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*Commentary and Opinion by Chris Stevenson*

## TEN HOT BOOKS FOR SUMMER '06:

**Like President Bush, you too can be the "decider," if you check these reads!**

You heard of various summer reading programs, well consider this my Summer Reading De-program. This 3rd Pointblank Booklist offers a variety of selections. Three of the picks were on last spring's list, two brand new books (nos. 7 & 9) deal with separate forms of victimization to young girls by so-called adults, the rest are a combination of brand new (4) and older works that you need to check. Those of you on a shoe-string budget should pick one, those of you blue-bloods should get them all and be on the front line of the information age. Remember, the immortal words of OJ Rodney (whoever that is) back in '78: "It is much better to open your eyes and say you don't understand... than to close your eyes and say you don't believe." Check your local Black bookstores and major bookchains before reading becomes illegal (again).

10-State Origin: The evidence of the laboratory birth of AIDS. Boyd Graves, J. D. Basically the book that started all the recent AIDS conspiracy talk. First released in '01, this journal tracks and documents the development of what has become the most deadly disease ever. Graves once told me: "the 1971 flowchart document is ABSOLUTE evidence of the purpose, design and plan of the secret US Special Virus program." A relatively quick but detailed read from a former naval officer, and current AIDS patient.

**9-Out of the Cocoon, Brenda Lee. My religious subversive pick, like last spring's "Holy Lockdown." Ms. Lee overcomes family division and self-esteem problems stemming from her involvement with a fundamentalist faith. Powerful.**

8-Who's Afraid of a Large Black Man, Charles Barkley. Author Kola Boof once said that *Charles is afraid* because he has no big Black son(s). Like many Black athletes and ex-ballers, Barkley is married to a White woman, and that's what this book is all about, race. I began gleaning thru this book at the bookstore and was actually impressed enough to buy it. Its a series of interviews conducted by Barkley with people like Tiger Woods, Barack Obama, Samuel L. Jackson, Jesse Jackson, Ice Cube, Bill Clinton and others. Edited by ESPN's Michael Wilbon.

7-Left To Tell: Discovering God amidst the Rwandan holocaust, Immaculee Ilibagiza. Personal account of a survivor of a massacre that should make all of us ashamed to call ourselves human, the Rwandan atrocity. Yes Whites armed and funded that war, but Ilibagiza saw the tribalism and rancor of the Blacks.

6-Rogue State: A guide to the world's only superpower, William Blum. A history of bad US foreign policy.

5-A multitude of counsel on Strengthening The Family, Dr. William C. Small. I've seen this guy many times on the streets of Buffalo dressed in his police uniform, and never connected him to the guy who writes a good column for the Buffalo *Challenger* newspaper. Superman and Clark Kent I guess. At a State of the Black Family conference, he said he uses a White Family on the front cover because Blacks wouldn't buy it if a Black family were pictured. A mostly A-racial crash course in family unity thru parental teamwork and belief in a higher power..

4-Come Hell or High Water: Hurricane Katrina and the color of disaster, Michael Eric Dyson. Still a must buy.

3-Diary of a Lost Girl, Kola Boof. She just signed a major book deal, get this while she is still clandestine.

2-Black Education, edited by Dr. Joyce King. Research from experts as to why Black kids are failing (considered a worldwide conspiracy against Black culture and education), and radical initiatives to reform.

1-Armed Madhouse, Greg Palast. Released on 6/6/06, more revelations on the Bush administration, Iraq, and the plan to steal the '06 and '08 elections, from one of the best in investigative journalism.

*Chris Stevenson is a columnist for the Buffalo Criterion, his column Pointblank can be read at [www.voiceoffreedom.com](http://www.voiceoffreedom.com) email comments to Stevenson at [pointblankdta@yahoo.com](mailto:pointblankdta@yahoo.com)*