

No. 12 The Best New Books

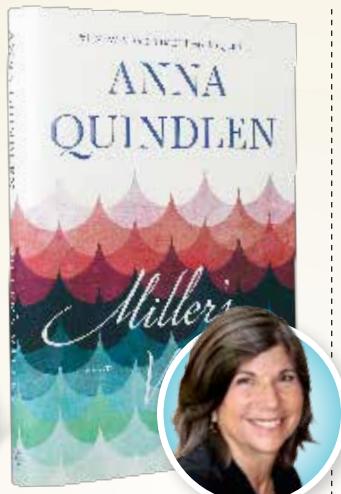
Crushing on the stars, a meaty family drama from Anna Quindlen and a skillful debut about a bygone New York EDITED BY **KIM HUBBARD**

BOOK OF THE WEEK



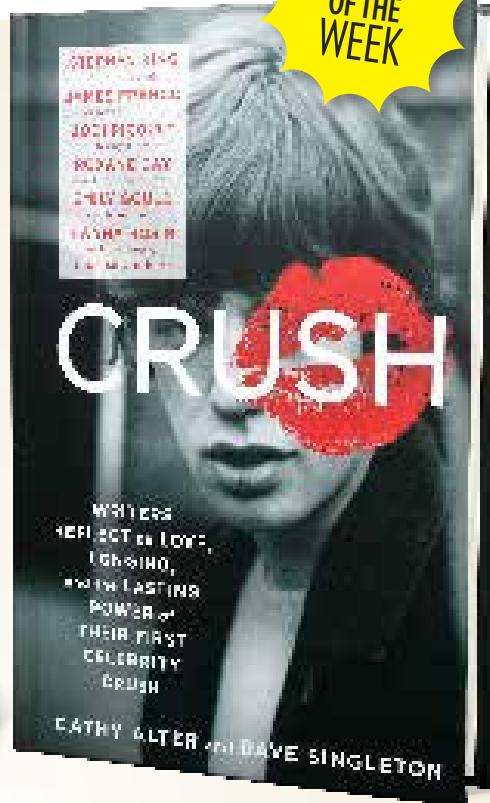
Molly Prentiss *Tuesday Nights in 1980*

NOVEL The gritty New York art scene of the late '70s and early '80s pulsed with creative energy, and so does this engaging novel. Centered around a troubled art critic, a talented Argentine painter and a small-town girl, it portrays an intoxicating world and its raw, ungentrified backdrop—both about to be transformed by greed.



Anna Quindlen *Miller's Valley*

NOVEL In Quindlen's satisfying latest novel, the Millers cling to their family farm even as it is threatened by a government water project and the conflicting desires of the next generation. Using ambitious but loyal teenage Mimi as her narrator, Quindlen spins a Vietnam-era look at how the true meaning of home can long outlast the structures we grow up in.



Crush

Edited by Cathy Adler and Dave Singleton
NONFICTION “Crushes are love for the fainthearted, a way to practice pairing up,” writes Jodi Picoult, one of the essayists speaking truth to power—the power of youth—in this wonderful collection. Stephen King on Kim Novak, Hanna Rosin on Mick Jagger, Shane Harris on Mark Hamill: The crushes are straight, gay, even cartoons. If you're a person whose most vivid memories took place between the ages of 5 and 25 (and aren't we all?), these first passions are hilarious, yes, but also an arrow to the heart.

NEW IN NONFICTION

Julie Zickefoose *Baby Birds*

Zickefoose has painted hundreds of watercolors, delicate but lively, for her gentle observational study of how 17 species nest—and hatch! A treat for young naturalists (artists too).

Allison Gilbert *Passed and Present*

We all want to keep the memories of lost loved ones alive—but *how*? With tips on everything from transforming heirlooms to marking anniversaries, this lovely book can help.

Jen Kirkman *I Know What I'm Doing*

A fortysomething comedian sounds off on various aspects of her “life under construction”: family, friendships, sex, divorce and why “Paris is always a good idea.”

