

Serious Men / by Joseph Manu

In Mumbai, Ayyan Mani may work as a lowly research assistant to a brilliant astronomer, but he dreams of a more exciting life for himself and his family. Coerced by external forces to make-or-break with his job, Ayyan enacts a scenario involving his boss's extramarital dalliances with a new female employee as well as the astronomer's adversaries, Brahmin traditionalists whose views on alien life have become a problem for the astronomer. (FIC MANU)

The Dog Who Came In From the Cold / by Alexander McCall Smith

In this second title in McCall Smith's "Corduroy Mansions" series, William French's Pimlico terrier, a dog named Freddie de la Hay, becomes a spy for the MI6 department who hope to use the canine's unique skill set to infiltrate some their most potent adversaries. (FIC MCCALLSM)

Dollarapalooza, or, The Day Peace Broke Out in Columbus / by Gregg Parr

Disgraced former professor Vonn Carp returns to his hometown of Columbus, Ohio, to take part in his father's lifelong dream—the startup of a general store called Dollarapalooza. When the store falls on hard times, partly due to a "Wow-mart" moving in across the street, Vonn stumbles upon a new business model to make a difference in people's lives. It's called "one dollar at a time", a service in which he'll answer any question any customer may have for one dollar. (FIC PARR)

The Coffins of Little Hope / by Timothy Schaffert

In rural Nebraska, 83-year-old widow Essie Myles keeps a job as an obituary writer for her small, family-run newspaper. Things heat up when a young, pretty local girl goes missing. But is she really missing, or is her quirky mother just out for some attention? When the story is leaked, and as swarms of media from all over the country descend on the town, Essie may be the only one who can find out the truth. (FIC SCHAFFER)

Super Sad True Love Story: A Novel / by Gary Shteyngart

In a not-too-distant future, balding, middle-aged Lenny Abramov is seller of "post-human services" (immortality treatments). He's also become enamored with a young Korean girl, Eunice Park, and pursues a relationship even though it's pretty obvious she can do better. But Lenny just might have something Eunice wants. (FIC SHTEYNGAR)

The Tower, The Zoo and The Tortoise / by Julia Stuart

As a tour guide and dressed-up palace guard, Balthazar Jones has worked in the Tower of London for the past eight years. Now he's been assigned the task of maintaining the Queen's growing menagerie of exotic animals even as he knows nothing about zookeeping. It's a certain recipe for disaster, evidenced when Balthazar can't quite keep certain animals in their cages. (FIC STUART)

The Revenge of the Radioactive Lady / by Elizabeth Stuckey-French

In 1953 during a faulty nuclear experiment, Marylou Ahearn had her body contaminated by Dr. Wilson Spriggs. The result was the death of Marylou's daughter, Helen, from cancer 10 years later. Now, in the present, 77-year-old Marylou is determined to get revenge on Dr. Spriggs, going so far as to move to Florida into a house right down the street from where he now lives and plotting his doom in quirky fashion. (FIC STUCKEYF)

This Is Where I Leave You / by Jonathan Tropper

Only weeks after his wife has left him for another man, Judd Foxman's father dies, forcing him to return to his childhood home to attend the funeral for a man he hardly knew. It's actually the first time the entire Foxman clan has been together in years and just as things start to get interesting around the house where tradition obligates them to sit shiva for a week, Judd finds out that his wife's pregnant. (FIC TROPPER)

The Family Fang: A Novel / by Kevin Wilson

Performance artists Caleb and Camille Fang are slaves to their art, so much so that they've incorporated their only children Annie and Buster (popularly known as Child A. and Child B.) into their oddly subversive work. Escaping as soon as they can away from their circus-like childhoods, Annie and Buster ultimately return years later, their lives now in disarray, only to be caught up in one last performance. (FIC WILSON)

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Something For Nothing: A Novel / by David Anthony
In the early 1970's, pilot Martin Anderson has it pretty good. His small aircraft business has made him rich enough to afford two nice cars, a racehorse, a boat and a vacation home in Tahoe. But when the oil embargo hits, he nearly loses it all until he discovers that he can use his aircraft business for drug runs between the US and Mexico. Only now he'll have to finagle his way around the treacherous world drug smuggling and his own haunted conscience. (FIC ANTHONY)

My American Unhappiness / by Dean Bakopoulos
In 2008 in Madison, WI, widowed father Zeke Pappas is desperate to find a wife and mother for his two daughters. And while his nightmarish attempts to woo and court the women around him only serve to make him more miserable, his efforts aren't completely fruitless. They actually give him critical insight into another project he's been working on—his "Inventory of American Unhappiness". (FIC BAKOPOUL)

Lunatics / by Dave Barry
Philip Horkman and Jeffrey A. Peckerman first meet on a soccer field in Fort Lee, N.J. during a girls' 10-and-under league championship game after Horkman calls Peckerman's daughter offside. Though initially only a mild disagreement, the battle between Horkman, a coarse, "forensic plumber," and Peckerman, a pet store owner, soon escalates into an absurd fight and some wacky maneuvers. (FIC BARRY)

One Hit Wonder / by Charlie Carillo
Years ago Mickey was a teenage heartthrob with a hit single called "Sweet Days." Now, as an aging shell of his former self and unable to get anything going career-wise, Mickey returns to his childhood home in Queens and the girl, Lynn, his former high school sweetheart, who inspired the hit song. (FIC CARILLO)

I Can't Make You Love Me, But I Can Make You Leave / by Dixie Cash
Darla Denman used to be one of Country Music's shiniest stars. Now though, with her career on the wane and even her best friends letting her down, Darla just can't see any good news on the horizon. When one of her back-up singers is found dead in her dressing room, Darla must not only find a new song set and a replacement singer, she'll have to root out a murderer in her midst. (FIC CASH)

The Sisters Brothers / by Patrick deWitt
In the heart of the Old West, a man known only as The Commodore orders bumbling assassins Charlie and Eli Sisters to track down and kill a grizzled prospector named Herman Kermit Warm. During their journey from Oregon to the Sierras, the pair confront a strange cast of characters including a witch, Indians, a parlor full of drunken floozies and a gang of murderous fur trappers. (FIC DEWITT)

Go, Mutants! / by Larry Doyle
Aliens have invaded, and they're attending high school in New York City. J!m, one of the alien subspecies, with blue skin and a head without a skull, is actually trying to break ranks and date a human girl. It's something not everybody's happy about, especially as it was J!m's dad who tried to take over the world a few years back. But love conquers all, doesn't it? (FIC DOYLE)

A Guided Tour Through The Museum of Communism: Fables From A Mouse, A Parrot, A Bear, A Cat, A Mole, A Pig, A Dog and a Raven / by Slavenka Drakulic
Several curious characters offer their comical assessments of Communism, its principles, its figureheads and its rise and fall. Each of the narrators, all from different countries, focus on the woeful Eastern Bloc and Communism's lingering effects in that region. (FIC DRAKULIC)

Ranchero / by Rick Gavin
Nick Reid is an ordinary low-key guy doing odd jobs at a rental store in the backwater Mississippi Delta until his boss sends him out to repossess a television from no-account hick Percy Dwayne Dubois. Refusing to give up his TV, Percy Dwayne hits Nick upside the head with a fireplace shovel and, with TV, wife, and son in tow, makes a hasty getaway in Nick's borrowed 1969 Ford Ranchero. Now Nick, out of a car and soon to be out of a job, has no choice but to track Percy Dwayne down. (FIC GAVIN)

Parents Behaving Badly / by Scott Gummer
Ben Holden soon finds himself in over his head when he reluctantly agrees to coach his son's little league team. It's bad enough that he and his wife Jill are currently at a difficult point in their marriage and now, with even more commotion from over-zealous parents and difficult problem children, his life seems to be imploding. (FIC GUMMER)

Star Island / by Carl Hiaasen
In this rollicking satire, the handlers of a teen singer "Cherry Pye" are harassed by a sleazy member of the paparazzi and must hire a bodyguard as well as a body double for their out-of-control pop star. It won't be easy, especially as other curious characters emerge on the scene in the always interesting south Florida landscape. (FIC HIAASEN)

The Case Of The Man Who Died Laughing: From the Files of Vish Puri, India's Most Private Investigator / by Tarquin Hill
When a noted member of the community, Dr. Suresh Jha of Delhi is slain under dubious circumstances by what's believed by locals to be a Hindu Goddess, PI Vish Puri aims to settle the matter. To do so, he'll need help from his undercover operatives—Facecream, Tubelight & Flush—who must integrate themselves into the mystical world of Indian gurus, all of whom believe the murder was indeed a "divine" act. (FIC HILL)

The Brothers Lot / by Kevin Holohan
In post-WWII Dublin, things are especially grim at the aptly named Brothers of Godly Coercion School for Young Boys of Meager Means, a truth which wastes little time in greeting young Finbar Sullivan, a boy newly arrived from Cork who must now settle in among his angry, cynical classmates. (FIC HOLOHAN)

The Mighty Walzer / by Howard Jacobson
In the prime of a budding adolescence, misfit Oliver Walzer isn't good at much. He's certainly not a hit with the ladies who view him as an outcast until he takes up ping-pong, a game which he soon masters. Now if he could only be convinced to switch from his odd choice in paddle (a hardback edition of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde) to the real thing, he could really start to assume what his father calls "swag". (FIC JACOBSON)

Pym: A Novel / by Mat Johnson
Having been laid off from his job as a teacher of American literature, Chris Jaynes becomes obsessed with the book, *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket*, the only full-length novel Edgar Allan Poe ever wrote. Inspired by a mysterious slave narrative which may confirm the truth about Poe's novel and its curious subject matter, Jaynes buys a boat, hires a crew and sets sail after Poe's mythical island, Pym. (FIC JOHNSON)

Home to Woefield / by Susan Juby
Naïve but well-meaning Prudence Burns is a New Yorker who's just inherited her family's dilapidated, next-to-useless old farm. Far from just wanting to sell off the land, and even knowing nothing about farming, Prudence decides to get to work on her new prospect, determined to accomplish her goal of prospering off the land. (FIC JUBY)

The Ask / by Sam Lipsyte
Recently laid-off university employee Milo Burke is doing whatever odd jobs he can to help his family get by. Then his old boss, the college dean, offers him his job back under one condition: Milo must get a wealthy alumnus, who just happens to be Milo's old roommate, to donate a large sum of money to the university. (FIC LIPSYTE)