The New York Times Best Seller List

This Week	December 25, 1988 Fiction	Last Week	Weeks On List
1	THE SANDS OF TIME, by Sidney Sheldon. (Morrow, \$19.95.) Four nuns become pawns in a struggle between the Spanish Army and Basque separatists.	1	6
2	THE CARDINAL OF THE KREMLIN, by Tom Clancy. (Putnam, \$19.95.) The C.I.A.'s Jack Ryan races to the rescue of an American secret agent.	2	21
3	THE POLAR EXPRESS, written and illustrated by Chris Van Allsburg. (Houghton Mifflin, \$16.95.) A small boy's Christmas Eve train ride.	3	17
4	ALASKA, by James A. Michener. (Random House, \$22.50.) The history of the 49th state told in fictional form.	7	26
5	DEAR MILI, by Wilhelm Grimm. (di Capua/ Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$16.95.) A recently discovered tale by the 19th-century folklorist, illustrated by Maurice Sendak.	5	6
6	ONE, by Richard Bach. (Silver Arrow/Morrow, \$17.95.) A man and his wife find themselves in a fantasy world.	6	8
7	THE QUEEN OF THE DAMNED, by Anne Rice. (Knopf, \$18.95.) Continuing the chronicle of 6,000 years of vampirism begun in "Interview With the Vampire" and "The Vampire Lestat."	4	10
8	ANYTHING FOR BILLY, by Larry McMurtry. (Simon & Schuster, \$18.95.) The exploits of Billy the Kid, as shared by a dime-novel writer.	9	10
9	MITLA PASS, by Leon Uris. (Doubleday, \$19.95.) A writer's struggles with his heritage and two loves reach a climax during the 1956 Sinai War.	8	8
10	BREATHING LESSONS, by Anne Tyler. (Knopf, \$18.95.) The many facets of a 28-year marriage are revealed during a drive to a friend's funeral.	11	14
11	FINAL FLIGHT, by Stephen Coonts. (Doubleday, \$18.95.) Colonel Qazi, an "international terrorist," plots to steal American nuclear weapons.	10	11
12	THE SHELL SEEKERS, by Rosamunde Pilcher. (Dunne/St. Martin's, \$19.95.) A woman and a painting tie together three generations of an English family.	12	45
13	SPY HOOK, by Len Deighton. (Knopf, \$18.95.) The agent Bernard Samson on the trail of a financial scam within the British secret service.		1
14	ZOYA, by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte, \$19.95.) One woman's story, from St. Petersburg during the Russian Revolution to contemporary New York.	14	21
15	LOVE IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA, by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. (Knopf, \$18.95.) A Colombian poet's perdurable love for a woman is tested by life's changing conditions.		31

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This Week	December 25, 1988 Non-Fiction	Last Week	Weeks On List
1	GRACIE, by George Burns. (Putnam, \$16.95.) The life of the comedian Gracie Allen, recalled by her widower and show business partner.	1	6
2	ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN, by Robert Fulghum. (Villard, \$15.95.) Inspirational essays about everyday matters.	2	8
3	A BRIEF HISTORY OF TIME, by Stephen W. Hawking. (Bantam, \$18.95.) A British scientist's review of efforts to create a unified theory of the universe.	4	36
4	CHILD STAR, by Shirley Temple Black. (McGraw- Hill, \$19.95.) The autobiography of the No. 1 film actress of the mid-1930's.	3	7
5	THE LAST LION, by William Manchester. (Little, Brown, \$24.95.) The second volume of a biography of Winston Churchill, covering the years 1932-40.	5	10
6	DON'T BEND OVER IN THE GARDEN, GRANNY, YOU KNOW THEM TATERS GOT EYES, by Lewis Grizzard. (Villard, \$15.95.) Humor with a Southern accent.	6	6
7	SEVEN STORIES OF CHRISTMAS LOVE, by Leo Buscaglia. (Slack, \$12.95.) The advocate of caring and love recalls experiences during holidays past.	7	10
8	CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA, edited by David Cohen. (Collins Publishers, \$35.) An album of pictures taken by 100 photographers.	8	3
9	A BRIGHT SHINING LIE, by Neil Sheehan. (Random House, \$24.95.) A biography of Lieut. Col. John Paul Vann that is also a history of American involvement in Vietnam.	9	9
10	CHRONICLE OF THE 20TH CENTURY, edited by Clifton Daniel. (Chronicle Publications, \$49.95.) Profusely illustrated history of the world, month by month, from 1900 through 1986.	12	12
11	TALKING STRAIGHT, by Lee Iacocca with Sonny Kleinfield. (Bantam, \$21.95.) More experiences and opinions of the Chrysler chairman.	14	25
12	THE FIRST SALUTE, by Barbara W. Tuchman. (Knopf, \$22.95.) A historian's view of the American Revolution.	10	11
13	GOLDWATER, by Barry M. Goldwater with Jack Casserly. (Doubleday, \$21.95.) The memoirs of the longtime Senator from Arizona and 1964 Republican Presidential nominee.	11	9
14	THE HOME PLANET, edited by Kevin W. Kelley. (Addison-Wesley, \$39.95.) How the earth looks from outer space, shown in 150 photographs.	15	2
15	PRESS ON! by Chuck Yeager and Charles Leerhsen. (Bantam, \$17.95.) The legendary pilot on flying, the outdoors and his West Virginia roots.		8