

2006 Book Awards



The Language of Baklava Diana Abu-Jaber

Diana Abu-Jaber's sensual memoir will make you hungry for a life filled with food, family and travel. Packed with her memories of growing up in a Jordanian-American family that loves to cook, it is very much like a picnic basket: funny stories, tart recipes, nostalgia for places left behind, all nestled neatly inside. The Language of Baklava will make you long for just one more bite.

Random House



Hotel Deep: Light Verse from Dark Water Kurt Cyrus

Do you wonder where sea creatures sleep? Do you know all of the secrets that they keep? Then check into Hotel Deep: Light Verse from Dark Water and follow Kurt Cyrus' poetic plunge into the hidden world of the ocean. Lavish, colorful illustrations surround twenty-one twisting, playful poems that chronicle a lone sardine's search for its lost school.

Harcourt Children's





Rogue River Journal: A Winter Alone John Daniel

John Daniel has poured his heart--and the soul of his father--into a powerful memoir he wrote during a winter alone in the Oregon wilderness. His experiment in solitude resulted in a thoughtful, moving study of himself, his family and the natural world. As beautifully wrought as it is truthful, Rogue River Journal: A Winter Alone is a Walden for our time.

Shoemaker & Hoard





The Highest Tide Jim Lynch

Meet Miles O'Malley, a 13-year old insomniac and Rachel Carson fanatic who roams the tidal flats of Olympia, WA, turning up rare sea life. When he discovers a giant squid, the press, to his horror, deems him an unlikely 'messiah of the deep.' Jim Lynch's debut novel, has captured the turbulence of teen angst amidst the wonder of the natural world.

Bloomsbury





Approximately Paradise Floyd Skloot

The poems collected in Floyd Skloot's Approximately Paradise create a graceful narrative that will be compelling to anyone--poetry lover or not--who cares about love, loss, truth, baseball, or the beauty of living in the moment. You'll want to read these poems out loud with someone you love.



Tupelo Press



How Evan Broke His Head and Other Secrets Garth Stein

Garth Stein has exposed a sadness and a strength in Evan, a self-appointed screw-up who endeavors to raise a 14-year-old son he's just met. A raw but sympathetic portrayal of family flaws and individual shortcomings, How Evan Broke His Head and Other Secrets is a beautifully un-shiny novel of passion, forgiveness and the life force that is fatherhood.

Soho Press

