Pick Your Pleasure
‘I’m in the mood for a book that’s …’

**Inspiring and Hopeful**

**The Buddhist on Death Row: How One Man Found Light in the Darkest Place** by David Sheff
Jarvis Jay Masters, 58, arrived at San Quentin State Prison as a rage-filled teen and spent decades learning Buddhist principles to free his mind from self-hatred and anger. It’s a truly inspiring story by the author of Beautiful Boy.

**Humankind: Changing the World One Small Act at a Time** by Brad Aronson
The author discusses the simple everyday kindnesses all of us can provide to better our world.

**Officer Clemmons** by François S. Clemmons
Clemmons, 75, who played Officer Clemmons on Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood, was the first African American actor with a recurring role on children’s TV. His memoir describes the hardships of his youth and his friendship with Fred Rogers.

**The Answer Is …: Reflections on My Life** by Alex Trebek
The beloved host of Jeopardy!, 80, writes about his show, life of prolonged fame, pancreatic cancer diagnosis and more.

**Hello Darkness, My Old Friend** by Sanford D. Greenberg
Now 79, Greenberg lost his vision during college. Rather than settle for a quiet life, he went on to study at Harvard and Oxford, invented tools for the blind and operated several businesses.

**An Immersion in Nature**

**Vesper Flights** by Helen Macdonald
The author of H Is for Hawk offers beautiful essays about the natural world and the insight and comfort of observing it.

**Becoming Wild: How Animal Cultures Raise Families, Create Beauty, and Achieve Peace** by Carl Safina
Ecologist Safina explores the ways sperm whales, chimpanzees and scarlet macaws learn from their elders and maintain social bonds.

**Funny and Affirming**

**The Hilarious World of Depression** by John Moe
The host of a popular podcast about clinical depression details his struggle with the illness and how discussing it, funnily enough, can make people laugh with relief that they’re not alone.

**Anxious People** by Fredrik Backman
Fans of A Man Called Ove will adore the author’s new novel, out September 8. The story, told with zany humor, includes the failed robbery of a cashless bank (oops) and a farcical hostage situation.

**A Great Escape**

**Her Last Flight** by Beatriz Williams
War correspondent Janey Everett visits Hawaii in 1947 to research a pilot’s disappearance and untangles a complicated, passionate story.

**The Henna Artist** by Alka Joshi
In 1950s India, Lakshmi earns her living as an in-demand henna painter for wealthy clients, striving to keep her troubled past at bay. —Christina Ianzito

**ALSO OF NOTE**

**MEMOIR**

**Chasing the Light: Writing, Directing, and Surviving Platoon, Midnight Express, Scarface, Salvador, and the Movie Game** by Oliver Stone

**NOVEL**

**Hamnet** by Maggie O’Farrell

**HISTORY**

**Dewey Defeats Truman: The 1948 Election and the Battle for America’s Soul** by A.J. Baime

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