

## For the Love of Reading

# H is for Hawk

I almost became a falconer once. The ad promised you hands-on training for catching raptors, and you would be working with ones needing care, so it seemed like the perfect volunteer gig. However, our time in California was drawing to a close, so I never got to experience the drama and force of a raptor landing on my gloved hand. But, wow, did I love this book.

This memoir artfully intertwines three stories: Helen's experience training her first goshawk, her grieving for her father, and author T. H. White's mixed results raising falcons and hawks. All these stories are told powerfully, and the subject is so interesting that I found the book riveting. Training the small fierce goshawk Mable (the author chose the name as something opposite of what you'd expect) for a few hours every day away took Helen from her disabling grief over her father's sudden death on the street taking pictures for his job. At one point, Macdonald describes his last photograph--at street level, a line of blurs and a patch of sky as her father fell and died from a heart attack. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on May 13, 2015

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# Winner of the 2015 Rosie Award: The Loners by Lex Thomas



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The [Eliot Rosewater Indiana High School Book Award](#) winner for 2015 is *The Loners* by Lex Thomas! Indiana high school students read [25 nominated titles](#) and voted for their favorite. Honor titles are *Every Day* by David Levithan and *Pushing the Limits* by Katie McGarry.

*The Loners* is the story of a group of teens in an extraordinary situation, "When a virus deadly to adults infects their high school, brothers David and Will and the other students soon break into gangs that fight each other for survival and the hope of escaping their quarantine." Check it out if you like dystopias, adventures, or stories of survival!

The list of nominees for the [2016 Eliot Rosewater](#) award are also available. Start reading now and then vote for your favorite! You could help decide next year's winner!

Posted by Becky F. on May 9, 2015

[The Loners](#)

[Teens](#)

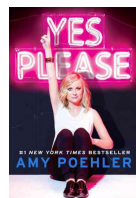
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## While You're Waiting...Yes Please



[Yes Please by Amy Poehler](#)

SNL star and honorary Hoosier (it's okay to call her that, right? Is any fictional character a better example of a Hoosier than Leslie Knope?) has gifted us with a collection of biographical essays and comical observations. In them we learn about Poehler's start in improv with the Upright Citizen's Brigade and her reoccurring role as Andy Richter's little sister Stacy on the Late Night With Conan O'Brien Show. When recounting her rise to fame, Poehler is filled with humility and praise for those around her. While there are plenty of laugh out loud moments in the book, a strong message of empowerment permeates throughout. Not a self-help book, but at times it feels like Amy Poehler is your own personal cheerleader.



[Bossypants by Tina Fey](#)

Written by Amy Poehler's real life BFF and fellow SNL alumna, Fey's book is also a collection of humorous stories but also includes thoughtful observations about being a woman in charge in a field primarily dominated by men. Through the more personal essays we see Fey's transformation from an awkward, intelligent little girl to a writer and star of SNL. Protip- listen to the audiobook! Fey's delivery is priceless!



[My Boyfriend Wrote a Book About Me: And Other Stories I Shouldn't Share with](#)

[Acquaintances, Coworkers, Taxi drivers, Assistants, Job Interviewers, ... and Ex/Current/Future Boyfriends but Have by Hilary Winston](#)

Hilary Winston was perusing a Los Angeles bookstore when she stumbled upon the newly published book by her ex-boyfriend. Against better judgment she picked it up to read the summary-and found it shockingly familiar. As in it was a fictional account of her relationship with him, and fictional Hilary was referred to a number of times by an unsavory nickname. Winston, a

writer for the TV shows *Community* and *My Name is Earl* decides to write her own book-and filled it with stories of doomed relationships, awkward situations, stories about the Olive Garden, and cats.



### Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me? (And Other Concerns) by Mindy Kaling

You may recognize Kaling as Kelly from *The Office* or from *The Mindy Project*. *Is Everyone?* is a tour of Kaling's life through stories, anecdotes, lists and pictures. Fun fact: Kaling rose to fame after portraying Ben Affleck in an off-Broadway show titled *'Matt and Ben.'* More a conversation than a memoir, Kaling's book is quirky and pleasant and a great way to spend an afternoon. Highlights include: 'narcissistic Blackberry' photos; Irish Exits; and why do men put their shoes on so slowly? Look for Kaling's next book *Why Me* later this year!



### I Was Told There'd Be Cake by Sloan Crosley

Sloane Crosley doesn't work in television-though she has appeared on an episode of *Gossip Girl*, but her collection of essays are on par with the hilarious and talented women mentioned above. Crosley focuses on the oddity and selfishness of adulthood. Her essays are highly entertaining and relatable, especially for those who grew up in the late 80s/early 90s. Highlights include: The Oregon Trail (computer game not historical event); an out of control *My Little Pony* Collection and despoiling a butterfly exhibit at the Natural History Museum.

Posted by Jacoba W. on May 5, 2015

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## Outline



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This quiet introspective read is not for everyone. In it, British novelist Rachel Cusk, examines relationships and self-identity in a series of ten conversations that make up the book. The action occurs in the span of one week while a narrator travels to Greece for a week long writing seminar that she is teaching.

Caveat: this is one of the most unusual novels I have ever read. The author's voice is sure, steady, and at times mesmerizing. It's not an action novel in any sense, but rich with everyday life in a way that recalls Virginia Woolf's works. Philosophical with wry humor and a deep sense of what makes people tick.

The first dialogue begins on the plane with her seatmate, a wealthy Greek, who is twice, make that thrice divorced. As happens so often in life, the two passengers share many secrets about their lives. We learn that the Greek has a disabled brother and disabled child. His ex, the mother of his son, wanted to institutionalize the boy, but the [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on May 5, 2015

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## While You're Waiting...The Martian

The Martian has taken the literary world by storm. It has become such a hit that the movie based off the novel will be released in November of this year. While you're waiting for your copy of the Martian to come in, why not give one of these titles a try.



### The Martian by Andy Weir

A team of six astronauts is in the beginning stages of their mission on Mars when a dust storm unexpectedly interrupts their work on the surface of the Red Planet. Three of the astronauts see Mark Watney hit by debris and assume he is dead. They can't recover his body and save themselves so they leave him on Mars while they make the long journey back to Earth. Unfortunately for Mark, he was only knocked unconscious and now has to figure out a way to survive on the unforgiving planet for four more years until the next mission is scheduled to arrive. Told mostly through diary entries written by Mark, this science fiction (emphasis on science) novel is funny, suspenseful and fast-paced. Weir is able to explain highly technical and complex processes in language that novices can understand and keep up with. This is the ultimate novel about survival in harsh and lonely conditions.



### I Am Legend by Richard Matheson

Robert Neville is the last man living on Earth. An incurable plague that somehow Robert is immune to, has taken over the planet and turned every human into a vampire. Robert spends his days in hiding and his nights hunting down the non-living. He teeters on the edge of sanity as he grapples with the meaning of life and survival when he is the only one of his species left. A stressful and intense short story, I Am Legend is an essential story of survival and a testament to the human drive to survive.



### Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne

French naturalist Dr. Aronnax begins an expedition to hunt down a sea monster but upon discovering the *Nautilus*- a futuristic submarine, he becomes a prisoner of its creator, Captain Nemo. Together Dr. Aronnax and Captain Nemo explore the majesties of the ocean. A futuristic novel of many years past, Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea is a fantastical story of exploration and survival.



### Into the Wild Jon Krakauer

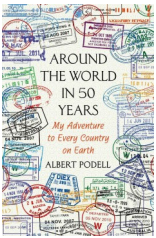
Into the Wild isn't Science Fiction. Instead it's the real life story of exploration and survival. Chris McCandless was a young man who gave his possessions away and embarked on a journey into the wilds of Alaska-and whose body was found a mere four months later. Investigative reporter Jon Krakauer pieces together McCandless's journey and delivers a haunting and thought provoking account of one young man's adventure.

Posted by [Jacoba W.](#) on April 29, 2015

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## Around the World in 50 Days: my adventure to every country on Earth



[view in catalog](#)

I'm not one for doing the whole of anything: the Appalachian Trail, canoeing the Amazon, skiing across Antarctica, but yes I can see the attraction of visiting every country in the world. The problem is that it is a moving target. Governments change, countries come and go, and unless you are super rich doing the world in a timely fashion is not possible.

Yet the inventive, gutsy, rule-breaking Podell finally managed to complete them all though it did take a half century. He began his foreign travels with a quick trip to Canada when he was 24. And yes, he considered this international travel light.

He just completed a degree in international studies. A few years later, as editor of an adventure magazine, he decided he was tired of sending people off on exotic jaunts and staying home, so he set off with a friend to complete the longest land journey ever attempted with his good friend Steve. They got sponsors to pay for the trip and hired a photographer. [Read more](#)

Posted by [Dory L.](#) on April 22, 2015

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