

Get Your Read On

Seven books for summer—take one to the beach, on the plane or just enjoy

The Comfort of Lies

RANDY SUSAN MEYERS

Get a juicy dose of deception and infidelity from local author Meyers. Her latest work of fiction circles around a little girl, and its dramatic narrative alternates between three female voices: the girl's birth mother, her adoptive mother and the wife of her birth father. Expect the unexpected in an emotional examination of motherhood, truth and forgiveness.

where she got her start—offers her first book, a ridiculous take on singledom, and we do mean that in the best possible way. Split your sides laughing at Kirkman's unapologetic reasoning for not procreating and be jealous in knowing that she can pop open and enjoy a bottle of wine whenever she wants to.

Is This Tomorrow

CAROLINE LEAVITT

For her ninth novel, Leavitt brings readers a piece of fiction set in mid-20th-century suburbia, but there is nothing mundane about this page-turner that tackles the paranoia of an era that sparked the Cold War. Divorced, Jewish working mom Ava is an outsider in her community and faces challenges when the best friend of her son mysteriously vanishes.

Larry Gets Lost in Boston

MICHAEL MULLIN AND JOHN SKEWES

Fans of the popular children's series "Larry Gets Lost" will enjoy this local adventure starring one well-traveled pup and his pal Pete. Through colorful illustrations and simple verse, Larry and Pete visit all of Beantown's tourist destinations, from the Science Museum to the Boston Common and learn a bit about the city's history in the process.

All This Talk of Love

CHRIS CASTELLANI

Castellani (a Boston-based writer who is artistic director of acclaimed creative writing center Grub Street) offers his third novel and third account of the Grasso family. As before, the narrative falls under the veil of the Italian-American immigrant experience, with protagonists Antonio and

Maddalena, who closed the door to the Old World when they married 50 years ago, returning to their homeland.

The Clover House

HENRIETTE LAZARIDIS POWER

In her debut novel, former Harvard prof Power delves into the intricacies of a mother-daughter relationship that feels the tug of generational and cross-cultural disparity. Calli, who is engaged and settled in Boston, learns of her uncle's death and must travel to Greece to claim her inheritance. In the process, she encounters her estranged mother and digs up a few family secrets.

Dad is Fat

JIM GAFFIGAN

This five-time father and stand-up comedian offers hilarious anecdotes and observations about family life and parenting. Fans will not be disappointed with this compilation that ranges from musing on food and baby sitters to tales of baby arguments, his role as second-tier parent, his views on kid literature and his children's awful taste.

I Can Barely Take Care of Myself: Tales From a Happy Life Without Kids

JEN KIRKMAN

"Chelsea Lately" funny gal Kirkman—locals might remember the Needham native for her routines at Harvard Square's Comedy Studio,



WHERE TO BUY

Barnes & Noble

The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617.247.6959, barnesandnoble.com

The Coop

1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 617.499.2000, thecoop.com

Harvard Book Store

1256 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 617.661.1515, harvard.com

Trident Booksellers & Café

338 Newbury St., 617.267.8688, tridentbookscafe.com

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