



most entertaining read

♦ **Cringe: Teenage Diaries, Journals, Notes, Letters, Poems, and Abandoned Rock Operas** by Sarah Brown (Crown, \$26) "The world is made up of three groups: people who never kept diaries, people who kept diaries, and people who kept diaries but destroyed them." This anthology of adolescent journal submissions serves up a big heap of hilarity for teens and grown-up teens alike. Spot-on snippets of awkward revelations and pubescent melodrama makes it impossible not to fall on the floor laughing. —SP

series we are sad to see end

♦ **Twilight** box set by Stephenie Meyer (Little, Brown and Company, \$90) If you haven't heard of the *Twilight* book series, you're about a year behind the worldwide following. Not to fret—you are just in time for the box set, so you can enjoy each one of these now nearly-out-of-stock novels back to back. The vampire romance, geared towards teens but indulged in by adults as well, tells the classic story of star-crossed lovers with bite. —SP

"The characters were engaging and the overall tone of the book was a bit dark, but because the characters are teens dealing with issues that real teens have, it was easy to sympathize."
MY PHUONG PHAM, 16, TORONTO



top tear-jerking memoirs

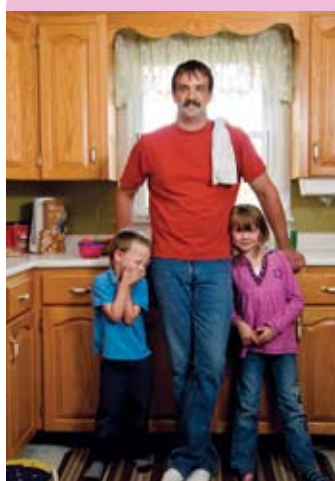
- 1 The End of The World As We Know It** by Robert Goolrick (Algonquin Books, \$26) In this startling memoir of addiction and abuse, Robert Goolrick reveals how a single horrific event can alter the course of an entire life. Goolrick recounts his lifelong journey with a raw honesty that is deeply painful and incredibly moving. —AM
- 2 Who Do You Think You Are?** by Alyse Myers (Touchstone, \$28) In this heart-wrenching memoir, Alyse Myers explores a mother-daughter relationship taut with contempt and misunderstanding. With unpretentious honesty, Myers depicts a mother she hated, a woman who she later discovers she never really knew. —SC
- 3 Split: A Memoir of Divorce** by Suzanne Finamore (Dutton Books, \$25) Bestselling author Suzanne Finamore is no stranger to storytelling, but when her husband left her and their toddler son, it was a scene that even she could not have imagined. In a memoir that showcases her fantastic wit, Finamore takes readers along on her journey as a newly single mother. —AM



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reality TV, canadian-style

♦ **The Week the Women Went** (series premieres January 21; check cbc.ca/thewomenwent for programming guide) The creators behind the hit Gemini-nominated reality show are up to their old tricks and have picked the humble town of Tatamagouche, N.S., to carry out part two of their social science experiment. A must-watch for men and women alike, the show's premise uproots the town of all its women and leaves men and children to their own devices. Hilarity, a couple brief moments of poignant revelation and deep-fried turkeys will likely ensue. —SP