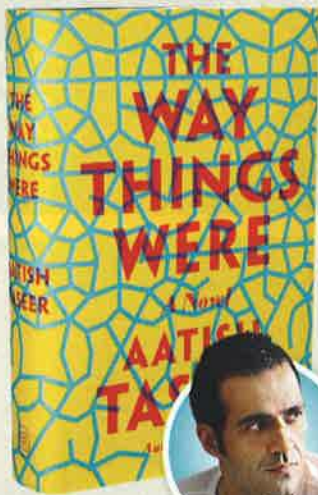


No. **12** The Best New Books

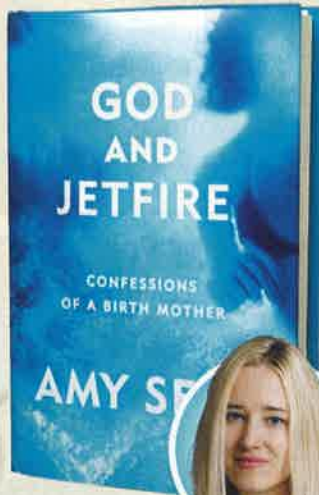
The emotional lives of animals (who knew?), a birth mother's brave memoir and a ravishing tale of modern India
EDITED BY KIM HUBBARD

BOOK
OF THE
WEEK



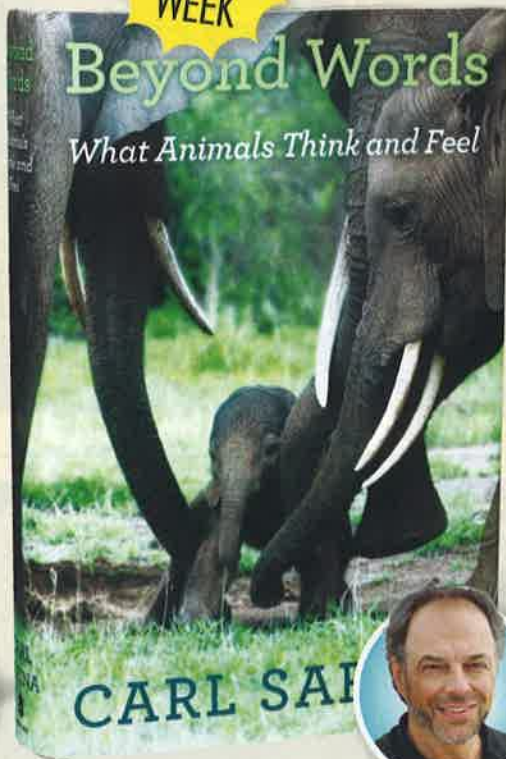
Aatish Taseer
The Way Things Were

NOVEL A young New Yorker dutifully brings his father's body back to India for burial in this ambitious novel about a modern land reckoning with its history. Weighty material—Sanskrit scholars and the politics of Indira Gandhi for starters—is leavened with humor, humanity and passionate romance. A serious saga you can't put down.



Amy Seek
God and Jetfire

MEMOIR An undergrad when she learned she was pregnant, Seek decided to give up her son through open adoption. Her brave memoir paints a heartfelt portrait of a modern family—one in which time with her boy “wouldn't be easy,” she writes. “It would always be a kind of tending to our wounds.” A balm for anyone who's ever faced an excruciatingly tough decision.



Carl Safina
Beyond Words

NONFICTION Do animals have emotions? In this awe-inspiring book, ecologist Safina explores the rich inner lives of elephants, killer whales, apes and more, showing how, like humans, they feel and exhibit jealousy, anger, love and joy. Elephants grieve, cradling their dead. An alpha wolf pretends to lose a wrestling match with his cub. A tiger, after humans take his kill, destroys their traps. Prepare to be amazed by how strongly, in Safina's words, “we are kin” to all creatures.

NEW IN PAPERBACK



Gail Sheehy
Daring: My Passages
All she wanted was everything: sparkling career, stature, love, children. An influential journalist looks back on her charmed life.

Randy Susan Meyers
Accidents of Marriage
Social worker Maddy's life with her beloved but volatile husband takes a dark turn in Meyers's resonant, engrossing novel.

Robert Galbraith
The Silkworm
Novelist Owen Quine has disappeared after writing a manuscript that disses nearly all his friends. Was it foul play? Another winner from Galbraith (aka J.K. Rowling).

INSETS: FROM LEFT: MANOJ KUMAR JAIN; JUSTIN ASH; MICHAEL UTICH; BOOKS: PETER ZAMBONICO/©