



John Green
The Anthropocene Reviewed
ESSAYS

“You can’t see the future coming—not the terrors, for sure, but you also can’t see . . . the moments of light-soaked joy that await each of us,” writes Green (*The Fault in Our Stars*). As we gingerly exit our COVID cocoons, these gloriously personal and life-affirming “reviews” give Yelp-style star ratings to everything from *The Penguins of Madagascar* (4.5) to viral meningitis (1), with surprises like whispering (4) in between. The perfect book for right now.

The Best New Books

Invigorating essays on how we live now, an uncle who saves the day, and mischief in Brooklyn

Edited by **KIM HUBBARD**



Steven Rowley
The Guncle
NOVEL

When Maisie and Grant’s mom dies, their uncle—a former sitcom actor—whisks them to Palm Springs, where he’s hiding out from a loss of his own.

Draped in caftans and tossing bawdy zingers, Gay Uncle Patrick (aka Guncle) proves a deeply loving presence as they all begin to heal. Wise and hilarious.



Liv Stratman
Cheat Day
NOVEL

Kit and her husband live in her childhood home in Brooklyn.

He adores her, but she has an unchallenging job at a bakery, an obsession with dieting and a serious case of ennui.

Then she meets a handsome carpenter and tastes freedom—with a dash of guilt. A witty, knowing tale about what it means to grow up.

INSETS, FROM LEFT: KELLY SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES; BRYON LANE SAVANNAH LAUREN; (BOOK OF THE WEEK) PETER ZAMBOUROIS

REVIEWED

New in Paperback



Maggie O'Farrell
Hamnet
You don't need to be a Shakespeare fiend to lose yourself in this magical novel about the wife and kids behind the great man.

Alexis Schaitkin
Saint X
Claire was 7 when her sister was murdered on a Caribbean island. Years later she meets a local who was a suspect—and may have answers.

Georgia Clark
It Had to Be You
A wedding planner dies and leaves the business to his wife—and his mistress. What could possibly go wrong? A charming rom-com to kick off your summer.

Audio Pick!

Mary Kubica
Local Woman Missing

A quiet Chicago suburb is shaken by a string of disappearances. The cases go cold, but 11 years later one of the missing mysteriously returns. A clever thriller for your next long drive.