

# The New York Times Best Seller List

This Week	September 18, 2005 Fiction	Last Week	Weeks On List
1	POLAR SHIFT, by Clive Cussler with Paul Kemprecos. (Putnam, \$26.95.) Kurt Austin must contend with the leader of an antiglobalization group who possesses technology that has the potential to destroy all of humanity.	--	1
2	THE HISTORIAN, by Elizabeth Kostova. (Little, Brown, \$25.95.) A young woman's quest to learn the truth about her father's life and her mother's death involves research into Vlad the Impaler and Dracula.	3	12
3	SLOW BURN, by Julie Garwood. (Ballantine, \$25.95.) Terrible mishaps befall a successful businesswoman in Charleston, S.C.	--	1
4	THE DA VINCI CODE, by Dan Brown. (Doubleday, \$24.95.) The murder of a curator at the Louvre leads to a trail of clues found in the work of Leonardo and to the discovery of a centuries-old secret society.	2	129
5	POINT BLANK, by Catherine Coulter. (Putnam, \$25.95.) Dillon Savich and Lacey Sherlock — F.B.I. agents as well as husband and wife — pursue a violent couple.	1	2
6	CHILL FACTOR, by Sandra Brown. (Simon & Schuster, \$25.95.) A successful magazine editor is trapped in her remote cabin with a man believed to be a serial killer.	4	3
7	LIFEGUARD, by James Patterson and Andrew Gross. (Little, Brown, \$26.95.) Things go terribly awry when a lifeguard at a Florida resort agrees to take part in a \$5 million heist.	5	8
8	WITHOUT MERCY, by Jack Higgins. (Putnam, \$25.95.) An American intelligence agent and his British counterpart swear vengeance against an international terror ring that has killed one of their number.	8	2
9	SWEETWATER CREEK, by Anne Rivers Siddons. (HarperCollins, \$24.95.) A troubled debutante's arrival at a Lowcountry plantation disrupts the world of the owner's motherless 12-year-old daughter.	9	4
10	THE WIDOW OF THE SOUTH, by Robert Hicks. (Warner, \$24.95.) After the Battle of Franklin in 1864, a Tennessee woman turns over her plantation to Confederate troops for use as a hospital — and also as a cemetery.	--	1
11	VANISH, by Tess Gerritsen. (Ballantine Books, \$24.95.) A hospital patient takes hostages, among them a detective who is about to give birth, to make a political point.	7	2
12	SPELL OF THE HIGHLANDER, by Karen Marie Moning. (Delacorte, \$18.) In this fantasy romance, an archaeology student finds herself attracted to a seductive man who's been trapped inside a mirror since the eighth century.	--	1
13	THE UNDOMESTIC GODDESS, by Sophie Kinsella. (Dial, \$23.) At her wit's end, a high-powered attorney decamps from London and winds up as an unqualified housekeeper in the middle of nowhere.	12	7
14	TYRANNOSAUR CANYON, by Douglas Preston. (Forge, \$24.95.) The hunt for the perfectly preserved skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus rex in New Mexico turns deadly.	6	2
15	THE MERMAID CHAIR, by Sue Monk Kidd. (Viking, \$24.95.) On Egret Island, off the coast of South Carolina, a married woman is strongly attracted to a monk who is just months away from taking his final vows.	11	22

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This Week	September 18, 2005 Non-Fiction	Last Week	Weeks On List
1	THE WORLD IS FLAT, by Thomas L. Friedman. (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$27.50.) A columnist for The New York Times analyzes 21st-century economics and foreign policy and presents an overview of globalization trends.	2	22
2	1776, by David McCullough. (Simon & Schuster, \$32.) An account of America's founding year by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author, focusing on the inexperienced George Washington and heroic citizen soldiers.	1	15
3	FREAKONOMICS, by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner. (Morrow, \$25.95.) A maverick scholar applies economic thinking to everything from sumo wrestlers who cheat to legalized abortion and the falling crime rate.	4	21
4	BLINK, by Malcolm Gladwell. (Little, Brown, \$25.95.) The author of "The Tipping Point" explores the importance of hunch and instinct to the workings of the mind.	7	34
5	100 PEOPLE WHO ARE SCREWING UP AMERICA, by Bernard Goldberg. (HarperCollins, \$25.95.) The author of "Bias" takes aim at "Hollywood blowhards," "America bashers," rappers and others.	5	9
6	THE FAIRTAX BOOK, by Neal Boortz and John Linder. (ReganBooks/HarperCollins, \$24.95.) A radio talk show host and a United States congressman call for the abolishment of the federal income tax and the I.R.S.	3	5
7	NEW RULES, by Bill Maher. (Rodale, \$24.95.) The comedian and host of "Real Time With Bill Maher" takes on everyone from President Bush to Bob Dylan.	6	6
8	CONFESSIONS OF A VIDEO VIXEN, by Karrine Steffans. (Amistad/HarperCollins, \$24.95.) A tell-all memoir by a dancer and actress who has appeared in many hip-hop videos.	8	10
9	FROM PIECES TO WEIGHT, by 50 Cent. (MTV Books/Pocket Books, \$23.) The rapper's reflections on his youthful experience as a drug dealer and its continuing effect on his life.	10	4
10	ON BULL---, by Harry G. Frankfurt. (Princeton University, \$9.95.) A philosopher attempts a theoretical understanding of a "vast and amorphous" phenomenon.	9	25
11	INSIDE THE MIND OF SCOTT PETERSON, by Keith Ablow. (St. Martin's, \$23.95.) Ablow, a forensic psychiatrist and frequent Court TV guest, analyzes the convicted murderer's troubled identity.	12	3
12	1491, by Charles C. Mann. (Knopf, \$30.) New archaeological research about Indians before Columbus.	11	2
13	COLLAPSE, by Jared Diamond. (Viking, \$29.95.) A historical investigation into why some societies succeed while others fail.	--	33
14	THE LAST TRUE STORY I'LL EVER TELL, by John Crawford. (Riverhead, \$23.95.) The daily life of a young soldier in Iraq, told by a Florida National Guardsman.	14	3
15	WILD DUCKS FLYING BACKWARD, by Tom Robbins. (Bantam, \$25.) A collection of short writings by the author of "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues."	--	1