| This Week | FICTION | Last <br> Week | Weeks On List |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1$ | SOUTH OF BROAD, by Pat Conroy. (Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, $\$ 29.95$.) An unlikely group's friendship from the '60s to the '80s, and from South Carolina to San Francisco; by the author of "The Prince of Tides." | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | THE WHITE QUEEN, by Philippa Gregory. (Touchstone/Simon \& Schuster, \$25.99.) The author of "The Other Boleyn Girl" reaches back to the War of the Roses for more palace intrigue. |  | 1 |
| 3 | DREAMFEVER, by Karen Marie Moning. (Delacorte, \$26.) MacKlaya finds herself under the erotic spell of a Fae master. |  | 1 |
| $4$ | THE HELP, by Kathryn Stockett. (Amy Einhorn/Putnam, $\$ 24.95$.) A young white woman and two black maids in 1960s Mississippi. | 3 | 21 |
| $5$ | THAT OLD CAPE MAGIC, by Richard Russo. (Knopf, \$25.95.) A long-married couple wrestle with dissatisfactions during a Cape Cod weekend; by the author of "Empire Falls." | 4 | 3 |
| $6$ | THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE, by Stieg Larsson. (Knopf, \$25.95.) A Swedish hacker becomes a murder suspect. | 5 | 4 |
| $7^{*}$ | ABYSS, by Troy Denning. (Del Rey/Ballantine/Lucas, \$27.) In a "Star Wars" book, Luke Skywalker goes to the Mind Walkers' world to try to redeem the Jedi. |  | 1 |
| $8$ | SMASH CUT, by Sandra Brown. (Simon \& Schuster, \$26.99.) A publicity-seeking lawyer tries to get to the bottom of who murdered a wealthy executive. | 2 | 2 |
| 9 | THE ELEVENTH VICTIM, by Nancy Grace. (Hyperion, \$25.99.) A prosecutor turned therapist is drawn back to crime-fighting when her clients start getting murdered one by one. | 6 | 2 |
| $10$ | THE LAW OF NINES, by Terry Goodkind. (Putnam, \$27.95.) A struggling artist saves a woman's life, inherits land and becomes a target. |  | 1 |
| 1 | BEST FRIENDS FOREVER, by Jennifer Weiner. (Atria, \$26.99.) Childhood friends, estranged in high school, reunite years later when the popular one needs the mousy one's help. | ) 7 | 6 |
| $12$ | DEAD AND GONE, by Charlaine Harris. (Ace, \$25.95.) Sookie Stackhouse searches for the killer of a werepanther. | 13 | 16 |
| $13$ | VANISHED, by Joseph Finder. (St. Martin's, \$25.99.) An investigator sets out to find his brother, who works for a huge defense contractor and has disappeared. |  | 1 |
| $14^{*}$ | SWIMSUIT, by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro. (Little, Brown, $\$ 27.99$.) A former cop, now a reporter for The Los Angeles Times, investigates the disappearance of a supermodel. | 8 | 8 |
| $15$ | A PRINCESS OF LANDOVER, by Terry Brooks. (Ballantine, \$26.) The king of Landover wants his princesss daughter to learn responsibility, but she runs away to learn sorcery. |  | 1 |
| $16^{*}$ | THE MAGICIANS, by Lev Grossman. (Viking, \$26.95.) After sorcery college, a young man lives the hedonist's life in Manhattan, dealing with crises existential and otherwise. | - 9 | 2 |

$\underbrace{\text { huse }}_{\text {nus }}$ HARDCOVER FICTION EXTENDED

BLINDMAN'S BLUFF, by Faye Kellerman. (Morrow/HarperCollins)

THE HOST, by Stephenie Meyer. (Little, Brown)

TWENTIES GIRL, by Sophie Kinsella. (Dial)

RULES OF VENGEANCE, by Christopher Reich. (Doubleday)

THE WINDS OF DUNE, by Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson. (Tor/ Tom Doherty)

SIDNEY SHELDON'S MISTRESS OF THE GAME, by Tilly
Bagshawe. (William Morrow)
29
FINGER LICKIN' FIFTEEN, by Janet Evanovich. (St. Martin's)

RHINO RANCH, by Larry McMurtry. (Simon \& Schuster)
31
THIS IS WHERE I LEAVE YOU, by Jonathan Tropper. (Dutton)

32 THE PHYSICK BOOK OF DELIVERANCE DANE, by Katherine Howe. (Voice)

33 BLACK HILLS, by Nora Roberts. (Putnam)
34
THE LAST EMBER, by Daniel Levin. (Riverhead)

35 RAIN GODS, by James Lee Burke. (Simon \& Schuster)

# Best Sellers Nonfiction 

This

Week $\quad$\begin{tabular}{ll}
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Last <br>
Week

 

Weeks List <br>
On
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# Paperback Best Sellers Trade Fiction 

$\underset{\substack{\text { This } \\ \text { weet }}}{ }$ TRADE FICTION

Weeks

THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE, by Audrey Niffenegger. (Harback and forth through time.

2 THE SHACK, by William P. Young. (Windblown Media, \$14.99.) A man whose daughter was abducted receives an invitation to an isolated shack, apparently from God.( $\dagger$ )

3 THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO, by Stieg Larsson (Vintage, $\$ 14.95$.) A hacker and a journalist investigate the disappearance of a Swedish heiress.

THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL PIE SO-
CIETY, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. (Dial, \$14.) A journalist meets the island's old Nazi-resisters.

5 THE WEIGHT OF SILENCE, by Heather Gudenkauf. (Mira, $\$ 13.95$.) When a selectively mute girl and her best friend vanish, family secrets come to the fore.
$6^{*}$ THE ART OF RACING IN THE RAIN, by Garth Stein. (Harper Paperbacks, \$14.99.) An insightful Lab-terrier mix helps his owner, a struggling race car driver.

7 THE LUCKY ONE, by Nicholas Sparks. (Grand Central, \$13.99.) A Marine returning home sets out to track down the woman whose photo he found in Iraq.

8 OLIVE KITTERIDGE, by Elizabeth Strout. (Random House,
\$14.) A seventh-grade math teacher is the link in 13 stories set on the Maine coast; a 2009 Pulitzer winner.

9 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES, by Jane Austen with "ultraviolent zombie mayhem."

10 THE LOVELY BONES, by Alice Sebold. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, \$14.99.) A girl looks down from heaven as she describes the aftermath of her murder.

THE ALCHEMIST, by Paulo Coelho. (HarperOne, \$13.95.) A Spanish shepherd boy travels to Egypt in search of treasure.

THE HOUR I FIRST BELIEVED, by Wally Lamb. (Harper
Perennial, \$15.99.) A couple flee to a Connecticut farm after the trauma of the Columbine shootings. 17th-century America, a slave mother urges a Northern farmer to buy her daughter so the girl can have a better life.

SARAH'S KEY, by Tatiana de Rosnay. (St. Martin's Griffin,
$\$ 13.95$.) A contemporary American journalist investigates what happened to a little girl and her family during the roundup of Jews in Paris in 1942.

15 THE ELEGANCE OF THE HEDGEHOG, by Muriel Barbery. (Europa, \$15.) A young girl and a widowed concierge, both closet intellectuals, become friends.

16 THE KITE RUNNER, by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, $\$ 15.95$ and \$14.) An Afghan-American returns to Kabul to learn how a childhood friend has fared. experienced by Bengali parents and their American children.

18 THE LIKENESS, by Tana French. (Penguin, \$15.) Detective Cassie Maddox is drawn into a murder case in which the victim looks just like her. hands of Queen Elizabeth I.

20 MY SISTER'S KEEPER, by Jodi Picoult. (Washington Square,
hise
head
TRADE FICTION EXTENDED

IN THE WOODS, by Tana French. (Penguin)
22
THE SHADOW OF THE WIND, by Carlos Ruiz Zafón. (Pen-
guin)
23
A MOST WANTED MAN, by John le Carré. (Scribner)

25
A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS, by Khaled Hosseini. (River-
head)
LOVE THE ONE YOU'RE WITH, by Emily Giffin. (St. Martin's Griffin)

NINETEEN MINUTES, by Jodi Picoult. (Washington Square)

THE WHITE TIGER, by Aravind Adiga. (Free Press)

29
ONE FIFTH AVENUE, by Candace Bushnell. (Voice/Hyperion)

30 THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO, by Juno Díaz. (Riverhead)

THE GOOD THIEF, by Hannah Tinti. (Dial)

32 WATER FOR ELEPHANTS, by Sara Gruen. (Algonquin)

33 PEOPLE OF THE BOOK, by Geraldine Brooks. (Penguin)
HOPE OF REFUGE, by Cindy Woodsmall. (WaterBrook)

35 NETHERLAND, by Joseph O'Neill. (Vintage Contemporaries)

Rankings reflect sales, for the week ending Aug 22, at many thousands of venues where a wide range of general interest books are sold nationwide. These include hundreds of independent book retailers (statistically weighted to represent all such outlets); national, regional and local chains; online and multimedia entertainment retailers; university, gift, supermarket, discount department stores and newsstands. An asterisk (*) indicates that a book's sales are barely distinguishable from those of the book above. A dagger ( $\dagger$ ) indicates that some bookstores report receiving bulk orders. Among those categories not actively tracked are: perennial sellers; required classroom reading; text, reference and test preparation guides; journals and workbooks; calorie counters; shopping guides; comics and crossword puzzles. Expanded rankings are available on the Web: nytimes.com/books.

# Paperback Best Sellers Mass-Market Fiction 

| This <br> Week | MASS-MARKET FICTION |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

12 DEAD AS A DOORNAIL, by Charlaine Harris. (Ace, \$7.99.) 12 Sookie Stackhouse is drawn into the world of were-politics when a friend's father tries to take over his local werewolf pack.

HE ASSASSIN, by Stephen Coonts. (St. Martin's, \$9.99.) A top Qaeda terrorist pursues Western leaders.

CHOSEN TO DIE, by Lisa Jackson. (Zebra, \$7.99.) Detective 4 Regan Pescoli is kidnapped by the killer whose case she has been working on for months.

DEFINITELY DEAD, by Charlaine Harris. (Ace, \$7.99.) A New Orleans vampire queen tries to stop Sookie Stackhouse from looking into the past of her consort, who is Sookie's cousin.
16 ALL TOGETHER DEAD, by Charlaine Harris. (Ace, \$7.99.) Sook-
ie Stackhouse is swept up in the intrigue of a vampire summit.


BAREFOOT, by Elin Hilderbrand. (Little, Brown, \$7.99.) Three women with various problems spend a transformative summer together on Nantucket.

MOSCOW RULES, by Daniel Silva. (Signet, \$9.99.) Gabriel Allon, an art restorer and an occasional spy for the Israeli secret service, uncovers a Russian arms sales plot.

19 PROMISES IN DEATH, by J. D. Robb. (Berkley, \$7.99.) Lt. Eve Dallas investigates a colleague's murder; by Nora Roberts, writing pseudonymously.

20 * FOREIGN BODY, by Robin Cook. (Berkley, \$9.99.) A medical 1 student investigates a rising number of deaths among medical tourists at foreign hospitals.

# Paperback NonFiction Best Sellers List 

| This <br> Week | NONFICTION | Weeks On List |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1$ | MY LIFE IN FRANCE, by Julia Child with Alex Prud'homme. (Anchor, $\$ 15$ and \$7.99.) How Julia Child mastered the art of French cooking: a memoir. | 8 |
| $2$ | GLENN BECK'S ‘COMMON SENSE’, by Glenn Beck. (Mercury Radio Arts/Threshold Editions, \$11.99.) Thomas Paine-inspired thoughts on government. ( $\dagger$ ) | 11 |
| $3$ | JULIE \& JULIA, by Julie Powell. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, \$14.99;, Little, Brown, \$7.99.) A memoir of cooking every recipe in "Mastering the Art of French Cooking." | 8 |
| $4$ | THREE CUPS OF TEA, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. (Penguin, \$15.) A former climber builds schools in villages in Pakistan and Afghanistan. | 134 |
| $5$ | THE FAMILY, by Jeff Sharlet. (Harper Perennial, \$15.99.) The history of the Fellowship, a secretive evangelical group active in American politics. | 6 |
| $6$ | I HOPE THEY SERVE BEER IN HELL, by Tucker Max. (Citadel/Kensington, $\$ 15.95$.) Life as a self-absorbed, drunken womanizer. | 99 |
| 7 | BLINK, by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, \$15.99.) Instinct in the workings of the mind. | 97 |
| $8$ | THE TIPPING POINT, by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, \$14.95.) A study of social epidemics, otherwise known as fads. | 255 |
| $9$ | WHEN YOU ARE ENGULFED IN FLAMES, by David Sedaris. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, \$15.99.) Humor essays on middle age, mortality and giving up smoking. | 12 |
| $10$ | EAT, PRAY, LOVE, by Elizabeth Gilbert. (Penguin, \$15.) A writer's yearlong journey in search of self takes her to Italy, India and Indonesia. | 134 |
| $11^{*}$ | MY HORIZONTAL LIFE, by Chelsea Handler. (Bloomsbury, \$14.95.) A memoir of one-night stands. | 43 |
| $12$ | SAME KIND OF DIFFERENT AS ME, by Ron Hall and Denver Moore with Lynn Vincent. (Nelson, \$14.99.) The unlikely friendship between a homeless drifter and a successful art dealer who meet at a shelter in Texas. | 45 |
| $13$ | THE OMNIVORE'S DILEMMA, by Michael Pollan. (Penguin, \$16.) Tracking food from soil to plate. | 101 |
| $14^{*}$ | THE REASON FOR GOD, by Timothy Keller. (Riverhead, \$16.) A minister addresses common doubts and defends faith in a Christian God. | 3 |
| $15$ | IN DEFENSE OF FOOD, by Michael Pollan. (Penguin, \$15.) A manifesto urges us to "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants." | 17 |
| $16$ | 90 MINUTES IN HEAVEN, by Don Piper with Cecil Murphey. (Revell, \$12.99.) A minister on the otherworldly experience he had after an accident. | 148 |
| $17$ | LONE SURVIVOR, by Marcus Luttrell with Patrick Robinson. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, \$15;, Little, Brown, \$8.99.) The harrowing story of a Navy Seals operation. | 42 |
| $18$ | A LONG WAY GONE, by Ishmael Beah. (Sarah Crichton/Farrar, Straus \& Giroux, \$12.) A former child soldier describes a killing spree and his return to humanity. | 27 |
| $19$ | MY STROKE OF INSIGHT, by Jill Bolte Taylor. (Plume, \$15.) A brain scientist shares what she learned from her 1996 stroke. | 8 |
| 20 | DREAMS FROM MY FATHER, by Barack Obama. (Three Rivers, $\$ 14.95$.) The president on life as the son of a black African father and a white American mother. | 156 |

# Advice, How-To and Miscellaneous 

| This <br> Week | HARDCOVER |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Children's Best Sellers

| This Week | PICTURE B00KS | Weeks On List | This Week | CHAPTER BOOKS | Weeks On List |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1$ | GOLDILICIOUS, written and illustrated by Victoria Kann. (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99.) A girl who loves pink and purple turns to gold. (Ages 5 to 8) | 13 | $1$ | L.A. CANDY, by Lauren Conrad. (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99.) Excitement in TV land by someone who has been there. (Ages 14 and up) | 10 |
| $2$ | GALLOP!, written and illustrated by Rufus Butler Seder. (Workman, $\$ 12.95$.) Animals seem to move when you flip the page. (Ages 4 to 8) | 93 | 2 | THE HUNGER GAMES, by Suzanne Collins. (Scholastic, $\$ 17.99$.) In a dystopian future, a girl fights for survival on live TV. (Ages 12 and up) | 50 |
| $3$ | MARLEY GOES TO SCHOOL, by John Grogan. Illustrated by Richard Cowdrey. (HarperCollins, $\$ 17.99$.) A loyal pup brings chaos to the classroom. (Ages 3 to 8) | 4 | 3 | DANIEL X: WATCH THE SKIES, by James Patterson and Ned Rust. (Little, Brown, \$19.99.) A young hero takes on a larger-thanlife villain. (Ages 12 and up) | 4 |
| 4 | SWING!, written and illustrated by Rufus Butler Seder. (Workman, $\$ 12.95$.) Children seem to move when you flip the page. $\text { (Ages } 4 \text { to } 8 \text { ) }$ | 45 | $4$ | SHIVER, by Maggie Stiefvater. (Scholastic Press/Scholastic, $\$ 17.99$.) Love among the lupine. (Ages 12 and up) | 4 |
| 5 | LISTEN TO THE WIND: THE STORY OF DR. GREG AND "THREE CUPS OF TEA", by Greg Mortenson and Susan L. | 31 | 5 | ALONG FOR THE RIDE, by Sarah Dessen. (Viking, \$19.99.) A summer on two wheels for a girl who is ripe to learn more about herself and the people she cares about. (Ages 14 and up) | 10 |
| $6$ | Roth. (Dial, \$16.99.) A school grows in Pakistan. (Ages 4 to 8) <br> EXPLORER EXTRAORDINAIRE!, by Jane O'Connor. Illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser. (HarperCollins, \$12.99.) Fancy Nancy | 17 | 6 | THE GRAVEYARD BOOK, by Neil Gaiman. Illustrated by Dave McKean. (HarperCollins, $\$ 17.99$.) To avoid a killer a boy takes up residence in a cemetery. (Ages 10 and up) | 47 |
|  | meets the outdoors in the finest tradition of the great explorers. $\text { (Ages } 4 \text { to } 7 \text { ) }$ |  | 7 | THIRTEEN REASONS WHY, by Jay Asher. (Razorbill, \$16.99.) | 44 |
| 7 | LLAMA LLAMA MISSES MAMA, written and illustrated by | 17 |  | audiotapes to 13 people. (Ages 14 and up) |  |
|  | school. (Ages 2 and up) |  | 8 | TWILIGHT: DIRECTOR'S NOTEBOOK, by Catherine Hard- | 23 |
| 8 | THE CURIOUS GARDEN, written and illustrated by Peter | 18 |  | (Ages 9 to 12) |  |
|  | straggly garden to vivid fruition. (Ages 4 to 8 ) |  | 9 | WHEN YOU REACH ME, by Rebecca Stead. (Wendy Lamb, \$15.99.) A sixth-grade girl in New York City begins receiving mysterious notes. (Ages 9 to 12) | 5 |
| 9 | TEA PARTIES, by Jane O’Connor. Illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser (Harper/HarperCollins, \$12.99.) Extended pinkies at | 8 |  |  |  |
|  | Fancy Nancy's. (Ages 4 to 7) |  | $10$ | SCAT, by Carl Hiaasen. (Random House, \$16.99.) An eco-mystery, with a dismal swamp and wild characters who are not always what they seem. (Ages 9 to 12) | 17 |
| 10 | DUCK! RABBIT!, by Amy Krouse Rosenthal. Illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld. (Chronicle, \$16.99.) Which is it? It's all in how you look at it. (Ages 3 and up) | 9 |  |  |  |

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## Children's Best Sellers

| This Week | PAPERBACK BOOKS | Weeks <br> On List | This Week | SERIES | Weeks <br> On List |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1$ | THE BOOK THIEF, by Markus Zusak. (Knopf, \$11.99.) A girl saves books from Nazi burning. (Ages 14 and up) | 102 | $1$ | THE TWILIGHT SAGA, by Stephenie Meyer. (Megan Tingley/ Little, Brown, hardcover and paper) Vampires and werewolves in school. (Ages 12 and up) | 107 |
| 2 | BLUE MOON, by Alyson Noël. (St. Martin's Griffin, \$9.99.) An immortal finds time's secret. (Ages 12 and up) | 7 | 2 | PERCY JACKSON \& THE OLYMPIANS, by Rick Riordan. (Disney-Hyperion, hardcover and paper) Battling mythological monsters. (Ages 9 to 12) | 111 |
| 3 | EVERMORE, by Alyson Noël. (St. Martin's Griffin, \$9.95.) Immortals in school. (Ages 12 and up) | 29 |  |  |  |
| 4 | LOCK AND KEY, by Sarah Dessen. (Speak, \$8.99.) A crack appears in a girl's cynicism. (Ages 12 and up) | 15 | 3 | HOUSE OF NIGHT, by P.C. Cast and Kristin Cast. (St. Martin's, hardcover and paper) Vampires in school. (Ages 14 and up) | 52 |
| 5 | THE DANGEROUS DAYS OF DANIEL X, by James Patterson and Michael Ledwidge. (Vision/Grand Central, \$7.99.) An alien hunter seeks the Prayer, a killer mantis. (Ages 12 and up) | 7 | 4 | DIARY OF A WIMPY KID, written and illustrated by Jeff Kinney. (Abrams, hardcover only) The travails of adolescence, in cartoons. (Ages 9 to 12) | 32 |
| 6 | THE MYSTERIOUS BENEDICT SOCIETY, by Trenton Lee | 53 | 5 | THE 39 CLUES, by various authors. (Scholastic, hardcover only) Siblings unravel a mystery. (Ages 9 to 12) | 16 |
|  | Brown, \$6.99.) Gifted kids undertake a mission. (Ages 9 to 12 ) |  | 6 | HARRY POTTER, by J. K. Rowling. (Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic, hardcover and paper) A young wizard hones his skills while fighting evil. (Ages 10 and up) | 226 |
| 7 | THREE CUPS OF TEA: YOUNG READERS EDITION, by | 31 |  |  |  |
|  | climber builds schools in Pakistani and Afghan villages. (Ages 9 to 12) |  | 7 | VAMPIRE DIARIES, by L. J. Smith. (HarperTeen, hardcover and paper) Vampires in school, with a love triangle. (Ages 12 and up) | 17 |
| 8 | THIRST NO. 1, by Christopher Pike. (Simon Pulse, \$9.99.) A reissue of "The Last Vampire" (1994), "Black Blood" (1994) and "Red Dice" (1995). (Ages 14 and up) | 3 | 8 | THE MORTAL INSTRUMENTS, by Cassandra Clare. <br> (McElderry/Simon \& Schuster, hardcover and paper) A world of demons and warriors. (Ages 14 and up) | 22 |
| 9 | THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS, by John Boyne. (Random House, \$8.99.) A boy's innocence is eroded in evil times. (Ages 12 and up) | 42 | 9 | RANGER'S APPRENTICE, by John Flanagan. (Philomel, hardcover and paper) A boy warrior battles evil. (Ages 9 to 12) | 31 |
|  | IMPOSSIBLE, by Nancy Werlin. (Speak/Penguin, \$9.99.) The song "Scarborough Fair" winds through this story of romance. (Ages 12 and up) | 1 |  | MAGIC TREE HOUSE, by Mary Pope Osborne. Illustrated by Sal Murdocca. (Stepping Stone/Random House, hardcover and paper) Winged children try to save the world. (Ages 6 to 9 ) | 211 |

[^1] on the Book Review's Web site. Publishers have provided the age designations for their best-selling children's titles.

A GATE AT THE STAIRS, by Lorrie Moore. (Knopf, \$25.95.) Moore's latest novel, about a Midwestern college student who hires on as a nanny for a brainy couple on the eve of adoption, brandishes some big material war, racism - in a resolutely insouciant key.

DESERT, by J.M. G. Le Clézio. Translated by C. Dickson. (Verba Mundi/David R. Godine, \$25.95.) Nomads driven from the desert into city slums are the subject of the French Nobel winner's novel of colonialism.

THE SKATING RINK, by Roberto Bolaño. Translated by Chris Andrews. (New Directions, \$21.95.) Three likely suspects in a woman's murder narrate this short, exquisite novel, the first of Bolaño's to see print.

STRENGTH IN WHAT REMAINS, by Tracy Kidder. (Random House, \$26.) This account of a medical student's escape from the slaughter in Burundi in 1994, his precarious existence in New York and his eventual return home may be Kidder's finest book to date.

A VILLAGE LIFE, by Louise Glück. (Farrar, Straus \& Giroux, \$23.) In a stylistic departure, Glück's poems use the village as a lens to examine the lives within, which counterpoint the memories of her life without.

THE SIXTIES, by Jenny Diski. (Picador, paper, \$14.) Diski, a British writer, recalls her experience of the era, sometimes hilariously, but emphasizes its ideas - on drugs, sex, education and, to a lesser extent, politics.

THE LOST CHILD: A MOTHER'S STORY, by Julie Myerson. (Bloomsbury, \$26.) Myerson interweaves powerful scenes of her son's drug addiction with the story of a young consumptive who died in 1838.

BORDER SONGS, by Jim Lynch. (Knopf, \$25.95.) In Lynch's novel, a dyslexic giant is an effective though bumbling Border Patrol agent in sleepy Blaine, Wash.

I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU, by Lucinda Rosenfeld. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, paper, \$13.99.) A novel of an Everywoman's love for her more glamorous pal.

The full reviews of these and other recent books are on the Web: nytimes.com/books.

## Paperback Row

HOME, by Marilynne Robinson. (Picador, \$14.) A third-person retelling of many of the events in Robinson's "Gilead," which won the 2004 Pulitzer Prize, this novel, too, is set in small-town Iowa in the 1950s and follows two elderly ministers who are lifelong friends. "Home" is narrated by one minister's daughter, who has returned to Gilead to care for her ailing father; her wayward brother has also come back to town. Robinson makes "those quotidian facts" of what one character thinks of as "difficult, ordinary life" feel "like vessels of the terrible, the sublime, the miraculous," A. O. Scott wrote in the Book Review, calling the novel "an anguished pastoral."

THE WAY OF THE WORLD: A Story of Truth and Hope in an Age of Extremism, by Ron Suskind. (Harper Perennial, \$16.99.) In this "complex, ambitious, provocative, risky and often maddening book," as Mark Danner described it in The Times, Suskind (inset) weaves together stories - of an Energy Department intelligence official tracking the global black market in nuclear materials, an Afghan exchange student in Colorado, Benazir Bhutto during her final campaign - that pursue the question of whether America and the Muslim world can ever come to an understanding. The book is also full of disclosures "reflecting darkly on the obsessive secrecy, political ruthlessness ... and breathtaking incompetence of the Bush administration," Danner said. In THE CHALLENGE: How a Maverick Navy Officer and a Young Law Professor Risked Their Careers to Defend the Constitution - and Won (Picador, \$16), Jonathan Mahler, a contributing writer for The New York Times Magazine, reveals the crucial figures behind the landmark case Hamdan v. Rumsfeld. Among them were Salim Hamdan, a Yemeni with a fourthgrade education who became Osama bin Laden's driver, and the lawyers who successfully argued what looked like a losing case.

THIS MUST BE THE PLACE, by Anna Winger. (Riverhead, \$16.) A woman (a young teacher with a personal tragedy who has followed her workaholic husband to Berlin), a man (her neighbor, a washedup German actor) and Berlin itself (which "moved forward with a lack of vanity that she found relaxing") are the main characters in this smart first novel.

KING'S DREAM, by Eric J. Sundquist. (Yale University, \$14.) Sundquist, a literature professor, brings King's famous speech - along with its background and consequences - to life in this scholarly yet powerful book. King "created a new national scripture," he maintains. In DEFYING DIXIE: The Radical Roots of Civil Rights, 1919-1950 (Norton, \$19.95), Glenda Elizabeth Gilmore presents a colorful "collective biography of activist black and white Southerners," including Communists and Socialists, academics and millworkers, who, she argues, prepared the way for the movement of the 1950s and '60s.

WE ARE NOW BEGINNING OUR DESCENT, by James Meek. (Canongate, \$14.) A frustrated British war correspondent, the protagonist of Meek's fourth novel, covers the American invasion of Afghanistan, pursues an American magazine writer and heads with her to Iraq in this meditation on modern war.

## ROME 1960: The Summer Olympics That

Stirred the World, by David Maraniss. (Simon \& Schuster, \$17.) Every Olympics has its heroes, and in the summer of 1960 they included 18 -year-old Cassius Clay, not yet Muhammad Ali; the sprinter Wilma Rudolph; the decathlete Rafer Johnson, the first black to carry the American flag during opening ceremonies; and the Ethiopian marathoner Abebe Bikila, who ran barefoot through the streets of Rome. Maraniss offers drama and human-inter-
est stories, but he is best where sports and politics - the American-Soviet rivalry that permeated these games - overlap.

THE SCHOOL ON HEART'S CONTENT ROAD, by Carolyn Chute. (Grove, \$14.95.) Chute's engaging, idiosyncratic novel - her first in 10 years - follows a group of characters who cluster around an off-thegrid settlement in rural Maine. Chute champions
"hardscrabble lives" in a "glorious" language with "energy to burn," our reviewer, Stacey D'Erasmo, said. She added: "If the despair and the tenderness are real, so are the guns."

LORDS OF THE LAND: The War Over Israel's Settlements in the Occupied Territories, 1967-2007, by Idith Zertal and Akiva Eldar. Translated by Vivian Eden. (Nation Books, \$19.95.) This first complete history of the settlement project, by an Israeli historian and a columnist for Ha'aretz, is "a detailed narrative of injustice" that is "profoundly depressing" to anyone who hopes for peace, Adam LeBor wrote in the Book Review.

## COME ON SHORE AND WE WILL KILL AND

EAT YOU ALL: A New Zealand Story, by Christina Thompson. (Bloomsbury, \$15.) Thompson combines a memoir of her marriage to a Maori (an indigenous Polynesian) with a history of European discovery and colonization, and its lasting effects.

THE NIGHTINGALES OF TROY: Stories of
One Family's Century, by Alice Fulton. (Norton, $\$ 13.95$.) Four generations of women in Troy, N.Y., between 1908 and 1999 are the subjects of these 10 vividly detailed linked stories, the first book of fiction by Fulton, a poet.

Elsa Dixler


[^0]:    Rankings reflect sales, for the week ended Aug 22, at many thousands of venues where a wide range of general interest books are sold nationwide. These include hundreds of independent book retailers (statistically weighted to represent all such outlets); national, regional and local chains; online and multimedia entertainment retailers; university, gift, supermarket, discount, department stores and newsstands. An asterisk ( ${ }^{*}$ ) indicates that a book's sales are barely distinguishable from those of the book above. A dagger ( $\dagger$ ) indicates that some bookstores report receiving bulk orders. Perennial sellers are not actively tracked. Expanded rankings are available on the Web: nytimes.com/books. All four children's lists appear each week on the Book Review's Web site. Publishers have provided the age designations for their best-selling children's titles.

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