

NANCY'S LIST JULY, 2003

I hope you are having a terrific summer! These books can give you an excuse to put up that hammock, grab a glass of lemonade, tell the kids you are running away, and ENJOY!

EXPOSURE- Alan Russell

A paparazzo chasing a story causes the death of a beloved philanthropist and her athlete lover, which leads to intrigue he could never have imagined. Fast action thriller.

THE DISAPPARATION OF JAMES- Anne Ursu

A five-year-old boy disappears during a circus act and the emotions of his family during this ordeal make a very different and interesting story.

THE PUZZLE BARK TREE- Stephanie Gurtler

A young woman grieving over the suicide of her parents learns she has inherited a remote island home she never knew existed. This island holds secrets that will break her heart, but answers questions about her parents that ultimately leads to understanding and healing.

THE LAST GIRLS- Lee Smith

Four college girls once took a raft down the Mississippi River. Now, years later, one of them has died and once again they are together on a boat at the request of their friend. Not a great book, but good light reading.

THE NIGHTSPINNERS- Lucretia Grindle

Young woman's identical twin sister is savagely murdered years earlier. Now, many miles and years away, someone is stalking her, just like the murderer stalked her sister. I couldn't put this one down.

Meely la Bauve- Ken Wells

This is a cute book; sort of a Cajun "Huck Finn" This is a sweet spunky boy that makes the best out of a pretty desperate situation.

ONE-HIT WONDER- Lisa Jewell

By the author of Ralph's Party, this book is another hit. A young girl journeys to London to uncover why her beautiful and talented older sister committed suicide. In searching for clues to the sister she never knew, she finds herself.

WALTER'S PURPLE HEART- Catherine Ryan Hyde

I loved this book by the author of Pay It Forward, which, if you haven't read by now- shame on you! A young man killed in World War II comes back to claim his love. But there are complications; his true love is long married to his best friend, and the body he now inhabits belongs to a pot-smoking 20 something surfer.

THE GOD FILES- Frank Turner Hollon

Powerful book concerning a man in prison for life for a murder he did not commit. He starts a file to prove, or disprove, the existence of God. Says much about the human spirit under adverse conditions.

PRINCE OF LOST PLACES- Kathy Hepinstall

By the author of The House of Gentle Men, this little book is even better. The end just blew me away! Cindy and I share a lot of books and she said her husband figured it out early on, but we really don't believe him! Read this one.

FAMILY HISTORY- Dani Shapiro

Terrific book. A teen girl's rebellion brings on the disintegration of the whole family. How do you cope when your world is turned upside down?

THE FIFTH ANGEL- Tim Green

Would you take matters into your own hands if your daughter was brutally raped and tortured? A real page-turner by a very good author.

AN ORDINARY WOMAN- Donna Hill

This book is a poignant reminder that our actions have consequences and our reasons for doing things are not always what they seem. It's about friendship, love and betrayal and the heartbreak of hurting people you love.

JUNIOR'S LEG- Ken Wells

Can a one-legged alcoholic womanizing bully turn his life around? This funny but touching book is lighthearted and gives one hope; if this guy can do it, anyone can!

BETWEEN SISTERS- Kristin Hannah

Two sisters, estranged for years, reunite for the younger one's wedding and try to find their way back to each other.

MARRIAGE A DUET- Anne Taylor Fleming

The consequences of infidelity as told by two points of view, a man's and a woman's. Very intense.

THE CRYING HEART TATTOO- David Martin

I read this book every couple years because it is one of the most touching love stories I have ever read. It is the story of a lifelong affair between a man and an eccentric, beautiful, unconventional much older woman. Only Mt Washington has a copy. What I love about reading is coming across a book like this that can make you cry no matter how many times you read it.

THE WAY TO SOMEWHERE- Angie Day

Growing up and finding yourself is tough and this story explores this subject beautifully. This is a gem of a book by a talented new author

A MILLION LITTLE PIECES- James Frey (non-fiction)

I saw this author being interviewed and was intrigued enough to read the book and I am glad I did. It is a harrowing tale of addiction from a first-hand personal account. This guy's life is like a train wreck that you can't look away from. His views on recovery and what works for him is different and honest and unlike anything I have ever read on the subject. Also recommended by my daughter!

That's it for a while!

By the way, Oprah's new selection East of Eden, is wonderful and well worth reading if you haven't already.