

## The Battle For Christmas Stephen Nissenbaum

Stephen King's tale of a possessed 1958 Plymouth Fury. Arnie buys an old Plymouth that has mystical powers to possess and destroy. She purrs like a kitten ... but watch out when she roars.

From the Pulitzer Prize finalist *The Battle for Christmas*, here is the story of America's first reported Christmas tree: a tale of antislavery and radical German philosophy, a popular British travel writer and Boston Brahmin elites, the education of nineteenth-century children and candles blowing in the wind. Now-forgotten chronicler Harriet Martineau immortalized what became known as the first American Christmas tree, set up in the house of her friend Charles Follen. But she neglected to explain what brought the two of them together in the first place: a passion for abolition. Martineau also failed to mention Follen's convoluted path to America, from banished German radical to Harvard professor and U.S. citizen. Stephen Nissenbaum explains all in this amusing and somewhat astonishing expose of the Christmas tree, taken from his definitive and award-winning history of Christmas in America. An eBook short.

Is it possible to be a young child and love whole, plant-based foods? It sure is, and Stan of Stan the Plant-eater is a shining example. *Stan the Plant-eater* is a fun and entertaining book that is simple and to-the-point for young children. Through the use of rhythmic poetry, children are encouraged to eat whole, plant-based foods and be friends with animals. Stan is a young boy who is a compassionate, kind and loving role-model. He is very excited about healthy food and eating lots of it. But, there are some things that he just won't eat. Young children, as well as the adult reading with them, are provided with ideas for meals and for ways to be kind to

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animals. Stan the Plant-eater presents the message of health and non-violence in a style that captures the hearts and laughter of children.

Anyone who laments the excesses of Christmas might consider the Puritans of colonial Massachusetts: they simply outlawed the holiday. The Puritans had their reasons, since Christmas was once an occasion for drunkenness and riot, when poor "wassailers extorted food and drink from the well-to-do. In this intriguing and innovative work of social history, Stephen Nissenbaum rediscovers Christmas's carnival origins and shows how it was transformed, during the nineteenth century, into a festival of domesticity and consumerism. Drawing on a wealth of period documents and illustrations, Nissenbaum charts the invention of our current Yuletide traditions, from St. Nicholas to the Christmas tree and, perhaps most radically, the practice of giving gifts to children. Bursting with detail, filled with subversive readings of such seasonal classics as "A Visit from St. Nicholas" and A Christmas Carol, *The Battle for Christmas* captures the glorious strangeness of the past even as it helps us better understand our present.

After training and practicing for the auditions, Andy's friends excelled. Andy, however, failed miserably. When the positions were posted, his worst fears came true he was the only angel not given a job for the birth of Lord Jesus. Would Andy be the only angel not to have an assignment for this climactic event? How did Heaven defend Bethlehem from the onslaught of Lucifer and his horde of demons?

November, 1942: Japanese and American forces fight for control of Guadalcanal. Amid a seeming stalemate, a group of U.S. Navy carrier airmen helped form the Cactus Air Force, a motley assemblage of Marine, Air Force, and carrier-less Navy airmen tasked with holding the

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line. Under constant assault by the Japanese, pilots and gunners rarely lasted more than a few weeks. Yet when the Japanese attempted to take the island once and for all, these men miraculously turned back a warship armada, fighter planes, and a convoy of troops.

Vowing to reclaim the land of his fathers, Zeniff leads a company of Nephites deep into Lamanite territory. But the Lamanites have other plans for them. Can Zeniff defend his city against the Lamanite armies? Will his ambitious son Noah seize the crown? Can the prophet Abinadi save the city from its own wickedness? Adventure, war, betrayal, and redemption await you in iPlates Volume 1, an award-winning comic series based on the Book of Mormon. Winner of the American Book Award Based on the author's own experiences, this award-winning novel was the first to tell the story of the evacuation, relocation, and dispersal of Canadian citizens of Japanese ancestry during the Second World War.

The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus is a 1902 children's book, written by L. Frank Baum and illustrated by Mary Cowles Clark

True Confessions of a Trendsetter Hi! I'm Kat. Welcome to my blog. I may be from a small town but I'm also Glitter Girl Cosmetics' newest trendsetter. Thanks to my flair for fashion and my popular style blog, I've been chosen to be an Alpha Girl, which means I get to try out all the Glitter Girl products before they hit the stores. Forty-eight hours after she blogs about the goodies in the new line, every girl at Kat's school is sporting the gear. Kat's popularity skyrockets, but Jules—Kat's BFF—seems to be the only one who's not buying into the Glitter Girl lifestyle. Is Kat willing to sacrifice her friendship for life in the fab lane?

Argues that the secularization of Christmas violates the free expression of Christian traditions and contradicts the intentions of America's founders, in an account that cites state and

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corporate rulings against the practice of certain traditions.

Although physical travel between the stars is impossible because of the vast distances involved, communication is instantaneous. There are a couple of different ways to visit alien worlds: veering (using virtual reality to project images), and teeping (using telepresence to control robotic bodies on the other planet). It's even possible to engage in trade, licensing the rights to books, art, inventions, and other intellectual property. Deborah Rabinowitz is a literary broker. She veers to alien worlds and sells the publishing rights to Earth books. But when an alien is murdered right before her eyes, there's no way she can keep from being involved and solving the murder herself. Then, when an old friend is accused of a murder on a different world, Deborah has to become a lawyer and defend her friend before a kangaroo court by solving that murder, too.

Stephen Bungay's magisterial history is acclaimed as the account of the Battle of Britain. Unrivalled for its synthesis of all previous historical accounts, for the quality of its strategic analysis and its truly compulsive narrative, this is a book ultimately distinguished by its conclusions – that it was the British in the Battle who displayed all the virtues of efficiency, organisation and even ruthlessness we habitually attribute to the Germans, and they who fell short in their amateurism, ill-preparedness, poor engineering and even in their old-fashioned notions of gallantry. An engrossing read for the military scholar and the general reader alike, this is a classic of military history that looks beyond the mythology, to explore all the tragedy and comedy; the brutality and compassion of war.

Machell tells the remarkable true story of a modern-day Robin Hood: a British college student who started robbing banks in the aftermath of the financial crisis of 2007.

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A critically acclaimed New York Times bestselling author explores the Christmas holiday, from the original festival through present day traditions. Christmas has always been a magical time. Or has it? Thirty years after the first recorded Christmas, the Pope was already warning that too many people were spending the day, not in worship, but in partying and eating to excess. By 1616, the playwright Ben Jonson was nostalgically remembering Christmas in the old days, certain that it had been better then. Other elements of Christmas are much newer – who would have thought gift-wrap is a novelty of the twentieth century? That the first holiday parade was neither at Macy's, nor even in the USA? Some things, however, never change. The first known gag holiday gift book, *The Boghouse Miscellany*, was advertised in the 1760s 'for gay Gallants, and good companions', while in 1805, the leaders of the Lewis and Clark expedition exchanged – what else? – presents of underwear and socks. Christmas is all things to all people: a religious festival, a family celebration, a period of eating and drinking. In *Christmas: A Biography*, bestselling author and acclaimed social historian Judith Flanders casts a sharp eye on myths, legends and history, deftly moving from the origins of the holiday in the Roman empire, through Christmas trees in central Europe, to what might be the first appearance of Santa Claus – in Switzerland – to draw a picture of the season as it has never been seen before.

Instant New York Times Bestseller One of Fall 2019's Best Books (People, EW, Lithub, Vox, Washington Post, and more) A young boy is haunted by a voice in his head in this acclaimed epic of literary horror from the author of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. Christopher is seven years old. Christopher is the new kid in town. Christopher has an imaginary friend. We can swallow our fear or let our fear swallow us. Single mother Kate Reese is on the run.

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Determined to improve life for her and her son, Christopher, she flees an abusive relationship in the middle of the night with her child. Together, they find themselves drawn to the tight-knit community of Mill Grove, Pennsylvania. It's as far off the beaten track as they can get. Just one highway in, one highway out. At first, it seems like the perfect place to finally settle down. Then Christopher vanishes. For six long days, no one can find him. Until Christopher emerges from the woods at the edge of town, unharmed but not unchanged. He returns with a voice in his head only he can hear, with a mission only he can complete: Build a treehouse in the woods by Christmas, or his mother and everyone in the town will never be the same again. Twenty years ago, Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* made readers everywhere feel infinite. Now, Chbosky has returned with an epic work of literary horror, years in the making, whose grand scale and rich emotion redefine the genre. Read it with the lights on.

"A few days ago, I was walking home from school. The sun had left, the rain had come, and my Spider-Man backpack was getting soaked. But I danced in the puddles and sang to the sky because that's what you do when the clouds grow dark." Royce is a ten-year-old boy trying to make sense of the world around him. Why are people afraid? What makes people cry? Why does hatred exist? How should you love others? Through a series of journal entries, Royce chronicles his school year of pain, racial injustice, and what it is like to see the world through the eyes of a child. Laurie is a grieving mother who cannot let go of her past. All she has is bitterness and rage-questions with no answers. In order to find true healing, she must embark on a journey that unveils the root of her pain and forces her to face the demons she has spent her life trying to forget. As their fates collide, Royce and Laurie will venture into an alternate reality to explore the truth behind some of life's most difficult questions and unleash the power

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that lies in new beginnings. TO DANCE will inspire you to find peace amidst your pain, to find significance within your pain, and to find freedom despite your pain. The journey to redemption starts now . . . THERE IS SIGNIFICANCE IN YOUR SUFFERING

The daughter of a Chinese mother and a Japanese father, Gail Tsukiyama's *The Samurai's Garden* uses the Japanese invasion of China during the late 1930s as a somber backdrop for this extraordinary story. A 20-year-old Chinese painter named Stephen is sent to his family's summer home in a Japanese coastal village to recover from a bout with tuberculosis. Here he is cared for by Matsu, a reticent housekeeper and a master gardener. Over the course of a remarkable year, Stephen learns Matsu's secret and gains not only physical strength, but also profound spiritual insight. Matsu is a samurai of the soul, a man devoted to doing good and finding beauty in a cruel and arbitrary world, and Stephen is a noble student, learning to appreciate Matsu's generous and nurturing way of life and to love Matsu's soulmate, gentle Sachi, a woman afflicted with leprosy.

“Every Who down in Who-ville liked Christmas a lot . . . but the Grinch, who lived just north of Who-ville, did NOT!” Not since “’Twas the night before Christmas” has the beginning of a Christmas tale been so instantly recognizable. No holiday season is complete without the Grinch, Max, Cindy-Lou, and all the residents of Who-ville, in this heartwarming story about the effects of the Christmas spirit on even the smallest and coldest of hearts. Like mistletoe, candy canes, and caroling, the Grinch is a mainstay of the holidays, and his story is the perfect gift for young and old. This Read & Listen edition contains audio narration.

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"A 22-volume, highly illustrated, A-Z general encyclopedia for all ages, featuring sections on how to use World Book, other research aids, pronunciation key, a student guide to better writing, speaking, and research skills, and comprehensive index"--

In this world you're surrounded by sexual images that open the door to temptation. They're everywhere—on TV, billboards, magazines, music, the internet—and so easy to access that it sometimes feels impossible to escape their clutches. Yet God expects his children to be sexually pure. So how can you survive the relentless battle against temptation? Here's powerful ammunition. Steve Arterburn and Fred Stoeker, the authors of the hard-hitting best-seller *Every Man's Battle*, now focus on the temptations young single Christian men like you face every day—and they offer workable, biblical strategies for achieving sexual purity. The authors examine the standard of Ephesians 5:3—"there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality"—in a positive and sensitive light. And they explain how an authentic, vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ is the key to victory over temptation. *Every Young Man's Battle* will show you how to train your eyes and your mind, how to clean up your thought life, and how to develop a realistic battle plan for remaining pure in today's sexually soaked culture. As a result, you'll experience hope—real hope—for living a strong, pure life God's way.

Before there was Santa Claus, there was a young boy who believed in the impossible. . . . Lemony Snicket meets Klaus in this warmhearted Christmas caper. Eleven-year-old Nikolus—nicknamed "Christmas"—has received only one toy in his life: a doll carved out



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of a turnip. But he's happy with his turnip doll, because it came from his parents, who love him. Then one day his father goes missing, and Nikolas must travel to the North Pole to save him. Along the way, Nikolas befriends a surly reindeer, bests a troublesome troll, and discovers a hidden world of enchantment in the frozen village of Elfhelm. But the elves of Elfhelm have troubles of their own: Christmas spirit and goodwill are at an all-time low, and Nikolas may be the only person who can fix things—if only he can reach his father before it's too late. . . . Sparkling with wit and warmth, *A Boy Called Christmas* is a cheeky new Christmas classic-in-the-making from acclaimed author Matt Haig and illustrator Chris Mould. "Irresistibly readable. Destined to become a Christmas and anytime-before-or-after-Christmas classic!" --Chris Grabenstein, New York Times bestselling author of *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* "The definitive (and funny) history of ho, ho, ho! My children loved it." —Yann Martel, bestselling author of *Life of Pi* "The most evergreen, immortal Christmas story to be published for decades." —Stephen Fry "Humorous and heartfelt, *A Boy Called Christmas* will grow your heart three sizes and make you believe in magic." --Liesl Shurtliff, New York Times bestselling author of *Rump* "Matt Haig has an empathy for the human condition, the light and the dark of it, and he uses the full palette to build his excellent stories."—Neil Gaiman, Newbery-winning author of *The Graveyard Book*

Restoring Prophetic Watchmen imparts apostolic insight concerning the need for "Watchmen" in the Church today. The Spirit of the Lord is stirring intercessors, prophets

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and seers in these days and causing them to lift their voices like trumpets once again and sound holy alarms as the watchmen of old. May you receive enlightenment as you read this book.

Explores the implications of the statute

A million pages of new World War II codebreaking records have been released by the U.S. Army and Navy and the British government over the last five years. Now, *Battle of Wits* presents the history of the war that these documents reveal. From the Battle of Midway until the last German code was broken in January 1945, this is an astonishing epic of a war that was won not simply by brute strength but also by reading the enemy's intentions. The revelations of Stephen Budiansky's dramatic history include how Britain tried to manipulate the American codebreakers and monopolize German Enigma code communications; the first detailed published explanations of how the Japanese codes were broken; and how the American codebreaking machines worked to crack the Japanese, the German, and even the Russian diplomatic codes. This is the story of the Allied codebreakers puzzling through the most difficult codebreaking problems that ever existed. At the same time, the compelling narrative shows the crucial effect codebreaking had on the battle-fields by explaining the urgency of stopping the wolf pack U-boat attacks in the North Atlantic, the burning desire in the United States to turn the tide of the war after Pearl Harbor, the importance of halting Rommel's tanks in North Africa, and the necessity of ensuring that the Germans believed the Allies'

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audacious deception and cover plans for D-Day. Budiansky brings to life the unsung code-breaking heroes of this secret war: Joseph J. Rochefort, an intense and driven naval officer who ran the codebreaking operation in "The Dungeon", a dank basement at Pearl Harbor, that effectively won the Battle of Midway; Alan Turing, the eccentric father of the computerage, whose brilliant electromechanical calculators broke the German Enigma machine; and Ian Fleming, whose daredevil espionage schemes to recover codebooks resembled the plots of the 007 novels he later wrote. Among the villains, we meet the Nazi Admiral Donitz, who led the submarine wolf packs against Allied shipping in the North Atlantic with horrific casualty rates -- until the codebreakers stopped him. Budiansky, a Harvard-trained mathematician, demonstrates the mathematical insight and creativity of the cryptographers by showing step-by-step precisely how the codes were broken. This technology -- the flow of information, its encryption, and the computational methods of recovering it from the enemy -- had never before been so important to the outcome of a war. Informative diagrams, maps, appendices, and photographs show exactly how, why, and where the secret war was won. Unveiled for the first time, the complete story of codebreaking in World War II has now been told.

When Mr Underbed keeps him awake at night, shaking the bed and snoring loudly, Jim reaches for his earmuffs... only to get more than he bargained for! Sparking controversy in 2017 when it was compared to the Moz the Monster John Lewis Christmas ad, this

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classic picture book is the perfect monster under the bed tale, packed to the rafters with humour.

Guides young women to make the right choices to maintain sexual purity, focusing on self-acceptance and the damaging influences of the over-sexualized media.

The Battle for ChristmasVintage

Thomas Hardy (2nd June 1840 – 11th January 1928) was an English novelist and poet. He was influenced by Romanticism and it has been reflected in his novels and poetry. He was criticised by the Victorian society on the issue of the declining status of rural people in Britain. He was basically a poet. Initially he started writing poems. But he gained fame after his novels, such as – Far from the Madding Crowd, The Mayor of Casterbridge, Tess of the d'Urbervilles and Jude the Obscure. Two of his novels, 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles' and 'Far from the Madding Crowd', were listed in top 50 on the BBC survey- The Big Read. The story of 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles' revolves around a 16 year old very simple girl, named Tess Durbeyfield, who is the eldest daughter of John and Joan Durbeyfield. Since the family suffers acute financial crisis, so they approach the d'Urbervilles family who are holding huge land and having lot of money. There Tess meets Alec d'Urberville, who finds himself attracted to Tess. When Tess started working as a caretaker of Alec's blind mother's poultry farm, Alec gets an opportunity to rape her. After that there are many ups and down in Tess' life. She meets Mr. Crick for another job. She also meets one more fellow Angel Clare, who is a travelling farmer's apprentice. They marry each other. But after knowing her story, again there is a turn in Tess' life. How she manages all such situation, how she meets all the financial aspects, lot of things happen with

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Tess. Even Alec and Angel both start searching for Tess. So, the story has become very interesting, full of climax. How Tess meets Alec or Angel? Whether she gets involved with any of these two again? There are so many presumptions. Readers will surely enjoy the story, full of suspense and never expected ups & downs in the life of all the characters. At last, how Angel helps Tess and her family is the climax. Go ahead and must grab the book. A must read book for self development and how to be a good leader.

This Graphic Novel Series features classic tales retold with attractive color illustrations. Educators using the Dale-Chall vocabulary system adapted each title. Each 70 page, softcover book retains key phrases and quotations from the original classics. Introduce literature to reluctant readers and motivate struggling readers. Students build confidence through reading practice. Motivation makes all the difference. What's more motivation than the expectation of success?

WHEN OUR WORLD ENDED, THEIR MISSION BEGAN The Sixty Minute War brought humanity to the brink of annihilation. Billions perished. The planet Earth was turned into a virtual graveyard, with the shattered, burned-out skeletons of great cities serving as tombstones marking Mankind's demise. But in the United States, one final outpost remains. Ten years have passed, and Harmony Base, a subterranean U.S. Army installation that survived the nuclear inferno, has yet to receive any response to its continual radio transmissions. Long-range surface reconnaissance missions fail to locate any other survivors. Harmony's personnel, a mix of military and civilian specialists, wonder if they are the only living beings left on the planet. Earthquake damage to the base's vital power plant necessitates a different type of mission: the retrieval of spare parts from a storage depot in San Jose, 1,600

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miles distant. Captain Mike Andrews and his crew set out across a Giger-inspired landscape blighted by lightning storms and deadly hazards that could swallow their all-terrain vehicles whole. The last thing Andrews expects to encounter in the nuked ruins of San Jose are survivors led by a twisted freak with mental powers off the scale... Harmony is America's last chance to rise up from the ashes of the nuclear holocaust and help restore civilization. But only if Andrews and his crew can escape San Jose...and the madman who calls himself The Law. Note: 50% of the proceeds from this book will be donated to a mental health organization focused on helping anxiety, depression, and suicide.\* Hey YOU! Yes... you... the (really cool) person reading the back summary of this book. How are you? Having a good day? Since you are reading the back cover of this book I'm guessing that you're curious what the heck it's about. Right? Well, let me tell you, this ain't no children's book. Full of love, sex, anxiety, and depression this book will chew you up and spit you back out before chapter 4. The story begins with me, sitting in a cafe with my girlfriend of three months. Overcome by love, I (stupidly) decide to proclaim my love for her in the middle of a coffee shop. "I love you. And I know that one day I'm supposed to marry you." Man... do I regret that moment -/ I wish I could tell you that the awkwardness stops there but that would be a bold faced lie. If I was in marketing (I'm not) I would say something like... "From navigating online dating apps and relationships, to self-centered friends, and emotionally abusive alcoholics, James (that's me!) constantly feels like he's at the bottom of the social food chain. His only comfort is his love for music, which displays itself in the form of original lyrics throughout the book. One crazy day, James runs into Nikki, a bold, spit-fire, do-things-her-own-way type of person who changes his world-view forever." Well... If you made it down here I'd say this book is for you. If you didn't, oh well.

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#YOURLOSSBUDDY. Thanks for all the memories, James Merllot (The Protagonist of this story) \*Donation will be made once a year in December. See [www.alwayswearheadphones.com](http://www.alwayswearheadphones.com) for more details.

It: Chapter Two—now a major motion picture! Stephen King’s terrifying, classic #1 New York Times bestseller, “a landmark in American literature” (Chicago Sun-Times)—about seven adults who return to their hometown to confront a nightmare they had first stumbled on as teenagers...an evil without a name: It. Welcome to Derry, Maine. It’s a small city, a place as hauntingly familiar as your own hometown. Only in Derry the haunting is real. They were seven teenagers when they first stumbled upon the horror. Now they are grown-up men and women who have gone out into the big world to gain success and happiness. But the promise they made twenty-eight years ago calls them reunite in the same place where, as teenagers, they battled an evil creature that preyed on the city’s children. Now, children are being murdered again and their repressed memories of that terrifying summer return as they prepare to once again battle the monster lurking in Derry’s sewers. Readers of Stephen King know that Derry, Maine, is a place with a deep, dark hold on the author. It reappears in many of his books, including Bag of Bones, Hearts in Atlantis, and 11/22/63. But it all starts with It. “Stephen King’s most mature work” (St. Petersburg Times), “It will overwhelm you...to be read in a well-lit room only” (Los Angeles Times).

Beginning 2,000 years before Christ's birth, this book explains traditions associated with Christmas and their true origins. Color illustrations.

The figure of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906–1945) has become a clay puppet in modern American politics. Secular, radical, liberal, and evangelical interpreters variously shape and mold the

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martyr's legacy to suit their own pet agendas. Stephen Haynes offers an incisive and clarifying perspective. A recognized Bonhoeffer expert, Haynes examines "populist" readings of Bonhoeffer, including the acclaimed biography by Eric Metaxas, *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy*. In his analysis Haynes treats, among other things, the November 2016 election of Donald Trump and the "Bonhoeffer moment" announced by evangelicals in response to the US Supreme Court's 2015 decision to legalize same-sex marriage. *The Battle for Bonhoeffer* includes an open letter from Haynes pointedly addressing Christians who still support Trump. Bonhoeffer's legacy matters. Haynes redeems the life and the man.

Inspired by the Kendrick Brothers' new movie, *War Room*, this exciting new resource from the #1 best-selling author team behind *The Love Dare* and *The Resolution for Men* is designed to help anyone learn how to become a powerful person of prayer. *The Battle Plan for Prayer* begins with prayer's core purpose, its biblical design, and its impact throughout history. Readers will be guided scripturally through the fundamentals of how effective prayer works, inspired towards a closer, more intimate relationship with God, and shown how to develop specific prayer strategies for each area of life. Prayer can accomplish what a willing God can accomplish. It should be your first plan of attack in all of life's battles, not your last resort. If you want to experience the joy of mightily answered prayer, then it's time to engage with God at another level.

Luther and Nora Krank are fed up with the chaos of Christmas. The endless shopping lists, the frenzied dashes through the mall, the hassle of decorating the tree... where has all the joy gone? This year, celebrating seems like too much effort. With their only



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child off in Peru, they decide that just this once, they'll skip the holidays. They spend their Christmas budget on a Caribbean cruise set to sail on December 25, and happily settle in for a restful holiday season free of rooftop snowmen and festive parties. But the Kranks soon learn that their vacation from Christmas isn't much of a vacation at all, and that skipping the holidays has consequences they didn't bargain for... A modern Christmas classic, *Skipping Christmas* is a charming and hilarious look at the mayhem and madness that have become ingrained in our holiday tradition. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from John Grisham's *The Litigators*.

The host of the award-winning humorous news program offers tongue-in-cheek insight into American democracy with coverage of such topics as the republican qualities of ancient Rome, the antics of our nation's founders, and the ludicrous nature of today's media.

After he confesses to murder, a sleuthing English teacher will need a Christmas miracle to prove a condemned man innocent

"In a fascinating, concise tour through history, the book tells the story of Christmas—from its pre-Christian roots, through the birth of Jesus, to the holiday's spread across Europe into the Americas and beyond, and to its mind-boggling transformation through modern consumer culture."--Page 2 of cover.

The tie-in edition of the nine-part CBS All Access series starring Whoopi Goldberg, Alexander Skarsgard, and James Marsden. When a man escapes from a biological

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testing facility, he sets in motion a deadly domino effect, spreading a mutated strain of the flu that will wipe out 99 percent of humanity within a few weeks. The survivors who remain are scared, bewildered, and in need of a leader. Two emerge--Mother Abigail, the benevolent 108-year-old woman who urges them to build a peaceful community in Boulder, Colorado; and Randall Flagg, the nefarious "Dark Man," who delights in chaos and violence. As the dark man and the peaceful woman gather power, the survivors will have to choose between them--and ultimately decide the fate of all humanity.

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