

# Rapid Reviews from the 2010 Vermont Library Conference

## NEW YORK

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Colm, Toibin - *Brooklyn*. Young Irish immigrant, alone and uneasy in Brooklyn, struggles to find her own way in the 1950's. **FIC TOIBIN**

Flint, Anthony - *Wrestling with Moses: How Jane Jacobs Took on New York's Master Builder and Transformed the American City*. An average citizen stands up for her beliefs.

McCann, Colum - *Let the Great World Spin* New York in all its diverse glory, with the spotlight on the Twin Tower tightrope walker.

## CURRENT EVENTS

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Agassi, Andre - *Open*. A topnotch autobiography that blows the lid off professional tennis preparation.

Armstrong, Karen - *The Case for God*. In prehistory, religion was the desire to cultivate a sense of the transcendent; the same commitment makes the case for God today. **211 ARMST**

Durrow, Heidi W. - *The Girl Who Fell from the Sky*. What is the meaning of race? First novel, book club natural, winner of the Bellwether prize.

Foer, Jonathan Safran. - *Eating Animals*. Powerful, personal look at factory farming. A life-changer!

Joannides, Paul. - *Guide to Getting It on*. Daerick Gross, illus. (line drawings) Sensible, encompassing guide to sex for adults.

Kessler, David - *The End of Overeating: Taking Control of the Insatiable American Appetite*  
**613.2 KESSL**

Kot, Greg - *Ripped*. How Napster and greed destroyed the recording industry

Maass, Peter - *Crude World: The Violent Twilight of Oil*. Good for a discussion group.

Reding, Nick - *Methland: The Death and Life of an American Small Town*. Methamphetamine and its impact in Oelwein, IA, pop. 6126.

Wills, Garry. - *Bomb power : the modern presidency and the national security state*. Wills well-told story of how the bomb brought us 'big brother'.

## HISTORY

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Blake, Sarah. *The Postmistress*. Charming romance set in the radio history of World War II.  
**FIC BLAKE**

Collins, Gail. *When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women From 1960 to the Present*. A page-turning history of the women's movement. **305.40973C**

Pears, Iain - *Stone's Fall*. Reversed time and entwined mysteries lead slowly to resolution in London 1906, Venice 1867 and Paris 1890.

Perkins-Valdez, Dolen - *Wench*. Enslaved as mistresses, four black women meet and become friends when their plantation owners take them for a month's vacation in Ohio.

Phillips, Jayne Anne - *Lark and Termite*. Satisfying parallel stories - a soldier in South Korea and his young son Termite. **FIC PHILLIPS**

Walbert, Kate. - *A Short History of Women*. A series of moments in the lives of relatives who live unaware of each other, starting with the Townsend suffragette hunger strike in 1914. **FIC WALBER**

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### FAMILY

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Buckley, Christopher - *Losing Mum and Pup* The sticky family feelings and tacky funeral questions, even if for Pat and William F. Buckley, Jr. **LP 813.54B**

Chaon, Dan - *Await Your Reply*. A Rubik's Cube of interlocking puzzle pieces. Young vulnerable teens vanish, controlled by a disappearing artist in contemporary America.

**FIC CHAON**

King, Laurie R. - *The God of the Hive* The 10<sup>th</sup> Sherlock Holmes / Mary Russell adventure and the best of the lot. **MYS KING**

Quindlen, Anna - *Every Last One*. Quindlen, thoughtful and sympathetic, with a novel of family tragedy. **FIC QUINDL**

### SENSE OF PLACE

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Borodale, Jane - *The Book of Fires*. Set in 1752 England poor and pregnant, Agnes journeys to London certain that her guilt will catch up with her.

Carroll, David. - *Following the Water*. Wading in the water, Carroll connects decades of observations with what is directly in front of him today.

Kamkwamba, William & Bryan Meal. - *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*. Poverty excludes a Malawi boy from school. His imagination is ignited by a magazine on wind power.

Luskin, Deborah Lee. - *Into the Wilderness*. The early 60's, and a New Yorker and a native find common ground, friendship and then romance.

Penny, Louise. - *The Brutal Telling*. The fifth in a series of rich, beautifully written mysteries set just over the border in Quebec. **CD PENNY**

### JUST FOR FUN

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Bartlett, Allison. - *The Man Who Loved Books Too Much: : the True Story of a Thief, A Detective, and a World of Literary Obsession*. Fun for book lovers.

Dicks, Matthew. - *Something Missing*. Martin Railsback steals only what his 'clients' won't miss. Clever first novel.

Freeman, Castle. - *All That I Have*. Sheriff Wingate understands both the second home owner and the local. Great Vermont fiction in a Freeman sequel

McManus, James.- *Cowboys Full: The Story of Poker*. The evolution of poker, with great stories. The Wild West, riverboats, the seamy side and the game of presidents.

Shell, Ellen. - *Cheap: The High Cost of Discount Culture*. What's wrong with the big box store?  
**381 SHELL**

Simonson, Helen. - *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*. Love surprises retired British Major Ernest Pettigrew and Mrs. Jasmina Ali, a Pakistani shopkeeper. **CD SIMONS**

Stewart, Matthew.- *The Management Myth: Why the Experts Keep Getting It Wrong*. What fun! The emperor has no clothes!



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