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DA982 .H368 2014

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PE1421 .P56 2014

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RB155 .K458 2014

Pro: reclaiming abortion rights

From NYT Book Review: “...Pollitt argues that many abortion opponents are less concerned with the plight of any one embryo—and the fate of that embryo if carried to term—than they are with curtailing women's sexual and economic freedom. This isn't exactly a novel concept to students of feminist theory. But Pollitt's exploration of the hypocrisy of abortion opponents...is so witheringly encyclopedic it will be an eye opener for those who have never darkened the door of a women's studies classroom.”

HQ767.5 .U5 P65 2014

Stone mattresses: nine tales

From NYT Book Review: “An obsession with aging and dying unites much of Stone Mattress, and Atwood, more than 40 books into her career, has arrived here preoccupied not just with the churn of generations but also with legacy and reputation, with getting straight the story of one's life—the tale about the tale—and with surviving what happens once no one is paying any attention anymore...Witty and frequently biting, Stone Mattress is keen to the ways in which we choose, all our lives, to love and to hurt—and in Atwood's world these two actions are always choices, creating consequences for which we will one day be held to account.”

PR9199.3 .A8 S86 2014

Victoria: a life

From Seattle Times: “Masterful...Wilson has crafted a thoughtful... often deliciously entertaining tale of a unique monarch and a woman of unexpected quirk and charm...Wilson, one of those rare biographers who knows something of wit...smoothly takes us through Victoria's long journey: her love match with her beloved Prince Albert,
her 'operatic' mourning after his early death, her up-and-down relationships with a caravan of prime ministers, her transformation in her later years into a figure whose influence was felt far beyond Britain, her complex feelings toward her children, her ultimate embrace by her subjects.”

DA554 .W45 2014

Curiosity's cats: writers on research

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AZ186 .C87 2014

The physics of Wall Street: a brief history of predicting the unpredictable

From Library Journal: “As promised in his title, Weatherall (logic & philosophy of science, Univ. of California, Irvine) charts here the relationship between physics and financial markets. Inspired by coverage of the 2008 financial crisis and the failure of Wall Street's complex mathematical models to predict it, Weatherall, a physicist and mathematician by training, researched the history of financial modeling to explore how and why physicists came to the forefront of financial theory...Dense but highly readable, this book will appeal to those interested in the inner workings of Wall Street.”

HG4910 .W357 2014

This is our youth

From Barnes and Noble: “This Is Our Youth, Kenneth Lonergan’s lacerating look at affluent young Manhattanites of the 1980s, depicts two days in the lives of three college-age Upper West Siders who are from wealthy families but living in
doped-up squalor. Dennis—with a famous painter father and social activist mother—is a small-time drug dealer and total mess. His hero-worshipping friend Warren has just impulsively stolen $15,000 from his father, an abusive lingerie tycoon. When Jessica, a mixed-up prep school girl, shows up for a date, Warren pulls out a wad of bills and takes her off, awkwardly, for a night of seduction. A wildly funny, bittersweet, and moving story, This Is Our Youth is as trenchant as it was upon its acclaimed premiere in 1996. “

Economics: the basics

From Barnes and Noble: “Through case studies ranging from the coffee plantations of El Salvador to the international oil industry and the economic slowdown in Japan, this book addresses the fundamental theoretical and practical issues in economics. This accessible guidebook is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand how economics works and why it is important.”

The wars of the Roses: the fall of the Plantagenets and the rise of the Tudors

From Publishers Weekly: “It’s not often that a book manages to be both scholarly and a page-turner, but British historian Jones succeeds on both counts in this entertaining follow-up to his bestselling The Plantagenets (currently in production as a television miniseries). Previously, Jones explored the Plantagenets’ rise to power, while here he examines their destruction. He begins in 1422 when Henry V dies, leaving the throne to an infant, and continues for the next 100 years through the reign of Henry VIII. Following Henry VI’s descent into madness and the utter collapse of royal authority, dynastic “wars of politics and personality” erupted as England’s elite families fought over the throne. Jones breathes new life into an oft-told account of how the crown changed hands five times before a young Welshman with a dubious claim wrested it from Richard III in 1485. Only during a period of utter chaos, Jones argues, could the Tudors have risen so high so quickly. But, he contends, due to their weak claim, they were forced to annihilate the Plantagenets, going so far as Henry VIII having the elderly Margaret de la Pole executed in 1541. Jones sets a new high-water mark in the current revisionism of the Tudor era.”
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