



Reading should be practised from a young age.
Picture by Samantha Weerasiri

“A home without books is a body without soul” - Marcus Tullius Cicero

Page turner



Colombo International Book Fair 2010 opens 12th chapter on September 18

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In an era in which internet options like MySpace, YouTube, facebook and e books are in demand it is a wonder that people are still drawn to the literary landscape. What is it, exactly, that turns someone into a book lover who keeps coming back for more? There is no empirical answer. If there were, authors and book publishers will be able to make fortunes by selling more books.

The growth of a true, committed reader is in some ways a magical process. It is shaped in part by external forces but also by a spark within the imagination. After all they do say that books are a doorway to a fantasy world. Take the works of authors Lewis Carroll, C.S. Lewis, J.K. Rowling and J.R.R. Tolkien for example.

The passion for reading mostly derives from a young age. Having parents who read a lot helps. So does the association of devoted teachers and librarians but reading

is ultimately a private act. Reading is beneficial when one needs some information about a certain topic.

He or she can discuss their problems with many people. Similarly reading helps if an individual's spirits are low and he or she does not wish to share his problem with any one.

Books of all materials and topics are present today in the market. It can give you anything you crave for. You might even identify some of the characters and situations in the books with your own.

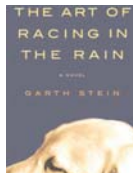
Reading is not only limited to books. It can derive from any source. Youngsters are advised to highlight, underline and annotate the important text because it helps you to review important points later. Doing this also helps to keep your mind focused on the material and stops it wandering.

With the rising popularity of electronic ways to read books, the printed word still relevant in today's society. Books have not only many death knells, and are likely to keep doing so.

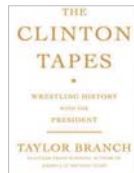
Top 10 non-fictional bestsellers for 2010



■ **The Secret**
by Rhonda Byrne
Steve Harvey, the host of the nationally syndicated 'Steve Harvey Morning Show', can't count the number of impressive women he's met over the years. These are women who can run a small business, keep a household with three kids in tiptop shape, and chair a church group all at the same time.



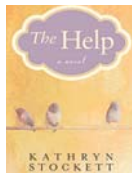
■ **The Art of Racing in the Rain**
A Novel by Garth Stein
Cocktail waitress Sookie Stackhouse is no typical Southern belle. She can read minds. And she's got a thing for vampires which in a town like Bon Temps, Louisiana, means she'll have to watch her back-and-neck...



■ **The Clinton Tapes**
Wrestling History with the President by Taylor Branch
A groundbreaking book about the modern presidency. *The Clinton Tapes* invites readers into private dialogue with a gifted, tormented, resilient President of the United States. Here is what President Clinton thought and felt but could not say in public. This book rests upon a secret project.



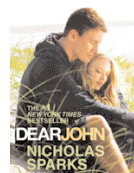
■ **Republican Gomorrah**
Inside the Movement that Shattered the Party by Max Blumenthal
The astonishing, uplifting story of a real-life Indiana Jones and his humanitarian campaign to use education to combat terrorism in the Taliban's backyard. Anyone who despairs of the individual's power to change lives has to read the story of Greg Mortenson.



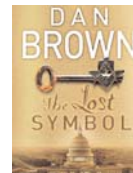
■ **The Help**
by Kathryn Stockett
In her extremely well reviewed debut novel, Stockett explores issues of race and class in Jackson, Mississippi during the civil rights movement.



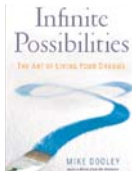
■ **The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo**
by Stieg Larsson, translated by Reg Keeland
This expertly paced thriller is the first in a trilogy about a has-been financial journalist who attempts to save his name by agreeing to aid in the research of an unsolved disappearance with the help of a body-molded lady computer hacker.



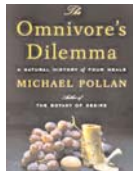
■ **Dear John**
by Nicholas Sparks
From the popular writer of *The Notebook* and *A Walk to Remember*, *Dear John* tells a romantic tale of two early twenty-somethings who prove the adage "opposites attract." The novel has already been adapted to the screen.



■ **The Lost Symbol**
by Dan Brown
A conspiracy thriller set in our own backyard, *The Lost Symbol* explores dark elements of America's history. Brown, author of *The Da Vinci Code*, creates a lot of excitement for returning character Robert Langdon, who (in true Dan Brown form) solves riddles, unearths clues, and seeks to defeat the madman villain.



■ **Infinite Possibilities**
The Art of Living Your Dreams by Mike Dooley
Includes a bonus CD on the Law of Attraction! This Leading Edge work by Esther and Jerry Hicks, who present *The Teachings of A.rahnam*, will help you understand every relationship you are currently involved in as well as every relationship you have ever experienced.



■ **The Omnivore's Dilemma**
A Natural History of Four Meals by Michael Pollan
A national bestseller that has changed the way readers view the ecology of eating, this revolutionary book by award winner Michael Pollan asks the seemingly simple question: What should we have for dinner? Tracing from source to table each of the food chains sustain us.



■ **The Official SAT Study Guide**
2nd edition by The College Board
Understanding the elixir that reveals your place in eternity, and with it your beliefs can be aligned and your imagination ignited to achieve anything you can dream of. We are spiritual beings filled with infinite potential - adventuring through a field of possibilities.



■ **A Bold Fresh Piece of Humanity**
by Bill O'Reilly
The year was 1957, the month September, and I had just turned eight years old. Dwight Eisenhower was President, but in my life it was the diminutive, intense Sister Mary Lurana who ruled, at least in the third-grade class where I was held captive... This is the style implemented in this highly readable volume.



■ **The Shack**
by William P. Young
The aftermath of the kidnapping and possible brutal murder of a man's young daughter is the focus of this enthralling novel. When the man finds a bizarre note that supposedly is from God, he follows its directive to visit the shack where his daughter's murder may have taken place.



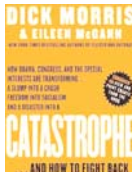
■ **Let the Great World Spin**
A Novel by Colum McCann
This exquisite novel lets the reader peek in on 10 very diverse lives in 1974 New York. It's all precariously connected by the tightrope walking feat of Philippe Petit, who walked between the WTC towers on a cable in late summer of 1974.



■ **Breaking Dawn**
(The Twilight Saga, Book 4) by Stephanie Meyer
Bella is still torn between the love of her vampire paramour and werewolf suitor. For many, this fourth installment in the Twilight series feels like filler. Nevertheless, *Breaking Dawn* remains popular with readers both young and old.



■ **Eclipse**
(The Twilight Saga, Book 3) by Stephenie Meyer
Only slightly slower selling than its follow up, the third book in the series follows the love life of high school student Bella Swan.



■ **Catastrophe**
by Dick Morris and Eileen McGann
It's a catastrophe. But as Dick Morris and Eileen McGann remind us, "This is no time for apathy or alienation or hopelessness. It's a time for action." And that action must begin now—before it's too late.



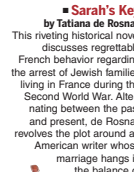
■ **The Official Guide for GMAT Review**
12th Edition by Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC)
A review guide for the GMAT, prepared by the creators of standardized exams, features previously administered exams for practice tests and more.

Colombo International Book Fair 2010

The 12th Colombo International Book Fair (CIBF) 2010 will be held at the BMICH from the September 18 to 26. Over 300 local and foreign books stalls will be available at the venue. This annual event is organized by the Sri Lanka Book Publishers Association. It draws masses from all walks of life and all parts of the island. "Our main problem was finding enough space. Since the BMICH is being renovated we had to set up stalls on the ground and at the Sirimavo Bandaranaike Memorial Exhibition Centre. We are expecting one to five million people this year. There will be variety entertainment events as well as scholarships for less income families," said Sri Lanka Book Publishers Association Chairman Ariyadasa Weeraman.



■ **The Girl Who Played with Fire**
by Stieg Larsson
The follow up to *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* focuses on the Swedish sex trade.



■ **Sarah's Key**
by Tatiana de Rosnay
This riveting historical novel discusses regrettable French behavior regarding the arrest of Jewish families living in France during the Second World War. Alternating between the past and present, de Rosnay revolves the plot around an American writer whose marriage hangs in the balance of her sordid discoveries.

