



RANDOM HOUSE, INC.

# Free Event

*You are cordially invited to*

The Eighth Annual

## Random House First-Year Experience<sup>®</sup> Luncheon

**WHEN:** Monday, February 20th, 11:30 AM–1:30 PM

**WHERE:** Room # 007 on River Level at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, 200 E. Market Street, San Antonio, TX

**WHY:** To hear five authors speak about their books

*(Past speakers include: Tracy Kidder, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Wes Moore, Sonia Nazario, Eboo Patel, John Prendergast, Warren St. John and Bill Strickland)*

Join us for **FREE BOOKS**



and **FREE LUNCH**



### VISIT OUR BLOG:



**Common Reads** is dedicated to bringing you the latest in adoption news, program information, and resources related to common reading programs at high schools, universities, and within communities.

**SPREAD THE WORD! Tell your colleagues about this event.**

To RSVP, pass by Random House booth #52 & 53 or email [mgentile@randomhouse.com](mailto:mgentile@randomhouse.com) with your name, title, and institution.

**SPACE IS LIMITED.** First Come, First Served.



**FREE  
EVENT**

# MEET THE AUTHORS

At the Eighth Annual Random House First Year Experience® Luncheon



**SAM BRACKEN**  
**My Orange Duffel Bag**  
 A Journey to Radical Change  
 With Echo Garrett  
 On sale May 15, 2012  
 Crown Archetype | HC | 978-0-307-98488-3  
 208pp. | \$23.00/\$25.95 Can.



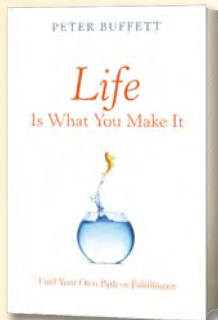
**Self-Published Phenomenon, Now Available from Random House, Inc.**

Despite being abandoned at age 15 and suffering unspeakable abuse, Sam Bracken overcame the odds to change his life and earn a full-ride football scholarship to the Georgia Institute of Technology. When he left for college, everything he owned fit in an orange duffel bag. In *My Orange Duffel Bag*, Sam tells his harrowing story of homelessness, poverty, and abuse and how he was able to reinvent himself. He also shows students how they can turn their lives around by sharing his rules for the road: everything he learned about radically changing his life and how anyone can create positive, lasting change.

[www.MyOrangeDuffelBag.com/](http://www.MyOrangeDuffelBag.com/)



**PETER BUFFETT**  
**Life is What You Make It**  
 Find Your Own Path to Fulfillment  
 Three Rivers Press | TR | 978-0-307-46472-9  
 272pp. | \$14.00/\$16.00 Can.



**Emmy Award-Winning Musician and Now Celebrated Author**

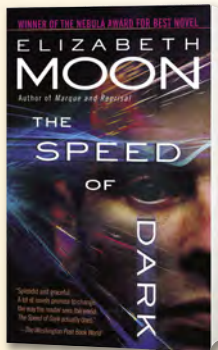
It's easy to think that having billionaire investor Warren Buffett as a father makes life easy. But, as Peter Buffett learned, and shares in *Life Is What You Make It*, personal success is about building one's own character, not simply using a family platform to get ahead. A musician and composer, Buffett shares the important lessons learned from his parents, an upbringing based on instilling honorable values and cultivating self-reliance. He explains the reasoning behind his father's decision not to give his children an inheritance, imparting how important it is for each person to define his or her own path, regardless of wealth, background, or name.

[www.PeterBuffett.com](http://www.PeterBuffett.com)



©Nancy Whitmore

**ELIZABETH MOON**  
**The Speed of Dark: A Novel**  
 Ballantine | TR | 978-0-345-44754-8  
 368pp. | \$13.95/\$21.00 Can.  
 Del Rey | MM | 978-0-345-48139-9  
 384pp. | \$6.99/\$10.99 Can.



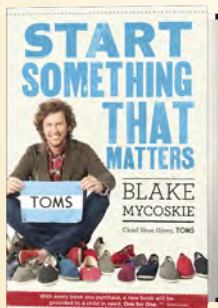
**Winner, 2004 Nebula Award**

*The Speed of Dark* is an exploration into the world of Lou Arrendale, an autistic man who is offered a chance to try a brand-new experimental "cure" for his condition. Now Lou must decide if he should submit to a surgery that might completely change the way he views the world and the very essence of who he is. *The Speed of Dark* is a fascinating work of fiction about choice and consequences. Selected for Common Reading at Clemson University, Ohio State University, and SUNY Oswego.

[www.ElizabethMoon.com](http://www.ElizabethMoon.com)



**BLAKE MYCOSKIE**  
**Start Something That Matters**  
 Spiegel & Grau | HC | 978-1-4000-6918-7  
 208pp. | \$22.00/\$25.00 Can.



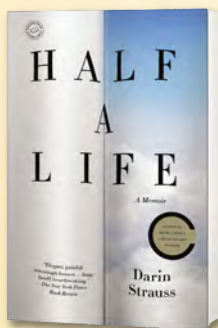
**The Incredible Story of the Man Behind TOMS Shoes**

This is the incredible story of the man behind TOMS Shoes and One for One, the revolutionary business model that marries fun, profit, and social good. Blake Mycoskie, the charismatic young founder and "chief shoe giver" of the wildly successful TOMS Shoes, shares his transformation from a "regular business guy," motivated primarily by profit, into one of the emerging leaders in a new movement toward Conscious Capitalism. His transformative "one for one" philosophy offers a new way of thinking about success, defined by creating work that simultaneously fulfills our hunger for material success, philanthropic impact, and personal meaning.

[www.StartSomethingThatMatters.com/](http://www.StartSomethingThatMatters.com/)



**DARIN STRAUSS**  
**Half a Life: A Memoir**  
 Random House | TR | 978-0-8129-8253-4  
 224pp. | \$13.00/\$15.00 Can.



**Winner, National Book Critics Circle Award (Autobiography)**

In this powerful, unforgettable memoir, acclaimed novelist Darin Strauss recounts a tragedy and its aftermath. In the last month of his high school career, just after turning eighteen, Strauss is behind the wheel of his father's Oldsmobile, driving with friends, having "thoughts of mini-golf, another thought of maybe just going to the beach." Then out of the blue: a collision that results in the death of a bicycling classmate and that shadows the rest of his life. In haunting, penetrating prose, Darin Strauss explores loss and guilt, maturity and accountability, hope and acceptance. The result is a staggering, uplifting tour de force.

[www.DarinStrauss.com](http://www.DarinStrauss.com)