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# To widen your world

#### By Ann Patchett

We think we know this prominent Boston Irish family rocked by political scandal. But surprises await as the author of *Bel Canto* uses a car crash to launch a brilliant exploration of the true nature of parenthood.

## To touch your heart Sick Girl

By Amy Silverstein For years, Silverstein, 44, was embarrassed to discuss her organ transplant—in her chest beats the heart of a 13-year-old girl—with anyone but close family. Now, in this tour de force memoir, she tells all.

### To entertain you The Abstinence Teacher By Tom Perrotta

In his spiffy new novel, the author of *Little Children* pits a hip sex-ed teacher against her daughter's born-again soccer coach. Each bears wounds. The big question: Who will save whom?

### To spark your dream The Sharper Your Knife, the Less You Cry

By Kathleen Flinn

Learning to tame a sadistic chef/instructor is one of the tougher trials Flinn faces in this soufflé-light memoir of her life-changing year at the Cordon Bleu cooking school in Paris. Bon appétit.