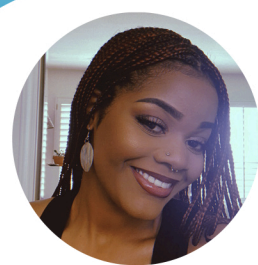
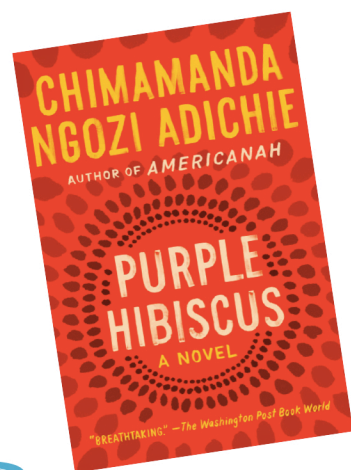


What We Think About...

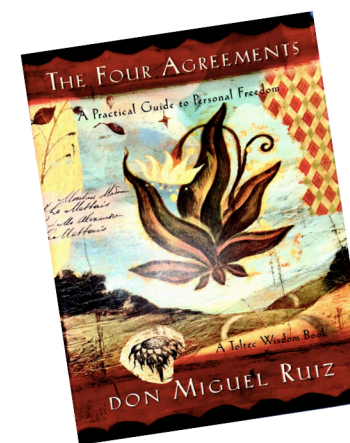
All seems well if not perfect, to those on the outside observing the lives of 15-year-old Kambili and her older brother Jaja, who come from an affluent family in Enugu, Nigeria. Her father is well respected and a giving public figure to their community, and she and her brother are star students who have everything they want. But nothing is as it seems behind closed doors. Their father is relentless in his expectations of his family. His harshness he justifies through his religious beliefs, causing a home life filled with uneasiness, violence and silence. After spending time away with their aunt, a university professor who lives outside their hometown, Kambili slowly begins to break her silence and find a sense of independence. Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie tells a beautiful story surrounding youth, family trauma and freedom in “Purple Hibiscus.”



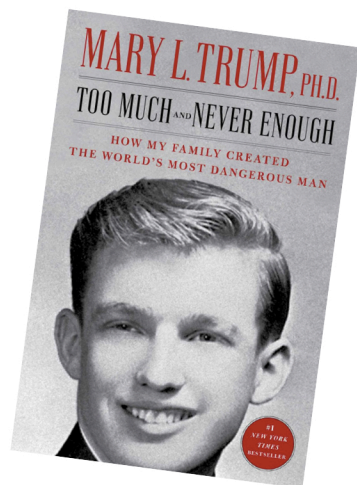
CANDACE FARMER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



One of my favorite books is titled “The Four Agreements” by Don Miguel Ruiz. I received this book as a birthday present last year and finally got around to reading it during quarantine. I am so thankful that I did because it was truly what I needed - especially given the circumstances. Before reading this book, I found myself lost and stuck in beliefs that robbed me of joy. Based on ancient Toltec wisdom, “The Four Agreements” offers life-changing advice that has helped me change my outlook on life, love, freedom, and happiness. I would recommend this book to anyone and everyone.



CAMERON HENRY
PHOTOGRAPHER AND
SOCIAL MEDIA



Mary L. Trump’s book “Too Much and Never Enough” offers a unique insight into the Trump family dynamic that only a relative close to the situation can provide. She offers her take as a professional within the field of psychology and is able to artfully break down difficult concepts for the reader. The book’s main character is, of course, Donald Trump, and how her grandfather enabled, propped up and cultivated Donald into the power-driven, unapologetic businessman many believe he is today. Her book, however, is more than a biopic about Donald. It offers comprehensive insight into the Trump family dynamic: from how Fred built a real-estate empire that eventually Donald would inherit, to the struggles of her own father growing up a Trump, Mary Trump paints a picture that she is uniquely qualified to.

LUCA FERRIERI
STAFF WRITER



“I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter” by Erika L. Sánchez was gifted to me by a member of my family. It wasn’t Christmas or my birthday, he just thought I might enjoy it. And that I did. A raw and engaging story revolving around a Mexican family that touches on topics like sexuality, love, loss, friendship, Latinx traditions and ideals (whether you love them or you hate them), and just enough mystery to keep you turning the page. Julia’s sister Olga was a paragon of goodness and what her parents thought a perfect Mexican daughter should look like. But soon after Olga dies in a tragic accident, Julia discovers that her sister might not have been as perfect as everyone thought. It turns out she had a lot of secrets and even lived a double life. Julia is determined to find out the truth. All of it. But on her journey to uncover the truth, she also learns a lot about herself. This is truly a wonderful book and definitely a must-add to your summer reading list!



ELSA MARTINEZ CASTRO
EDITOR AND WRITER

