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**Midnight at the Pera Palace: the birth of modern Istanbul**

From The New York Times Book Review: “King’s timely new book...tells how interwar Istanbul transformed itself from the Ottoman imperial capital to a European city of refugees, jazz bars, muezzins and spies. Today's city is a rare blend of Islam and democracy, and King has made a brilliant attempt to establish an English-language narrative for it...Charles King has combed out the threads of this complex and highly nuanced story in a hugely enjoyable, magnificently researched and deeply absorbing book.”

DR731 .K56 2014

**The new normal: finding a balance between individual rights and the common good**

From Barnes and Noble: “Etzioni implements the social philosophy, “liberal communitarianism.” Its key assumptions are that neither individual rights nor the common good should be privileged, that both are core values, and that a balance is necessary between them. Etzioni argues that we need to find a new balance between our desire for more goods, services, and affluence, particularly because economic growth may continue to be slow and jobs anemic. The key question is what makes a good life, especially for those whose basic needs are sated.”

JC 596.2 .US E795 2015

**Soldier girls: the battles of three women at home and at war**

From Publishers Weekly: “Journalist Thorpe (Just Like Us) tells the moving story of three women in the Indiana National Guard who served in Afghanistan and Iraq. Following her subjects from 2001 to 2013, Thorpe draws on interviews, personal correspondence, emails, diaries, medical records, and even therapists’ notes to portray their lives before,
during, and after deployments…Highlighting how profoundly military service changed their lives—and the lives of their families—this visceral narrative illuminates the role of women in the military, the burdens placed on the National Guard, and the disproportionate burden of these wars borne by the poor.”

UB418 .W65 T56 2014

Anxiety muted: American film music in a suburban age

From Barnes and Noble: “Anxiety Muted: American Film Music in a Suburban Age explores how the central concerns of the Fifties and Sixties—and resulting treatment in the motion picture media—can be examined and understood through the music of the time period. With its focus on soundtrack and scoring, the book demonstrates that specific television shows and films offer a more nuanced vision of community and conformity than is usually recognized, revealing much about our own current social anxieties.”

ML2075 .A595 2014

Star-spangled banner: the unlikely story of America’s national anthem

From Barnes and Noble: “Filled with fascinating, little-known facts drawn from a variety of primary sources, Star-Spangled Banner provides the first narrative history of this controversial song, which turns 200 years old in 2014. Marc Ferris’s lively account, which traces the evolution of the song’s instant popularity as well as its use and abuse by Americans of different political stripes, also explains the changing rituals surrounding the song, including the practice of standing—with hats removed and hand held over the heart—during public performances.”

ML3561 .S8 F47 2014

1995: the year the future began

From Publishers Weekly: “According to American University professor Campbell, 1995 was an “improbable” year that “effectively marked the close of one century, and the start of another.” Campbell argues that several of the year’s major events would come to define the modern American experience: the births of Netscape, Amazon, and the wiki; the Oklahoma City bombing, which ushered in a “national psychology of fear”; O.J. Simpson’s “Trial of the Century,” notable for introducing DNA testing to the public; the U.S.-brokered peace accords that ended the Bosnian War and revitalized American exceptionalism; and the
sexual liaisons between President Clinton and Monica Lewinsky...Campbell’s book, for all its insight, is hindered by its reluctance to take a larger thematic view of history that would justify 1995 as a truly watershed year rather than simply an eventful one.”

E885 .C36 2015

Place not race: a new vision of opportunity in America

From Publishers Weekly: “Georgetown University law professor and civil rights activist Cashin (The Agitator’s Daughter) makes the case for supplanting race-based affirmative action with “disadvantaged-based affirmative action.” The former, banned in eight states, is “increasingly untenable,” and has led to “optical blackness but little socioeconomic diversity.” “Place, although highly racialized,” Cashin posits, “now better captures who is disadvantaged than skin color.”... Dense with statistics and peppered with autobiographical details, this long-winded, though slim volume makes a strong argument for “jettisoning race-based affirmative action” and an arguable case for attending instead to “those of any color relegated to low-opportunity environs geography is destiny.” “

LC213.52 .C38 2014

Liberty’s dawn: a people’s history of the industrial revolution

From Publishers Weekly: “It wasn’t all Bleak House and Oliver Twist. According to historian Griffin (A Short History of the British Industrial Revolution), the negative impact of the Industrial Revolution has been grossly exaggerated and misconstrued. Through a close reading of over 300 autobiographies written by English workers from 1760–1900, Griffin unfurls a mostly convincing reinterpretation peopled by empowered workers newly able to carve out enough personal freedom to maintain control over their destinies. The author delves into three realms—work, love (and sex), and culture (education and religion)—to craft a complex picture...All in all, an admirably intimate and expansive revisionist history.”

HC253 .G75 2013

Feral: rewilding the land, the sea, and human life

From Publishers Weekly: “Investigative journalist, Guardian columnist, and visionary Monbiot (Bring on the Apocalypse: Six Arguments for Global Justice) offers a gorgeous, passionate defense of “rewilding”: a conservation approach that primes unproductive land to develop a stable mix of plant and animal species without additional human intervention...Monbiot blends convincing data about successes and failures in returning large animal species to the land with vibrant recollections of his experiences—both delightful and depressing—engaging with these places today and the people charged with caring for them. He insists that we are creatures of nature, not outside of it; that places left to their own devices will thrive; and that reengaging with wildness enraths the human soul. Monbiot infuses a desperately-needed, almost Romantic optimism into an environmental movement so often grounded in blame and despair.”

QL83.4 .M66 2014
In remembrance of Emmett Till: regional stories and media responses to the black freedom struggle

From Barnes and Noble: “In this innovative study, Darryl Mace explores media coverage of Till's murder and provides a close analysis of the regional and racial perspectives that emerged. He investigates the portrayal of the trial in popular and black newspapers in Mississippi and the South, documents posttrial reactions, and examines Till's memorialization in the press to highlight the media's role in shaping regional and national opinions. Provocative and compelling, In Remembrance of Emmett Till provides a valuable new perspective on one of the sparks that ignited the civil rights movement.”

E185.93 .M6 M24 2014

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