

<u>Star Rating</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Review</u>
4.0	Dead Wake	Erik Larson	Very well written. Interesting to delve into the people on board. Read for my book club and ALL enjoyed it (which is rare that we agree)
3.0	Dr. Knox	Peter Spiegelman	CT author Spiegelman has created quite the character in Dr. Knox. He makes housecalls, cash up front, and runs a store-front clinic visited by the street life and wealthy alike. A fast-paced, action-filled thriller. I'm certain we'll see more of Dr. Knox and I'm ready to read the next adventure.
4.0	The Hummingbird	Stephen P. Kiernan	I truly loved this story of hospice nurse Deborah Birch, her current patient Professor Barclay Reed, and Birch's husband Michael, a returning vet with his own demons. Kiernan weaves alternate narratives and three plotlines with compassion, passion, and beauty. This will easily be one of my 2016 favorite books.
2.0	Before the Fall	Noah Hawley	Great premise -- the beginning promised a slow-burn thriller but by book's end I was just bored! The first chapters dealing with a plane crash, involving the privileged class flying from Martha's Vineyard to New York were great. Then Hawley pulled the wrong throttle.
No rating	The Rising	Ryan D'Agostino	I don't think you can live in Connecticut and not be familiar with the Petit case and murders. D'Agostino has been entrusted to tell Dr. Petit's story, his life before, during, and after this horrific tragedy. The question many have, "How do you go on after something like this?" is the key here. Dr. Petit states "But he has decided to live, because life abides."
3.0	Countdown City	Ben H. Winters	The second in the apocalyptic The Last Policeman Trilogy. 77 days and Earth will be struck by Asteroid Maia. Former detective Henry Palace continues to try to live his last days in normality, maintaining his true character and moral values. The desolation is ramped up, time is running out, and we're left wondering how our fate will end?
4.0	A Man Called Ove	Fredrik Backman	A curmudgeonly old man (59?) is a heartwarming story attesting to the power of love. The characters, especially Ove, are what makes this book shine. My absolute favorite read of the summer. I loved, loved, loved it. It made me laugh and it made me cry.
2.0	Goodnight, Beautiful Women	Anna Noyes	Short stories and I don't mix well, and this bizarre collection was no exception. These dark, disturbing, sexually nuanced tales are beautifully written. But did I understand them all? Not hardly but I'm glad I gave it a go if only to challenge my comfort zone.
3.0	Get What's Yours for Medicare	Phillip Moeller	Just what you'd think -- the ins and outs of Medicare. Good read for someone approaching 65 or anyone wanting to review or understand the system and choices.
3.0	Open Season	CJ Box	Debut of the long-running Joe Pickett series -- solid start. Pickett is a Wyoming Game Warden, not a hero, just a man doing his job. I loved his vulnerability and that he can laugh and live with his shortcomings. The mystery is secondary to the character. I will read more of these.
4.0	First Comes Love	Emily Giffin	An incredible story about love, family, and the incredibly messy (yet also incredibly awesome) thing called life. Characters become almost real people we (I) have in our own life, and as such, I grew to love them. Story line is unique and keeps you reading, keeps you wanting more. Overall, excellent read.
3.0	Blood Orange	Susan Wittig Albert	Sex in Texas, you learn a lot about herbs and, in this book, beer, all wrapped in a murder mystery.
3.0	Breakdown	Jonathan Kellerman	Continuing saga of Dr. Delaware and LT Surgies (sp.?) as they solve a murder mystery. Not as graphic as usual.
3.0	Courting Trouble	Lisa Scottoline	Love the all-women law firm and all their personalities
3.0	Paradise City	Archer Mayor	I like this series, you get to know a little more about Vermont with each book.
2.0	W is for Wasted	Sue Grafton	I liked her earlier books better
3.0	Heat Rises	Richard Castle	Another Nikki Heat NYPD murder mystery -- the usual.
2.0	Double Fudge Brownie Murder	Joanne Fluke	Another in the Hannah series, not my favorite murder book but some great recipes in this book.
2.0	Fatally Flaky	Diane Mott Davidson	Not as good as her previous books, a little dry.
3.0	The Chase	Janet Evanovich	Another series with Nick Fox
4.0	The Nurse Whisperer	Jen Purcell	All nurses should read this and anyone else who wants to know what a nurse's life is really like in the trenches.
3.0	Death Come Quickly	Susan Wittig Albert	China Bayles mystery set in Texas with lots of good Texas recipes also.
4.0	Loves Comes First	Jennifer Weiner	Great story about how tragic life events, even 15 years later, can affect life and relationships

4.0	Ready Player One	Ernest Cline	An action-packed examination of "real or not real?" with shades of net neutrality, corporate domination, and classic good vs. evil in a coming-of-age tale. If that sounds too heavy, but you loved the 80s, you will still love it.
No rating	Catastrophic Happiness	Catherine Newman	I want her to be my friend because then I could feel better about my parenting. And I'd feel smarter.
No rating	Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close	Jonathan Safran Foer	A transporter book -- takes you completely into its world. It is also one that makes your heart break slowly and completely. And then puts it back.
4.0	As Time Goes By	Mary Higgins Clark	Two seemingly unrelated events slowly dovetail behind a sensational local murder trial -- couldn't put it down.
3.0	The Sentry	Robert Crais	If you like Lee Child, you'll like Robert Crais. His character Joe Pike is an urban version of Jack Reacher. The good guys are still winning.
3.0	Magic	Danielle Steel	Set in Paris and Milan, the story covers a one-year period after an unusual yearly event. The focus is on three couples and their new/old friends. Not as sappy as some Danielle Steel books. A satisfying story.
3.0	The Jezebel Remedy	Martin Clark	Small town husband and wife lawyers stumble on a mystery that takes on a life of its own. A roller coaster ride set in north Virginia. Great characters.
3.0	The Doll Master	Joyce Carol Oates	Not for the squeamish. Dark mysteries with a twist(ed) ending. Read it during the day. Not at night -- and not by yourself.
3.0	Once a Cop	Corey Pogues	The rise from street dealer to Army to NYPD. The difficulties of changing old attitudes toward minorities. Stereotyping and racial profiling from a police point-of-view.
3.0	Uprooted	Naomi Novik	
3.0	Heart and Soul	Maeve Binchy	
4.0	To Kill a Mockingbird	Harper Lee	
2.0	The Total Package	Stephanie Evanovich	Story line was okay. Was not a grabbing story line. Did not hold this reader. It was a quick read though.
3.0	Grunt	Mary Roach	The science of humans at war, looks at all aspects of war from scents to sounds. An outsider's take on the military. Fascinating!
3.0	Collecting the Dead	Spence Kope	A quick read with an interesting take on an FBI tracking unit. If you watch Criminal Minds on TV, this book takes the concept and goes further with it.
2.0	Sick in the Head	Judd Apatow	The format of Q&A throughout the book made for a very slow read. Some interesting stories about the top comedians in the country.
3.0	Seinfeldia	Jennifer Armstrong	All you would ever want to know about one of the most popular TV shows ever; loaded with trivia. An interesting read.
3.0	Wolf Lake	John Verdon	A complex mystery with plenty of suspects and colorful characters. A little drawn out but a satisfying conclusion.
3.0	The Baker Street Jurors	Michael Robertson	A quick read #5 in the Baker Street Letters series. Another take on a clue-type mystery with a little twist at the end.
4.0	Panacea	F. Paul Wilson	Hard to put this book down with mystery, mythology, and globe-trotting all intertwined together. A great story with a hint of future books.
3.0	Disappearance at Devil's Rock	Paul Tremblay	Combination mystery/supernatural with a satisfying conclusion with just a little twist
3.0	The Fireman	Joe Hill	An unusual apocalyptic tale with a host of unique characters. A little long but enjoyable with plenty of twists and turns along the way.
3.0	Die of Shame	Mark Billingham	Interesting mystery with many twists and turns among a group of people with varied pasts
2.0	The Whale	Mark Beauregard	Historical novel with a little more than I needed to know about the relationship between Herman Melville and Nathaniel Hawthorne and their relationships
3.0	Brighton	Michael Harvey	A real page-turner, hard to put down. When you think you have it figured out, you don't.
4.0	The Summer That Everything Melted	Tiffany McDaniel	A great story that's hard to categorize, but a story of demons real and imagined and life in a small midwest town and how the demon took over the town.
4.0	Girls and Sex	Peggy Olenstein	Important message about girls (and women) in society. Makes valid and thoughtful points.
4.0	The Children	Ann Leary	Old money elitism and family dynamics make this story come alive. Interesting look at relationships.
4.0	The After Party	Anton DiScalfani	Where it lacks in plot it more than makes up for with beautiful descriptions and characters
4.0	Lawyer for the Dog	Lee Robinson	Light plot, but poignant message. Interesting and quick-moving.
4.0	The Hopefuls	Jennifer Close	Well written! Great character development and realistic plot. Learning about the personal side of DC politics a nice bonus@
4.0	Dear Fang, With Love	Rufi Thorpe	A fascinating story. Both a historical and philosophical look at a father and daughter's relationship
2.0	Sweetbitter	Stephanie Danler	A light story with dark overtones about a young girl's first life post college. A great look at the service industry.

3.0	See Me	Nicholas Sparks	It was different from his usual, which I thought was good. I liked the mystery aspect of this book. I didn't give it four-stars because it was a little more violent than I anticipated in a Nicholas Sparks book.
2.5	Red Berries, White Clouds, Blue Sky	Sandra Dallas	This Nutmeg Nominee is a historical fiction book. What I liked about it was that this story shared the perspective of a Japanese American family during WWII. The struggles and family relationships were authentic, and the book was rich with powerful quotes. "I am rich in family."
3.0	Dawn on a Distant Shore	Sara Donati	Did not disappoint -- Book 2 in the series -- Adventures in Scotland -- Exciting
4.0	The Mark of the Midnight Manzanilla	Lauren Willig	This is one of the Pink Carnation series. It surely does not disappoint. It is easy and fun to read, a light romance in each of the books and so many funny comments. Women spies in the 1800s. So fun, easy read.
4.0	The Last Days of Dogtown	Anita Diamant	An absolutely wonderful read! Full, rich characters fill each page. The prose is so easy to read, the emotions heartfelt, and dogs in dogtown who play a role in the narration. Loved it!
4.0	Into the Wilderness	Sara Donati	Just the kind of saga I like -- adventure, romance, and Native Americans! It was surprisingly like Diana Gabaldon's Outlander series, even mentioned her prime characters -- Claire Fraser in it and her Scotsman!. I am anxious to plow into the next book.
3.0	The Soul Searcher's Handbook	Emma Mildon	An introduction to holistic approaches of ways to integrate mind, body, and spiritual techniques into everyday life. A quick read.
3.0	Wishful Drinking	Carrie Fisher	Raw reflections of real life, told with adult humor, conveying personal triumphs and trials from the woman who became an icon to the world as Princess Leia.
2.0	How to be a Grown Up	Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus	Adult content. Relationships, identity; theme that change is inevitable. Inspirational and witty reboot
3.0	Rogue Lawyer	John Grisham	Smart and masterful vignettes woven together with strings of legal intrigue. Brave and daring pursuit of justice.
3.0	The Tea House on Mulberry Street	Sharon Owens	Good character development leads the listener through a variety of unexpected plot twists. Read with an Irish accent, the narrator brings the book to life very nicely.
3.0	The Widow	Fiona Barton	Can a marriage survive when your spouse commits an appalling act? Jeannie's husband George is accused to kidnapping and possibly murdering two-year-old Bella. A darn good psychological study -- Gone Girl or The Girl on the Train it is not. Multi-cast audio with five narrators was brilliant.
4.0	The Artist's Way	Julia Cameron	A soulful guidebook mapping out 12 weeks of suggested exercises and activities, as well as thoughtful questions tapping one's inner child to increase creative flow.