Available today!

The large Hadron collider

From Publishers Weekly: “Particle physicist Lincoln follows up The Quantum Frontier: The Large Hadron Collider with an insider’s look at the LHC in the wake of the Higgs boson’s discovery. Particle accelerators are designed to replicate the high-energy conditions of the early universe 13.8 billion years ago, and the LHC is the most powerful accelerator ever built. Lincoln describes in vivid, accessible language how the LHC works, using surfers, tetherballs, and more. He also covers the day the LHC came online and the day the discovery of the Higgs was announced. What sets the book apart is a chapter of “War Stories” full of oddball facts, such as the economics of cave digging and that some LHC parts use brass from decommissioned Soviet naval shell casings.”

The world will follow joy

From Barnes and Noble: ““Poetry is leading us,” writes Alice Walker in The World Will Follow Joy. In this luminous collection—a bestseller in hardcover—the beloved writer offers sixty poems to inspire and incite. Penetrating and sensitive, playful and wise, these intensely intimate poems establish a personal connection of rare immediacy between poet and reader, illustrating the very qualities that have won her a devoted following and continue to draw new readers to her writing.”

The buried giant

From The NYT Book Review: “Kazuo Ishiguro is a remarkable novelist, both for the quality of his work...and because he does not ever write the same novel, or even the same type of novel, twice. In The Buried Giant...he begins with clear, unhurried, unfussy language to describe the England of some 1,500 years ago, in a novel as well crafted as it is odd...Fantasy and historical fiction and myth here run together with the Matter of Britain, in a novel that’s easy to admire, to respect and to enjoy...The Buried Giant does what important books do: It remains in the mind long after it has
been read, refusing to leave, forcing one to turn it over and over...Ishiguro is not afraid to tackle huge, personal themes, nor to use myths, history and the fantastic as the tools to do it. The Buried Giant is an exceptional novel.”

The moral arc

From Publishers Weekly: “...An engaging writer, he offers persuasive data to demonstrate the moral progress that has been made with women’s rights, LGBTQ rights, and animal rights. He also documents the abolition of slavery, the reduction in violence (particularly murder rates), and the decrease in war. Shermer is less successful, however, in demonstrating that a scientific worldview should be seen as the cause for all this, and his polemical outbursts detract from the seriousness of his message. More frustrating are his blinkered views on such matters as income inequality and his omission of rampant ecosystem destruction and an increasing extinction rate in his moral calculus.”

One nation, under gods

From Publishers Weekly: “The last few decades have produced several magisterial tomes on American religious history, from such authors as Sydney Ahlstrom and Edwin Gaustad. None, however, matches the subversive and much-needed revisionism of Manseau's tour de force. Arguing that "we have learned history from the middle rather than the margins... from which so much of our culture has been formed," Manseau (Rag and Bone; Vows) undertakes a thorough reimagining of our nation's religions...Engagingly written, with a historian's eye for detail and a novelist's sense of character and timing, this history from another perspective reexamines familiar tales and introduces fascinating counternarratives.”

The ravens

From Publishers Weekly: “Blood, real and metaphorical, dominates Sundstøl's first in his Minnesota trilogy, Land of Dreams, in which forest ranger Lance Hansen suspects his brother, Andy, of bludgeoning a Norwegian tourist to death. Ice envelopes human hearts in the second book, Only the Dead, in which the brothers each approach fratricide. And black shadows out of ancient Viking lore hover over this stunning concluding volume...In a dream vision out of Lance's hidden Ojibway heritage, he journeys through a symbolic death before he can balance poetry, words conveying love, and berserker rage to grasp the solution to this terrible, beautiful dilemma. Sundstøl echoes an Old Norse saga that warns, "Thought and Memory fly over the world each day. I fear for Thought, lest he come not back, but I fear yet more for Memory." “
Words onscreen

From Publishers Weekly: “The solidity of the printed word disappears when transferred to the computer screen, with consequences both cultural and cognitive, according to this probing study of e-reading. American University linguistics professor Baron (Always On: Language in an Online and Mobile World) surveys the history and brain science of reading, drawing on her own research into college students’ reading experiences to explore the effects of reading off of Kindles, laptops, and cell phones...Among the many death-of-the-book jeremiads, her case for the ongoing relevance of the printed page stands out for its clarity and common sense.”

Shake hands with the devil

From Publishers Weekly: “As former head of the late 1993 U.N. peacekeeping mission in Rwanda, Canadian general Dallaire's initial proposal called for 5,000 soldiers to permit orderly elections and the return of the refugees. Nothing like this number was supplied, and the result was an outright attempt at genocide against the Tutsis that nearly succeeded, with 800,000 dead over three months...Dallaire's argument that Rwanda-like situations are fires that can be put out with a small force if caught early enough will certainly draw debate, but the book documents in horrifying detail what happens when no serious effort is made”

Plenty more

From Publishers Weekly: “Ottolenghi is a food writer for the U.K.’s Guardian, as well as the owner of three gourmet delis and London’s Nopi restaurant. The heart of his operation, though, is a test kitchen nestled in a railway arch in central London, where he and his colleagues perfected the 150 recipes found here in his fourth cookbook. Offered as a sequel to his 2011 bestseller Plenty, the book is fairly dazzling in its use of obscure vegetation in the service of highly creative dishes.”

Ovenly

From Publishers Weekly: “Though they've only been open since May of 2012, Brooklyn's Ovenly has quickly gained a ravenous following. Owners Kulaga and Patinkin go further than most other baking cookbooks, creating something
closer to a printed apprenticeship than a rote collection of recipes...The result is a book readers will find themselves turning to often as well as growing with. Kulaga and Patinkin are encouraging coaches, and the recipes are well thought-out and artfully presented. Bakers might as well buy two copies, as the first is likely to become butter-stained and dog-eared.”

**The life-changing magic of tidying up**

From Barnes and Noble: “Japanese cleaning consultant Marie Kondo takes tidying to a whole new level, promising that if you properly simplify and organize your home once, you'll never have to do it again. Most methods advocate a room-by-room or little-by-little approach, which doom you to pick away at your piles of stuff forever. The KonMari Method, with its revolutionary category-by-category system, leads to lasting results. In fact, none of Kondo’s clients have lapsed (and she still has a three-month waiting list). “

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"[Librarians] are subversive. You think they're just sitting there at the desk, all quiet and everything. They're like plotting the revolution, man. I wouldn't mess with them.” –*Michael Moore*