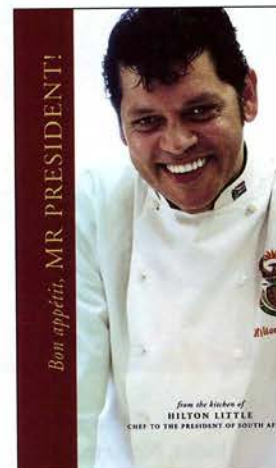
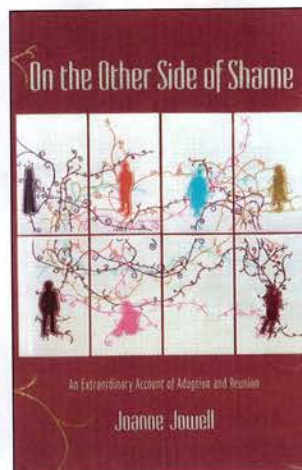
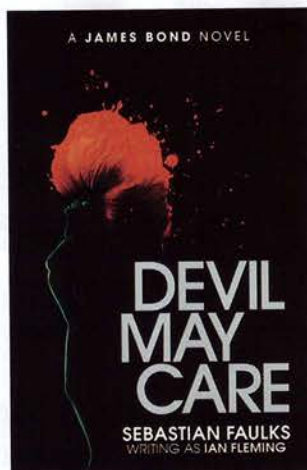
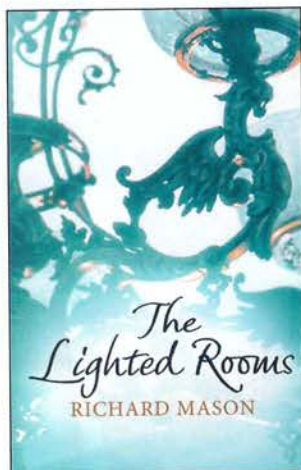


REVIEWS

MAX OUT YOUR LEISURE TIME WITH THESE GREAT SUGGESTIONS

COMPILED BY ROBERTA



BOOK OF THE MONTH

THE LIGHTED ROOMS ●●●●●

By Richard Mason (Weidenfeld & Nicolson)

South African-born Richard Mason's third novel is a triumph. A more mature effort than his previous novels, it deals with the complex relationship between 48-year-old menopausal Eloise and her mother, Joan, who is suffering from Alzheimer's. How a man in his late 20s managed to infiltrate these two older women's minds kept me endlessly in awe. What's more, the intricate backdrop of flashbacks into the Anglo-Boer War, intertwined with modern-day dramas in the London financial market, and a love affair with a steamy Parisian to boot, make this book absolutely unputdownable.

READ IT...

FOR YOUR BEDSIDE TABLE

DEVIL MAY CARE ●●●

By Sebastian Faulks writing as Ian Fleming (Penguin)

I'm not sure why the cover specifies this is Faulks writing as Fleming. We know that Fleming is no longer putting pen to paper (unless it's from the afterlife). What's also confusing is *Devil May Care* takes place post *Casino Royale*, and while the film producers have set the movies in present times, the book is set as per Fleming's original timeline some 30-odd years ago. When you're used to seeing

Daniel Craig using GPS navigation, it takes a while to get into the rhythm of the same character in a world where MI6's biggest threat is the Cold War. It's good bedtime fluff full of Flemingesque villains and damsels in distress, but given a choice, I'd rather wait for the movie with the broodingly handsome Mr Craig.

– Nicole Sparrow

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF SHAME ●●●

By Joanne Jowell (Macmillan)

This amazing story of family lost and found, began when Lynette Zinn, 17, Jewish and unmarried fell pregnant with her long-term boyfriend, Max Langman's child. While Max was ready to get down on bended knee, the Zinn's, being a conservative Jewish family in conservative early '60s South Africa, would have none of it. Instead they packed Lynette up and sent her off to family who were sure to keep the 'dirty secret' stashed away. With no choice in the matter, Lynette gave her baby boy up for adoption, never to see him again. Or so she thought. While she went on to marry Max and have two sons and a daughter, her 'lost son' was

adopted by a Jewish family in Johannesburg, oblivious to the fact that he had an entire family of full brothers and sisters, roaming around in Cape Town. It was when he himself decided to adopt that the family finally emerged, leading to a family reunion that was nothing short of incredible. A heart-warming story with coincidences so tight you'll be hard pressed to believe in fate.

FOR YOUR KITCHEN: BON APPÉTIT, MR. PRESIDENT! ●●●●●

By Hilton Little (Human & Rousseau)

Going against the trend of quick-fix recipes and work comfort grub, Hilton Little, chef to the President of South Africa, shares high-cuisine experiences with dignitaries, politicians, first ladies and the like. If you're looking for the kind of chunky minestrone or bangers and mash book is not for you. It's a compendium of elite silver-table cuisine. I turned my flat into a five-star restaurant for the evening by serving tomato and basil soup, was left with a consomme style broth, and whipped whole baby chickens