets* by Sudhir Venkatesh

OCTOBER — *God's Hotel* by Victoria Sweet

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SEPTEMBER — *The Power of Habit* by Charles Duhigg

AUGUST — *Extra Virginity: The Sublime and Scandalous World of Olive Oil* by Tom Mueller

JULY — *Swim* by Lynn Sherr

JUNE — *Eighty Days* by Matthew Goodman

MAY — *A First-Rate Madness* by Nassir Ghaemi

APRIL — *Moby Duck* by Donovan Hohn

MARCH — *That Used to Be Us* by Thomas Friedman and Michael Mandelbaum

FEBRUARY — *Elizabeth and Hazel: Two Women of Little Rock* by David Margolick

JANUARY — *Catherine the Great: Portrait of a Woman* by Robert Massie

2012

DECEMBER — *Packing for Mars* by Mary Roach

NOVEMBER — *A More Perfect Heaven: How Copernicus Revolutionized the Cosmos* by Dava Sobel

OCTOBER — *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand

SEPTEMBER — *Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness* by Alexandra Fuller

AUGUST — *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson

JULY — *Have You Found Her* by Janice Erlbaum

JUNE — *Life, on the Line* by Grant Achatz and Nick Kokonas

MAY — *The Discovery of Jeanne Baret* by Glynis Ridley

APRIL — *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* by Annie Dillard

MARCH — *Stiff* by Mary Roach

FEBRUARY — *Mennonite in a Little Black Dress* by Rhoda Janzen

JANUARY — *A Secret Gift* by Ted Gup

2011

DECEMBER — *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore

NOVEMBER — *Harry Truman's Excellent Adventure* by Matthew Algeo

OCTOBER — *The Girls of Murder City* by Douglas Perry

SEPTEMBER — *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea* by Barbara Demick

AUGUST — *Twin: A Memoir* by Allen Shawn

JULY — *A Devil to Play* by Jasper Rees

JUNE — *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot