

A tropical getaway!

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A year of sweet treats!

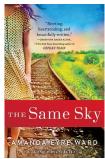
Mmm...we're happy to be teaming up with Tastykake to give one winner a year's supply of Tastykake Mini Cupcakes (valued at \$150), which come in three delicious flavors. And to make this prize even sweeter, the winner will also receive a \$600 Visa gift card! Visit our website and click on "sweepstakes" for official rules and to enter.

you deserve a break



The 6 paperbacks

Fiction



The Same Sky
by Amanda Eyre
Ward
"I picked up
this book on a
whim, thanks
to its beautiful,
intriguing cover
art," says Summy
Lau, FIRST assis-

tant editor. "I'm so glad I did!" The story weaves between two people living vastly different lives. Alice has a loving marriage and a thriving restaurant, but has struggled for years to conceive. Meanwhile, Carla, a 12-year-old living in abject poverty in Central America, is forced to join thousands of children making the perilous journey to America. "Carla's ability to hang on to hope in extremely dark circumstances stayed with me long after the book ended," Summy says. "And when her journey finally intersected with Alice's, I was encouraged to treat everyone around me with more compassion and love." (Ballantine, 2015; Paperback \$15, Hardcover \$25, Kindle \$12, Nook \$12)

Inspiration

The Art of Living Joyfully

by Allen Klein
"Lately I've been
so busy that I
barely have time
for my favorite
hobby: reading,"
shares Melissa



D'Agnese, FIRST senior associate editor. "So when my sister recommended this uplifting, pick-it-up-whenever book, I ran out to get it." Motivational speaker and self-proclaimed "Jollytologist" Allen Klein created this guide to good cheer, which is organized into sections including family, friends, love and laughter. The book is brimming with wise heartwarming quotes that read like tidbits of good advice from best friends. "This was exactly the read I needed—it's short and sweet, and it banished my wintertime blues," says Melissa. "I loved it so much that I decided to keep it right on my nightstand so I can flip it open whenever I need a positive pick-meup." (Viva Editions, 2012; Paperback \$16, Kindle \$10, Nook \$11)

Chick lit

After You by Jojo Moyes

"When I heard Jojo Moyes was writing a sequel to *Me Before You*, one of the best books I've read in recent memory, I immediately marked my calendar so I wouldn't miss the release date," shares Alyssa Rosenthal, FIRST assistant editor. "And this entertaining read did not disappoint!" After losing the man she loves, Louisa Clark is struggling



to move on with her life. When a sudden accident forces her to move home to her parents' house, she realizes it's impossible to go backward, so she wills herself to charge head on into the future. Help from a support group and a new man begin moving her life in the right direction...that is, until a stranger arrives on her doorstep with news that changes everything. "It was so much fun revisiting these characters and seeing where they ended up," says Alyssa. "And their experiences and the daily choices they are forced to make are so relatable, even if their circumstances aren't. I could not put this book down!" (Pamela Dorman, 2015; Hardcover \$27, Kindle \$13, Nook \$13)

we're reading now

Mystery

The Good Girl by Mary Kubica

"When I read a mystery, I play detective as I flip the pages and see if I come to the right conclusions," says Danielle Saliman, FIRST senior beauty editor. "So when I heard this book had lots of twists, I couldn't wait to test my skills!" When young teacher Mia Dennett disappears, everyone fears the worst. The story is told from the perspective of three people—her mom, the detective and the kidnapper—and surprising secrets are revealed as the plot unfolds. "The twists had me hooked," says Danielle.



"But it was the unexpected relationships the characters form that made this a great book." (Mira, 2015; Paperback \$15, Hardcover \$25, Kindle \$8, Nook \$8)

Historical fiction

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American socialite Madeline, her husband, Ellis, and their best friend, Frank, travel to Scotland during World War II. As the men hunt Nessie, Maddie bonds with the local women and finds there's more to life than her wealthy upbringing led her to believe. Says Melissa, "I was inspired by Maddie's heart-opening transformation." (Spiegel & Grau, 2015; Paperback \$16, Hardcover \$28, Kindle \$12, Nook \$12)

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by Cheryl Wyatt
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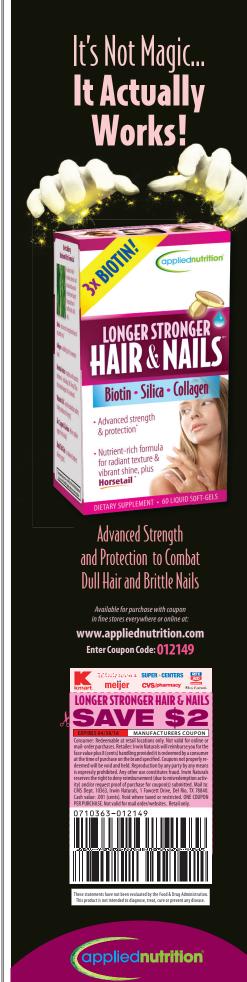
THE GOOD NEIGHBOR

Suspense

The Good Neighbor by A.J. Banner

"By the time the weekend arrives, I need a jolt of energy to help me get all my errands done," says Lauren Gatcombe, FIRST editorial assistant. "Books that keep me on my toes like this one deliver the adrenaline I need!" Sarah and her husband Johnny move to the quaint, seemingly welcoming community of Shadow Cove, Washington. When Johnny is away on business, the house next door mysteriously catches on fire, which

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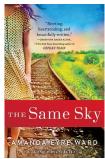
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