

Best Sellers

This Week	FICTION	Last Week	Weeks On List	This Week	NONFICTION	Last Week	Weeks On List
1	THE APPEAL , by John Grisham. (Doubleday, \$27.95.) Political and legal intrigue ensue when a Mississippi court decides against a chemical company accused of dumping toxic waste.	1	4	1	LIBERAL FASCISM , by Jonah Goldberg. (Doubleday, \$27.95.) This "alternative history of American liberalism ... reveals its roots in, and commonalities with, classical fascism."	7	7
2	STRANGERS IN DEATH , by J.D. Robb. (Putnam, \$25.95.) Lt. Eve Dallas investigates a businessman's scandalous death; by Nora Roberts, writing pseudonymously.		1	2	IN DEFENSE OF FOOD , by Michael Pollan. (Penguin Press, \$21.95.) A manifesto urges us to "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants."	1	8
3	7TH HEAVEN , by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro. (Little, Brown, \$27.99.) In San Francisco, Detective Lindsay Boxer and the Women's Murder Club hunt for an arsonist and a missing teenager.	2	3	3	THE AGE OF AMERICAN UNREASON , by Susan Jacoby. (Pantheon, \$26.) Are Americans hostile to knowledge?	6	2
4	LADY KILLER , by Lisa Scottoline. (Harper, \$25.95.) When her high-school rival disappears, possibly as a result of foul play, a Philadelphia lawyer must confront her past.		1	4	RECONCILIATION , by Benazir Bhutto. (Harper/HarperCollins, \$27.95.) A posthumous look at Islam, democracy and the West, by Pakistan's former prime minister and assassinated opposition leader.	2	2
5	DUMA KEY , by Stephen King. (Scribner, \$28.) A Minnesota contractor moves to Florida to recover from an injury and begins to create paintings with mysterious power.	3	5	5	PREDICTABLY IRRATIONAL , by Dan Ariely. (Harper, \$25.95.) An M.I.T. behavioral economist shows how emotions and social norms systematically shape our behavior.		1
6	A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS , by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, \$25.95.) A friendship between two women in Afghanistan against the backdrop of 30 years of war.	4	40	6	I AM AMERICA (AND SO CAN YOU!) , by Stephen Colbert, Richard Dahm, Paul Dinello, Allison Silverman et al. (Grand Central, \$26.99.) The wit and wisdom of the mock pundit of Comedy Central's "Colbert Report."	5	20
7	WORLD WITHOUT END , by Ken Follett. (Dutton, \$35.) Love and intrigue in Kingsbridge, the medieval English cathedral town at the center of Follett's "Pillars of the Earth."	6	20	7	AN INCONVENIENT BOOK , by Glenn Beck and Kevin Balfie. (Threshold Editions, \$26.) Beck's solutions to problems including global warming and political correctness.	4	14
8	THE KILLING GROUND , by Jack Higgins. (Putnam, \$25.95.) A spy helps a man whose family has terrorist ties.	7	2	8	REAL CHANGE , by Newt Gingrich with Vince Haley and Rick Tyler. (Regnery, \$27.95.) How to build a better America, from the former speaker of the House.	3	6
9	STRANGER IN PARADISE , by Robert B. Parker. (Putnam, \$25.95.) Jesse Stone, the police chief of Paradise, Mass., must protect a hit man's intended victim.	5	3	9*	GOD'S PROBLEM , by Bart D. Ehrman. (HarperOne, \$25.95.) A scholar examines the Bible's contradictory pronouncements on the meaning of suffering.		1
10	THE FIRST PATIENT , by Michael Palmer. (St. Martin's, \$25.95.) When he becomes doctor to his old friend the president, a country physician discovers a conspiracy to kill him.		1	10	MANIC , by Terri Cheney. (Morrow, \$24.95.) A memoir of life with bipolar disorder.		1
11	PEOPLE OF THE BOOK , by Geraldine Brooks. (Viking, \$25.95.) An expert unlocks the secrets of a rare manuscript.	8	8	11	THE REASON FOR GOD , by Timothy Keller. (Dutton, \$24.95.) A minister addresses common doubts and defends faith in a Christian God.		1
12	PLUM LUCKY , by Janet Evanovich. (St. Martin's, \$17.95.) Stephanie's grandmother finds a bag of cash and goes gambling in Atlantic City, pursued by the money's owner.	9	7	12*	SEND YOURSELF ROSES , by Kathleen Turner with Gloria Feldt. (Springboard, \$24.99.) A leading lady's life.	11	2
13	THE SENATOR'S WIFE , by Sue Miller. (Knopf, \$24.95.) A woman lives with her husband's persistent infidelity.	10	7	13	THIS REPUBLIC OF SUFFERING , by Drew Gilpin Faust. (Knopf, \$27.95.) The impact of the Civil War's enormous death toll, from the new president of Harvard.	9	5
14	AN INCOMPLETE REVENGE , by Jacqueline Winspear. (Holt, \$24.) The psychologist and private investigator Maisie Dobbs investigates vandalism and arson in a village in Kent in 1931.		1	14	HOPE'S BOY , by Andrew Bridge. (Hyperion, \$22.95.) A memoir of foster care by an advocate for poor children.	8	3
15	THE GHOST WAR , by Alex Berenson. (Putnam, \$24.95.) A C.I.A. agent in Afghanistan tries to learn who's behind the resurgent Taliban and finds a global power struggle.	11	2	15	LONE SURVIVOR , by Marcus Luttrell with Patrick Robinson. (Little, Brown, \$24.99.) The only survivor of a Navy SEALs operation in northern Afghanistan describes the battle, his comrades and his courageous escape.	12	35
16*	SIZZLE AND BURN , by Jayne Ann Krentz. (Putnam, \$24.95.) A member of the Arcane Society, dedicated to paranormal research, helps a woman with psychic powers.	12	4	16*	THE THING ABOUT LIFE IS THAT ONE DAY YOU'LL BE DEAD , by David Shields. (Knopf, \$23.95.) A meditation on mortality, focused on the author's 97-year-old father.		1

Rankings reflect sales, for the week ending Feb. 23, at many thousands of venues where a wide range of general interest books are sold nationwide. These include hundreds of independent book retailers (statistically weighted to represent all such outlets); national, regional and local chains; online and multimedia entertainment retailers; university, gift, supermarket, discount department stores and newsstands. An asterisk (*) indicates that a book's sales are barely distinguishable from those of the book above. A dagger (†) indicates that some bookstores report receiving bulk orders. Among those categories not actively tracked are: perennial sellers; required classroom reading; text, reference and test preparation guides; journals and workbooks; calorie counters; shopping guides; comics and crossword puzzles. Expanded rankings are available on the Web: nytimes.com/books.