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Popular Threads on Solosez

Summer Reading List

One of the Solosez traditions is the Summer Reading List, which usually goes around sometime in May. Here's what I've been reading:

- An Unfinished Canvas: A True Story of Love, Family, and Murder in Nashville by Michael Glasgow and Phyllis Gobbell (the true crime story of disbarred lawyer Perry March)
- Ex Mex: From Migrants to Immigrants by Jorge G. Castaneda
- Saving the Americas: The Dangerous Decline of Latin America and What The U.S. Must Do by Andres Oppenheimer
- Spanglish: The Making of a New American Language by Ilan Stavans
- On Borrowed Words: A Memoir of Language by Ilan Stavans
- San Sombrero: A Land of Carnivals, Cocktails and Coups (Jetlag Travel Guide) by Santo Cilauro
- Long After Midnight at the Niño Bien: A Yanqui's Missteps in Argentina by Brian Winter
- The Tango Singer: A Novel by Tomas Eloy Martinez
- The Peron Novel by Tomas Eloy Martinez
- Smile When You're Lying: Confessions of a Rogue Travel Writer by Chuck Thompson
- Last Evenings on Earth by Roberto Bolano
- Nazi Literature in the Americas by Roberto Bolano
- The Nasty Bits: Collected Varietal Cuts, Usable Trim, Scraps, and Bones, by Anthony Bourdain
- Home to Big Stone Gap: A Novel by Adriana Trigiani
- Theatre of Fish: Travels through Newfoundland and Labrador by John Gimlette
- Hurricanes and Carnivals: Essays by Chicanos, Pochos, Pachucos, Mexicanos, and Expatriates, Lee Gutkind, editor
- The Mile High Club by Kinky Friedman
- The Argentine Right: Its History and Intellectual Origins, 1910 to the Present by Sandra McGee Deutsch and Ronald H. Dolkart
- The Yiddish Policemen's Union: A Novel by Michael Chabon
- The Ministry of Special Cases by Nathan Englander
- A Thousand Days in Venice by Marlena De Blasi
- My German Question by Peter Gayjennifer

j. rose

I have a new favorite author. David Brody (a Boston attorney) for his Grisham like books "The Wrong Abraham" about terrorist attacks on an Liquefied Natural Gas tanker sailing into Boston Harbor and then an anthrax attack at Fenway Park; also his book "Blood of the Tribes" a fictional telling of the efforts of the Mashpee Indians to claim title to a



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Peter Clark

My heavens, Jennifer, you do *read*! I started my summer reading early I'm going through my public library's collection of Robert B. Parker's Jesse Stone mysteries. I dip into serious got and skimmed Timothy Egan's "The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story Of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl"; and have Norman Doidge's "The Brain That Changes itself: Stories of Personal Triumph from the Frontiers of Brain Science" waiting for when I want to get serious again.

Gini

The most interesting book I have read this year is Eco's "Foucault's Pendulum", which is the best conspiracy book and the most honest. Two things to remember when reading this book is that Wikipedia is a great source to find out more about all the historical characters in the book, and the book was written in the 1980s so the computer technology is 1980s era.

Ernest Schaal

Jennifer:

Thanks for the Tomas Eloy Martinez's recommendations. I have only read "Santa Evita" and that was in the mid 90's (?). Gotta love Anthony Bourdain too. I joined the list last fall, so I was not aware of the "list." I'll be posting the faves soon.

Tamara Caban-Ramirez

So, you've read all those books, but do you actually recommend them? I've seen and pondered reading The Yiddish Policeman's Union and the Ministry of Special Cases. Books I have read and also recommend:

- Stewart Lee Allen, The Devil's Cup; The History of the World according to Coffee (really entertaining only if you are fond of coffee)
- Louis Bayard, Mr. Timothy (As in Tiny Tim grown up)
- Marcus Zusak, The Messenger
- Will Thomas all his books, beginning with Some Danger Involved. Detective story set in Victorian England. Title refers to advertisement placed for an assistant.
- Ariana Franklin, Mistress of the Art of Death. Think CSI in England in the 1200s.
- Linda Colley, The Ordeal of Elizabeth Marsh: A woman in world history
- Kate Jacobs, The Friday Night Knitting Club (though I am still upset at the ending)

- John Boyne, Crippen (based on the true story of the dentist who killed his wife and buried her in the basement)
- Audrey Niffenegger, The Time Traveler's Wife
- Sheridan Hay, The Secret of Lost Things
- Bo Caldwell, The Distant Land of My Father

I also second the recommendation of The Worst Hard Time by Timonty Egan. You forget how bad the dust bowl was. Well written with excerpts of stories from real people.

Sharon Campbell

- Dreams From My Father, Barack Obama. This pre political memoir issurprisingly substantial. Has anyone read his second book, and did he turn to fluff when he ran for office?
- The Soloist, Steve Lopez. I heard of this book about a newspaper columnist's relationship with a homeless musician in one of the best NPR interviews ever <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=89819987>
- Shooting Star, Robert Bloch. Part of my Hard Case Crime subscription my monthly dose of junk reading. <http://hardcasecrime.com/>

Wendell Finner

To all my fellow Sezzers.I joined a free online book sharing/exchange club several months ago andhave been pretty happy with it (I have no other affiliation with it other than as a member). Check out www.bookmooch.com. If you're interested, I can send you an invitation.

Peter Shafran

I just finished Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen, excellent book. I am about to start on The Time Traveler's Wife which was highly recommended to me.

Allison M. McDonald, Esq.

Check out my small blog at www.bradleyscribe.blogspot.com for a listing of some of the best books I've read. I am a big advocate of reading and writing. I think (for me) these activities have single handedly got me to where I am today; namely, a law graduate, attorney, etc...

Christopher Bradley

I'll put in another vote for The Worst Hard Time Ever. There's a lot more to the dust bowl saga than I ever appreciated

Rebecca Wiess

jennifer listed this book first: "An Unfinished Canvas: A True Story of

Love, Family, and Murder in Nashville by Michael Glasgow and Phyllis Gobbell(the true crime story of disbarred lawyer Perry March)." Phyliss Gobbel's daughter Dominique is one of my daughter's best friends since grade school, and is the godmother of my daughter's daughter. I know Phyllis well and she is a fine person. Mike Glasgow, on the other hand, is himself a disbarred lawyer. I know,because I was involved in the matter which led directly to his loss of license. Because of his conduct I have a fraud judgment against him for nearly a half million dollars which we have been trying to collect for years. So for Phyliss, who sure could use the money, and also for my client, so that she might collect her judgment against Mr. Glasgow, please buy many, many copies of the book!

John D. Kitch

This book is more than just another true crime story. Threaded in the story is a child custody case, civil contempt, the Hague Convention, the wrongful death action, a conservatorship, a lawyer who double deals and steals from his father in law's small law firm, how the same lawyer's biglaw firm handled this guy's sexual harassment of a paralegal continuing legal education credits should be granted for reading this. What was amazing was that for about seven years, between March's departure from the US and extradition, he continued to swindle many expatriates living in a community outside of Guadalajara. This is one book you won't regret reading.

jjr

I found it fascinating on a lot of levels too, Jennifer. The most enduring impression is the tremendous sadness I feel for the victim's parents, who were denied even the peace of burying their daughter's body, lost forever.

Elizabeth Lane

- America Alone, by Mark Steyn
- Richard M. Nixon: A Life In Full, by Lord Conrad Black
- The Informant, by Kurt Eichenwald
- Fantasyland, by Sam Walker
- Waverly, by Sir Walter Scott
- The Big House, by George Howe Colt
- The Right to Be Wrong, by Seamus Hasson
- Apologia Pro Vita Sua, by John Henry Cardinal Newman
- Vile Bodies and Brideshead Revisited, by Evelyn Waugh
- Chronicle of a Death Foretold, by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Mark Jakubik

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