

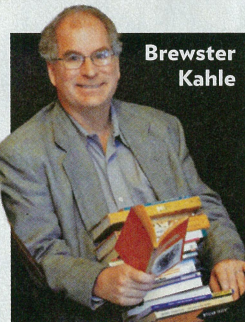
Stay Close

by Harlan Coben | ★★★★★

REVIEWED BY JOSH EMMONS

THRILLER

Coben's new novel takes William Faulkner's famous statement "The past is never dead. It's not even past" as its starting point, with terrific results. Seventeen years after a married strip-club addict disappears in Atlantic City, another man goes missing in similar circumstances, and the unsolved mysteries of the old case come back into lurid focus. Part crime procedural, part investigation of how and why people reinvent themselves, *Stay Close* is funnier and darker than many Coben thrillers, and packs a lot of surprises. It's the beach read of the pre-beach season.



Brewster Kahle

IN A WORLD GOING DIGITAL...

A NOAH'S ARK FOR BOOKS

Internet entrepreneur Brewster Kahle has made it his mission to collect—and preserve—one copy of every book ever published.

WHY DO THIS? Amazon now sells more e-books than physical ones. As books go digital, what do we do with the physical ones? Our answer is to keep them.

WHERE ARE YOU STORING THEM? In shipping containers in a warehouse in Richmond, Calif. We have 500,000 books now and a goal of 10 million.

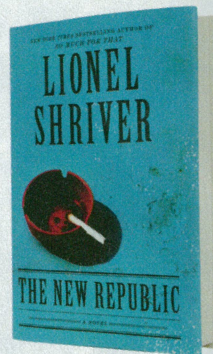
WILL THEY BE ACCESSIBLE OR JUST SIT IN STORAGE? We're digitizing the books too—the access is online, the preservation's in the containers. In the future, if there's ever a digital disaster, we'll be able to rebuild the online library with the warehoused books.

The New Republic

by Lionel Shriver | ★★★★★

NOVEL

Dramatically different from her chilling 2003 bestseller *We Need to Talk About Kevin* (now a movie starring Tilda Swinton), Shriver's new novel is a blowsy, cynical romp about journalists sent to cover a mysterious terrorist movement in a part of Portugal known for its howling winds and stinky *peras peludas* (hairy pears). While Shriver's urge to entertain can be exhausting, her whip-smart observations—about relationships, the role of the media, the cult of personality—are funny and on the mark. —H.R.



Hot Cripple

by Hogan Gorman | ★★★★★

REVIEWED BY JUDITH NEWMAN

MEMOIR

Gorman, a model-actress and, okay, waitress, is gorgeous and looking for her big break. She doesn't expect it to happen literally. Mowed down by a Mercedes in '04, she's left with herniated vertebrae and a swollen brain—and she has no insurance. Gorman tries a little too hard for the big yuks. But *Hot Cripple* is a sometimes funny, often harrowing look at a fear many of us share: getting seriously injured without the means to pay for it.



Kahle, who has spent \$3 million of his own on the project, employs a staff of 150.

DO YOU THINK DIGITAL BOOKS WILL ULTIMATELY REPLACE PHYSICAL ONES? Physical books will diminish. But there's something about touching original materials that transports you in a way digitized versions never will. There will always be a role for books. —DANIEL S. LEVY