



Hot reads for the summer

Fiction

**Love is in the air
(and sometimes it
doesn't smell so sweet)**

The Sea Lady
By Margaret Drabble
Harcourt, \$24

A marine biologist and a feminist—long-estranged, incompatible lovers—happen across each other again in a small coastal town on the North Sea. A salty, satirical novel awash with oceanic metaphors.

On Chesil Beach
By Ian McEwan
Nan A. Talese, \$22

When naïve newlyweds fail miserably at consummation in the early '60s (a time when stifling social norms held sway over private matters), the emotional wounds threaten to devastate a promising relationship.

Loving Frank
By Nancy Horan
Ballantine, \$23.95 (August)

A spry fictionalization of the heated and ultimately tragic affair between Mamah Borthwick Cheney and Frank Lloyd Wright.

A Peculiar Grace
By Jeffrey Lent
Grove/Atlantic, \$25 (August)

A 43-year-old blacksmith in a small New England town tries to learn how to love after years of isolation and family secrets.

North River
By Pete Hamill
Little, Brown, \$25.99 (June)

A kind-hearted but beleaguered doctor finds unexpected love in 1930s New York City.

The Scandal of the Season
By Sophie Gee
Scribner, \$25 (August)

Alexander Pope becomes enmeshed in the affairs of high soci-

ety London when, in 1711, he writes a naughty poem featuring two prominent socialites.

The Maytrees
By Annie Dillard
HarperCollins, \$24.95 (June)

Pulitzer Prize Annie Dillard's lyrical new novel is an ode to lasting love and natural beauty.

A Much Married Man
By Nicholas Coleridge
St. Martin's, \$24.95 (June)

This social romp through British upper crust follows one man's feats and follies in a life strewn with mismatched marriages.

The River Wife
By Jonis Agee
Random House, \$24.95 (July)

A young bride discovers that women have a disquieting history in her new home on the Mississippi River in 1930s Missouri.

Girls of Riyadh
By Rajaa Alansari
Penguin, \$24.95 (July)

Four Saudi women seek romance and independence within the strict constraints of their Islam culture. A best seller in the Middle East, this book was originally released in Arabic in 2005 and immediately banned in Saudi Arabia. The author now lives in Chicago.

**Door prizes
for this summer's
family reunion**

**Dream When You're
Feeling Blue**
By Elizabeth Berg
Random House, \$24.95

Sisters survive the heartache and upheaval of World War II in Chicago. A nostalgic look at a time when, left behind by their soldiers, women were forced to explore new worlds.

Falling Man

By Don DeLillo
Scribner, \$26

Don DeLillo's treatment of 9/11 and its affect on one New York family is masterful, complex and emotionally devastating.

Divisadero
By Michael Ondaatje
Knopf, \$25

A northern California family is harshly divided when the widowed father of two daughters catches one in flagrante delicto with a farmhand.

When We Get There

By Shauna Selby
Bloomsbury, \$23.95

In this strong debut novel, the son of a dead coal miner in western Pennsylvania seeks his grief-stricken mother, who has disappeared.

Every Crooked Pot

By Renee Rosen
St. Martin's, \$9.95 paper (June)

A girl with a facial birthmark also has to contend with an embarrassing father in this amusing, heartfelt debut from a Chicago author.

When the World Was Young

By Tony Romano
HarperCollins, \$24.95

An Italian-American clan struggles with cultural identity in late 1950s Chicago.

The Gravedigger's Daughter

By Joyce Carol Oates
HarperCollins, \$26.95 (May 29)

The daughter of sad immigrants who escaped Nazi Germany must make her way in America. Oates, winner of the 2006 Chicago Tribune Literary Prize for lifetime achievement, hits yet another high note with this novel.

The Sabotage Café

By Joshua Furst
Knopf, \$23.95 (August)

A mother and daughter grapple with each other's demons in this drama set in Minneapolis.

Free Food for Millionaires
By Min Jin Lee
Warner, \$24.99

A first-generation Korean-American woman forges her own path in life despite her parents' authoritative shadow.

The Septemberers of Shiraz

By Dalia Sofer
HarperCollins, \$24.95 (July)

A family is splintered following the Iranian revolution. A breath-taking debut from Dalia Sofer, who fled Iran in 1982, when she was 10.

The Last Summer (of You and Me)

By Ann Brashers
Penguin, \$24.95

Two sisters and a life-long male friend must come to terms with the fact that their lives are about to be forever altered. By the author of the bubbly "Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants" series.

Bride Island

By Alexandra Enders

Penguin, \$14 paper (June)

Now sober, a woman tries to reclaim the child she left years earlier.

The Descendants

By Kaul Hart Hemmings
Random House, \$24.95

Matthew King, father of two irascible girls and husband to a dying woman, realizes it's up to him to track down his wife's lover so the man may bid her farewell.

When We Were Bad

By Charlotte Mendelson
Houghton Mifflin, \$24 (August)

The world falls to pieces for a British Jewish family when its eldest son skips town with another woman the day of his wedding.

Nefertiti

By Michelle Moran
Crown, \$24.95 (July)

The younger sister of the glamorous ancient Egyptian queen tells her side of the story.

**At play in the fields
of the man**

Five Skies

By Ron Carlson
Penguin, \$23.95

In this poignant novel, three emotionally wrecked men work together on a construction project in remote Idaho.

MVP

By James Boice
Simon & Schuster, \$15 paper

Gilbert Marcus heads straight to the NBA after high school and, after barely growing accustomed to the gluttonous whirlwind that is professional sports, is accused of raping and murdering a woman. A fantastic, chilling portrait of a vain pro athlete.

The Headmaster Ritual

By Taylor Antrim
Houghton Mifflin, \$13.95 paper (July)

A biting, boarding-school satire that features an evil headmaster. Who says school's out for summer?

**Rant: An Oral Biography
of Buster Casey**

By Chuck Palahniuk
Doubleday, \$24.95

Macabre and madcap—just how Palahniuk fans like 'em.

The Entitled: A Tale of Modern Baseball

By Frank Deford
Sourcebooks, \$24.95

Athletes behaving really, really badly.

Escape from reality

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

By J.K. Rowling
Scholastic, \$34.99 (July)

The seventh and final book about the boy wizard.

The Yiddish Policemen's Union

By Michael Chabon
HarperCollins, \$26.95

This hardboiled detective tale

takes place in an alternate reality where Jews have settled in Alaska, not Israel, after World War II. Witty repartee and unpredictable characters abound in this noir masterpiece about the "frozen Chosen."

God Is Dead

By Ron Currie Jr.
Penguin, \$21.95 (July)

An offbeat modern satire in which God appears briefly as a Dinka woman before dying.

Wish Club

By Kim Strickland
Crown, \$13.95 paper

A book club gets wonky when its members read a tome on witchcraft and suddenly their wishes start to come true.

The Witch of Portobello

By Paulo Coelho
HarperCollins, \$24.95

A Gypsy orphan grows up to be one many consider a powerful priestess; others believe she is a fraudulent cult leader. Sort of like Paris Hilton.

Wizards: Magical Tales From the Masters of Modern Fantasy

Edited by Jack Dann and Gardner Dozois
Penguin, \$25

Neil Gaiman, Garth Nix and Patricia McKillip are among the authors who have contributed stories to this magical collection.

All Together Dead

By Charlaiane Harris
Penguin, \$24.95

Now is the time to get hooked on Charlaiane Harris' Southern vampire mysteries, as it will be premiering as the HBO show "True Blood" this fall.

Harm

By Brian W. Aldiss
Del Rey, \$21.95

Things don't look good for a political detainee of Muslim descent in the mistrustful climate of the near future.

After Dark

By Haruki Murakami
Knopf, \$22.95

Several lonely people make their way through a long, strange Tokyo night.

Right Livelihoods

By Rick Moody
Little, Brown, \$23.99

Rick Moody imagines what Manhattan would be like if a dirty bomb destroyed much of the city. The shadow of 9/11 looms in this collection of three novellas.

Peony in Love

By Lisa See
Random House, \$23.95 (June)

A ghost story set in 17th Century China.

**Adrenaline junkies like
to read too**

Secret Asset

By Stella Rimington
Knopf, \$24.95 (June)

British intelligence officer Liz

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