

Book Buzz

What's new on the list and in publishing

Smokin' hot: Moving publishing houses from St. Martin's Press to Bantam hasn't hurt Janet Evanovich's luck with her sexy Jersey girl bounty hunter heroine, Stephanie Plum. Evanovich's string of No. 1 debuts on USA TODAY's Best-Selling Books list



USA TODAY

Heigl: The forever-young Plum.

with her numbered thrillers began with *Eleven on Top* on June 30, 2005, and continues this week with *Smokin' Seventeen*. *Seventeen* features a romantic cliffhanger ending with Stephanie appearing to choose between Ranger and Morelli. But Evanovich was coy about that in a recent interview.

(Good thing *Explosive Eighteen* hits Nov. 22.)

In January, Katherine Heigl goes brunette in the film adaptation of Evanovich's first Plum title, 1994's *One for the Money*.

'Hunger' strikes: The movie version of *The Hunger Games*, starring Jennifer Lawrence, won't be released until March. But thanks in part to growing online chatter about the film and its cast, all three titles in Suzanne Collins' teen series, set in a dystopian future, are in the list's top 10. *Games*, released in 2008, is No. 4. *Catching Fire* (2009) is No. 8, and *Mockingjay* (2010) is No. 10. Publisher Scholastic reports 9.6 million copies in print. A \$30 gift edition of *The Hunger Games* will be released in November, with three movie tie-in versions out in February. Another factor driving sales: *Games* is showing up on high school summer reading lists, which now include more contemporary options for students.

Space cowboys: One of the summer's projected blockbuster movies is *Cowboys & Aliens*, a rollicking sci-fi/Western mash-up. It's out July 29; the movie tie-in edition of the graphic novel on which it's based is now in stores. First published by Platinum Studios in 2006 (it was created by Platinum's chairman Scott Mitchell Rosenberg), the movie tie-in is being published by It Books. The cover features a shadowy image that resembles star Daniel Craig as loner/gunslinger Jake Lonergan.

By Deirdre Donahue, Bob Minzesheimer and Carol Memmott



Top 150 books

For an extended, interactive and searchable version of this booklist, visit booklist.usatoday.com or scan this tag with your smartphone.

USA TODAY BEST-SELLING BOOKS

WHAT AMERICA'S READING™

The top 10

Rank this week Rank last week (F) Fiction (NF) Non-fiction (P) Paperback (H) Hardcover (E) E-book Publisher and price in italics

1	—	Smokin' Seventeen Janet Evanovich	Bounty hunter Stephanie Plum investigates a series of killings; 17th in series (F) (H) Bantam, \$28	6	6	Go the ---- To Sleep A. Mansbach, illustrations by R. Cortes	An adult-only version of a traditional children's bedtime book (F) (H) Akashic Books, \$14.95
2	1	Heaven Is for Real Todd Burpo with Lynn Vincent	Subtitle: "A Little Boy's Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back" (NF) (P) Thomas Nelson, \$16.99	7	14	A Game of Thrones George R.R. Martin	Volume One of A Song of Ice and Fire (F) (E) Spectra, \$7.99
3	3	The Help Kathryn Stockett	A young white woman tells the story of black maids in 1960s Mississippi (F) (P) Berkley, \$16	8	10	Catching Fire Suzanne Collins	Youth: Katniss and Peeta are targeted as rebels; second in series (F) (E) Scholastic, \$17.99
4	4	The Hunger Games Suzanne Collins	Youth: Girl takes sister's place in a real-world survivor game (F) (P) Scholastic Press, \$8.99	9	—	Sizzling Sixteen Janet Evanovich	Stephanie Plum inherits a "lucky" bottle, but not all the luck is good (F) (P) St. Martin's Paperbacks, \$8.99
5	8	Water for Elephants Sara Gruen	Love, drama in a circus in the 1930s (F) (E) Algonquin, \$14.95	10	13	Mockingjay Suzanne Collins	Youth: Katniss must give herself completely to the rebellion; final in series (F) (E) Scholastic, \$17.99

The rest

11	—	Tough Customer: A Novel /Sandra Brown	A private eye searches for the stalker targeting his daughter (F) (P) Pocket Star, \$9.99
12	2	Against All Enemies /Tom Clancy, Peter Telep	An ex-SEAL finds himself in the middle of an international incident (F) (H) Putnam Adult, \$28.95
13	—	Learning /Karen Kingsbury	Bailey and Cody are separated physically and emotionally; second in series (F) (P) Zondervan, \$14.99
14	5	The Original Argument /Glenn Beck	Subtitle: "The Federalists' Case for the Constitution, Adapted for the 21st Century" (NF) (P) Threshold Editions, \$16
15	—	The Devil Colony /James Rollins	Commander Gray Pierce investigates the mysterious discovery of mummified remains (F) (H) William Morrow, \$27.99
16	32	George R.R. Martin's A Game of Thrones George R.R. Martin	Boxed set includes the first four volumes in the Game of Thrones series (F) (P) Bantam, \$35.96
17	—	In the Garden of Beasts /Erik Larson	Subtitle: "Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin" (NF) (E) Crown, \$12.99
18	11	One Summer /David Baldacci	A man arises from his deathbed to keep his fractured family together (F) (H) Grand Central Publishing, \$25.99
19	—	Silver Girl: A Novel /Elin Hilderbrand	Past becomes present when two ex-best friends reunite on Nantucket to heal from recent hardships (F) (E) Reagan Arthur Books, \$12.99
20	7	Passion /Lauren Kate	Youth: Luce goes back in time to set the present straight; third in series (F) (H) Delacorte Books for Young Readers, \$17.99
21	28	State of Wonder /Ann Patchett	An American scientist, sent to the Amazon to investigate the death of a fellow researcher, happens upon a secret search for a miracle fertility drug (F) (E) Harper, \$12.99
22	42	A Clash of Kings /George R.R. Martin	Fantasy: Six factions struggle to gain control of a divided land; second in A Song of Ice and Fire series (F) (E) Bantam, \$8.99
23	25	Room /Emma Donoghue	Story of a 5-year-old boy held captive with his mother in a single room (F) (P) Back Bay Books, \$14.99
24	9	Unbroken /Laura Hillenbrand	Subtitle: "A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption" (NF) (H) Random House, \$27
25	18	The Throne of Fire /Rick Riordan	Youth: Carter Kane and his sister Sadie continue their quest (F) (H) Disney-Hyperion, \$18.99
26	17	Worst Case /James Patterson, Michael Ledwidge	A New York detective and an FBI agent investigate the kidnappings of children from wealthy families (F) (P) Vision, \$9.99
27	21	Bossypants /Tina Fey	The comedy writer and star of 30 Rock riffs on her life and career (NF) (H) Reagan Arthur, \$26.99
28	20	10th Anniversary /James Patterson, Maxine Paetro	Members of the Women's Murder Club juggle criminal investigation, murder prosecution and family drama (F) (E) Little, Brown, \$14.99
29	39	The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo /Stieg Larsson	Journalist is hired to investigate the disappearance of an heir to a wealthy family (F) (E) Vintage, \$14.95
30	—	Fallen /Karin Slaughter	A law enforcement agent takes extreme measures to save her family (F) (E) Random House, \$12.99
31	23	Wicked Lies /Lisa Jackson, Nancy Bush	A woman with psychic abilities is targeted by a psychopath (F) (P) Zebra, \$7.99
32	24	Something Borrowed /Emily Giffin	Young attorney falls for her best friend's fiancé (F) (E) St. Martin's Press, \$7.99
33	37	Dork Diaries: Tales from a Not-So-Talented Pop Star /Rachel Renée Russell	Nikki Maxwell struggles to keep her classmates from learning the truth about her life; third in series (F) (H) Aladdin, \$12.99
34	19	Buried Prey /John Sandford	Detective Lucas Davenport investigates the homicide of two girls first reported missing in 1985 (F) (E) Putnam Adult, \$14.99
35	29	Beach Lane /Sherryl Woods	Susie O'Brien and Mack Franklin's reportedly platonic relationship is not fooling anyone in Chesapeake Shores, Maryland (F) (P) MIRA, \$7.99
36	—	Unlocked /Courtney Milan	Historical romance: A womanizer falls for a wallflower he wronged in the past (F) (E) Self-published through Kindle Digital Publishing, \$0.99
37	16	The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris David McCullough	Ambitious American artists, writers, musicians and inventors seek out Paris in the 1800s (NF) (H) Simon & Schuster, \$37.50
38	22	Creed's Honor /Linda Lael Miller	Rancher Conner Creed struggles with his identity after his estranged identical twin brother returns (F) (P) HQN, \$7.99
39	48	The Girl Who Played With Fire Stieg Larsson	An Eastern European sex-trafficking ring involving prominent Swedes propels this sequel to The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (F) (E) Knopf Doubleday, \$25.95
40	40	Something Blue /Emily Giffin	Darcy's perfect world turns upside down (F) (E) St. Martin's Press, \$9.99
41	34	The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest /Stieg Larsson	Lisbeth Salander is accused of murder and turns to friend and journalist Mikael Blomkvist to help prove her innocence; final in series (F) (E) Knopf, \$27.95
42	26	Carte Blanche /Jeffrey Deaver	James Bond must prevent an act of terrorism (F) (H) Simon & Schuster, \$26.99
43	36	Perfect Harmony /Nora Roberts	Contains the stories "Unfinished Business" and "Local Hero" (F) (P) Silhouette Special Releases, \$7.99
44	43	Dead Reckoning /Charlaine Harris	Sookie Stackhouse witnesses the firebombing of Merlotte's (F) (H) Ace, \$27.95
45	83	Laird of the Mist /Paula Quinn	Historical romance: A woman falls for her clan's most hated enemy (F) (E) Forever, \$0.99
46	15	SEAL Team Six /H. E. Wasdin, S. Templin	Subtitle: "Memoirs of an Elite Navy SEAL Sniper" (NF) (H) St. Martin's Press, \$26.99
47	47	The Search /Nora Roberts	The past comes back to haunt dog trainer Fiona Bristow (F) (P) Jove, \$7.99
48	68	A Storm of Swords /George R.R. Martin	No one will rest until the Seven Kingdoms have exploded in a storm of swords (F) (E) Bantam, \$8.99
49	115	Reckless Endangerment /Gretchen Morgenson, Joshua Rosner	Subtitle: "How Outsized Ambition, Greed, and Corruption Led to Economic Armageddon" (NF) (H) Times Books, \$30
50	27	The Kingdom /Clive Cussler, Grant Blackwood	Treasure hunters Sam and Remi Fargo are on the hunt for two missing people (F) (H) Putnam, \$27.95

The book list appears every Thursday. For each title, the format and publisher listed are for the best-selling version of that title this week.

Reporting outlets include Amazon.com, Amazon Kindle, B. Dalton Bookseller, Barnes & Noble.com, Barnes & Noble e-books, Books-A-Million.com, Books-A-Million, Bookland and Books & Co., Borders Books & Music, Brentano's, Davis-Kidd Booksellers (Nashville, Memphis, Tenn.), Hudson Booksellers, Joseph-Beth Booksellers (Lexington, Ky.; Cincinnati, Charlotte, Cleveland, Pittsburgh), Kobo, Inc., Powell's Books (Portland, Ore.), Powell's.com, R.J. Julia Booksellers (Madison, Conn.), Schuler Books & Music (Grand Rapids, Okemos, Eastwood, Alpine, Mich.), Sony Reader Store, Target, Tattered Cover Book Store (Denver), Waldenbooks.



By Karyn Carpenter Baker

Puppy love: Pilkey also wrote *Big Dog* and *Little Dog* books.

Dav Pilkey by the numbers

The best-selling bad boy of children's literature is back. *Super Diaper Baby 2: The Invasion of the Potty Snatchers* (Scholastic, \$9.99), Dav Pilkey's sequel to his 2002 *The Adventures of Super Diaper Baby*, hit stores this week. His website promises "urine" for some laughs."

1 million

First printing for *Super Diaper Baby 2*

50 million-plus
Copies in print of his *Captain Underpants* series

8

Number of times in the *Underpants* books that Pilkey's ADHD heroes, fourth-graders George Beard and Harold Hutchins, have saved the planet

266

Weeks Pilkey's books have spent on USA TODAY's Best-Selling Books list's top 150 since October 1993

19

Countries where Pilkey's books are published

1966

Year he was born in Cleveland

20

Age at which Pilkey published his first book, *World War Won*

By Deirdre Donahue