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Q173 J34 2014

**Beethoven: anguish and triumph**

From Publishers Weekly: “In this brilliant, exhaustive story, biographer and music historian Swafford (Johannes Brahms) brings new life to Beethoven, animating the composer’s immersion in music and his tenacious grip on his ideas related to music’s ability to deepen the world’s beauty, tragedy, and comedy...Swafford wonderfully describes Beethoven’s going deaf: “For Beethoven, this was a decay from within: a slow death, the mind watching it, helpless before the grinding of fate. Fate would become an abiding theme for him, its import always hostile.””

ML410 .B4 S94 2014

**The internet is not the answer**

From Publishers Weekly: “Keen (Digital Vertigo) presents an damning indictment of the Internet and digital technology, arguing that they have failed to deliver on their promises of fostering greater democracy and openness. Keen acknowledges that new technology is reshaping society but asserts, “It hasn’t transformed the role of either power or wealth in the world.”... Though Keen misses several opportunities to genuinely, journalistically engage with the
examples he draws, he offers a well-written, convincing critique of Silicon Valley, and a worthy read for anyone with an email account.”

HM851 .K444 2015

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*A New York Times Book Review* Editor's Choice

From Barnes and Noble: “Taking us through the key hauntings that have obsessed the world, from the true events that inspired Henry James's classic *The Turn of the Screw* right up to the present day, Roger Clarke unfolds a story of class conflict, charlatans, and true believers. The cast list includes royalty and prime ministers, Samuel Johnson, John Wesley, Harry Houdini, and Adolf Hitler... Written as grippingly as the best ghost fiction, *A Natural History of Ghosts* takes us on an unforgettable hunt through the most haunted places of the last five hundred years and our longing to believe.”

BF1461 .C637 2014

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From The New York Times Book Review: “In the wrong hands, *A Path Appears* is a dangerous book: You wouldn't want to leave it lying around where your teenager might glance at it. He might get diverted from that reassuring ambition to be a banker. Frankly, only scoundrels and saints can read this book safely: Everyone else will find it upsetting and uplifting in equal measure. I certainly did. If you want to carry on with your life just as it is, best give it a miss. Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn show you, through many amazing vignettes matched with serious evidence, that you can make a difference to the lives of people trapped in misery...So, while protecting your teenagers, don't protect yourself. Read this book. Seize one of the many opportunities it lists, and change lives for the better, including your own.”

HV48 .K75 2014

**Guantanamo Diary**

From Publishers Weekly: “A Guantanamo detainee endures a hellish ordeal in this riveting prison diary. Slahi, an electrical engineer, was arrested in his native Mauritania in 2001 at the behest of the U.S. government and has been incarcerated at the American military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for 13 years. (The memoir was originally written in 2005 but was only recently declassified, with redactions.)... His case is complicated: he trained with al-Qaeda in Afghanistan in the early 1990s, but he was ordered released from Gitmo by a federal judge in 2010 (though Slahi is still imprisoned there), and Siems's introduction makes a cogent case for his innocence. Whatever the truth, this searing narrative exposes the dark side of the “war on terror”—the system of arbitrary imprisonment and “enhanced interrogation” where justice gives way to lawless brutality.”

HV 9468.5 .S58 A3 2015
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