

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Summer Reading for the Rich and Sporty

Jerry Kavanagh · Thursday, July 26th, 2012

Still searching for a good book to take to the beach, the country, or just a secluded corner? In a summer of the Olympic Games, tight baseball pennant races, and other high-profile international sporting events, even the most dedicated athletes and executives find time in their busy schedules for some quiet reading. Here are books that several sports and business personalities have been reading, or plan to read, in their spare moments this summer.

Billy Beane

President & General Manager

Oakland A's

I am reading the George Martin series of books that the HBO show "Game of Thrones" is based on. They are not brief, so I'm sure they will fill the summer months.

Natalie Coughlin

11-time Olympic medal winner for USA Swimming

"Drop Dead Healthy," by A.J. Jacobs

I love reading about food, cooking, and nutrition. This book looks at all sorts of diets, workout regimens, and health ideologies in an interesting, light-hearted way.

Sunil Gulati

President

U.S. Soccer Federation

"Thinking, Fast and Slow," by Daniel Kahneman

"Behind the Beautiful Forevers," by Katherine Boo

"The End of Illness," by David Agnus

"The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks," by Rebecca Skloot

Armen Keteyian

Chief Investigative Correspondent

CBS News

"The Passage of Power," by Robert Caro. Lessons in how to really report, by the master of the sentence.

"Creole Belle," the latest from the incomparable James Lee Burke.

"The Inquisitor," by Mark Allen Smith. Unique character meets spellbinding story.

Anything and everything by recent discovery Thomas Perry, including all of the celebrated Jane Whitefield series.

"Faithful Place," by Tana French, a recommendation from good buddy Harlan Coben.

Phil Knight

Co-Founder & Chairman**Nike**

“The Orphan Master’s Son,” by Adam Johnson

Christopher Ramsey**CEO****USA Water Polo**

“Unbroken,” by Laura Hillenbrand.

“The New Cathedrals: Politics and Media in the History of Stadium Construction,” by Robert Trumbour.

“How Will You Measure Your Life?” by Clayton Christensen, James Allworth, and Karen Dillon.

“Migration: New and Selected Poems,” by W.S. Merwin.

Harvey Schiller**Chairman of the Board & CEO**

Global Options Group (a leading risk-management company)

“It Worked For Me,” by Colin Powell

“A Universe From Nothing,” by Lawrence Krauss

“The Candy Bombers,” by Andrei Cherny

“The Passage of Power,” by Robert Caro

Still trying to finish “Steve Jobs,” by Walter Isaacson.

Mary Wittenberg**President & CEO****New York Road Runners**

“Gone Girl,” by Gillian Flynn. A New York Times review landed this thriller on my list.

“Steve Jobs,” by Walter Isaacson. I know, I am behind in getting to this one, but it’s a must read I have been saving for the summer.

“Thinking, Fast and Slow,” by Daniel Kahneman. My management-type book for the summer.

Jerry Kavanagh is a former editor at New York Magazine and Condé Nast.

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