

USA TODAY

Life SECTION D

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Lifeline

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'New Year's Eve' counts up \$13M

There are still weeks to go before revelers flock to New York's Times Square to watch the ball drop, but that didn't stop moviegoers from seeing *New Year's Eve*. It made \$13 million, finally ousting *Twilight* from the top spot.



>> top box office

Film	Wknd	Total	Avg.	Pct.	Weeks
	(in millions)		per site	chg.	out
1 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	\$13.0	NEW	\$3,714	—	1
2 <i>The Sitter</i>	\$9.9	NEW	\$3,582	—	1
3 <i>Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 1</i>	\$7.8	\$259.4	\$2,170	-53	4
4 <i>The Muppets</i>	\$7.0	\$65.7	\$2,097	-37	3
5 <i>Arthur Christmas</i>	\$6.5	\$33.4	\$1,990	-12	3
6 <i>Hugo</i>	\$6.1	\$33.4	\$2,320	-20	3
7 <i>The Descendants</i>	\$4.4	\$23.6	\$5,000	-9	4
8 <i>Happy Feet 2</i>	\$3.7	\$56.8	\$1,299	-38	4
9 <i>Jack and Jill</i>	\$3.1	\$68.5	\$1,107	-42	5
10 <i>Immortals</i>	\$2.5	\$79.9	\$1,071	-45	5

Source: Rentrak Corp. Lea Michele by Warner Bros. Pictures

An all-star lineup for BET Honors



Getty Images for LACMA

Wonder: Among 2012 honorees.

Honors celebrates lifetime contributions to African-American culture in music, literature, entertainment, media, service and education. The event will air in early 2012 on BET.

Barry Manilow has hip surgery



USA TODAY

Manilow: Back to work in six weeks.

Barry Manilow was hospitalized in Los Angeles Monday for hip surgery. Manilow waited until after he performed his 1,000th Las Vegas concert to undergo the procedure, which removed fluid and repaired torn muscles in his hips. It marked the end of his seven-year run at two resorts in the city. Manilow, 68, is expected to be in recovery for six weeks until a concert Feb. 2 in Chicago.

'Survivor' winner Hatch out of prison

Reality TV star Richard Hatch was released from a Rhode Island prison Monday after serving a nine-month sentence for failing to pay back taxes. Hatch, who won \$1 million on the first season of CBS' *Survivor* in 2000, served six weeks at a state facility after spending most of his sentence in federal prison.

By Cindy Clark with wire reports
E-mail USATCMLifeline@usatoday.com



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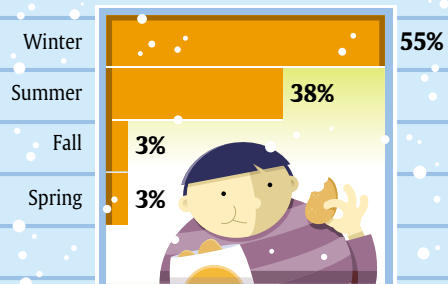
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Which time of year is hardest to get kids to eat healthfully?



Note: Does not total 100% because of rounding
Source: Wakefield Research for Abbott Nutrition survey of 1,001 mothers with children ages 2-10
By Michelle Healy and Paul Trap, USA TODAY



Sony Computer Entertainment America

'LAST OF US' IS BORN

VIDEO GAME, 7D



Liquidlibrary

your Life

BEST OF ALL WORLDS

TOYS CAN BE CHEAP, FUN, EDUCATIONAL, 4D

In a man's world, there are rules

Steve Harvey is your guide

By Brian Truitt
USA TODAY

Steve Harvey jokes that he can easily count all the money he has made in the movie business. It's his self-help book for women, however, that might be his biggest big-screen splash.

Scheduled to open March 9, the ensemble comedy/drama *Think Like a Man* is based on Harvey's 2009 book, *Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man*, which topped USA TODAY's Best-Selling Books list.

"The idea of my first authoring endeavor being turned into a movie — that's a big jump, man. I don't know anybody who can plan that," Harvey says.

In *Think Like a Man*, directed by Tim Story (*Barbershop*), characters played by Taraji P. Henson, Michael Ealy, Gabrielle Union, Jerry Ferrara, Meagan Good and others depict



By Alan Markfield, Screen Gems

"Guys are guys," and it goes on from there: Michael Ealy, left, Kevin Hart, Gary Owen, Terrence J, Romany Malco and Jerry Ferrara offer insight into a man's mind.

Harvey's principles in different situations.

"A lot of the rules they go by, a lot of the ideologies and their personalities and opinions are shaped by the book," Story says. (Some of Harvey's highlights: how to deal with "mama's boys," how many dates should there be before a guy is invited to a

woman's place, and five questions to ask to see whether your man is serious.)

The comedian-turned-author is the narrator, the omnipresent voice of reason, Story says. "You always know these are the words of Steve."

Harvey, who also has a role in the movie, filmed all of his on-screen

work in one day. "I think I'm Oscar-worthy myself. And I probably have the smallest role in the movie!" he says with a laugh.

Kevin Hart plays a recently divorced man who has soured on the idea of marriage and makes it known to his friends. "I'm the voice for men in this movie," Hart says.

Adds Story: "Guys are guys, and guys and girls fall in love and fall in like. He's trying to keep them from going down the same disastrous road he has gone down."

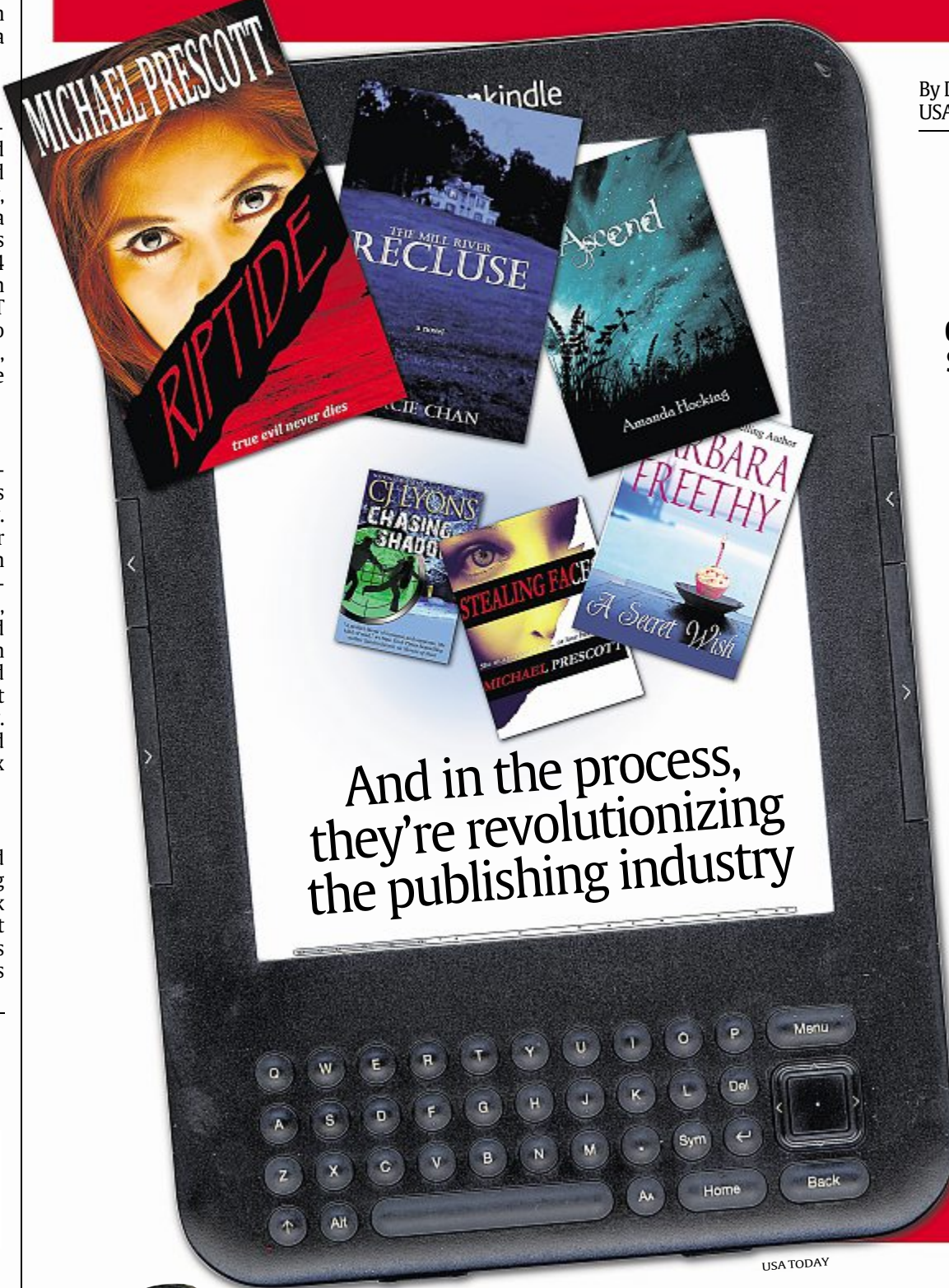
A divorced man himself, Hart has taken Harvey's advice to heart as he negotiates the dating scene.

"What I learned was what you give out is what you receive. I think a lot of men don't understand that. In my first marriage, I wasn't aware of that," Hart says.

"Now that I'm a man, I've learned that the way you treat a woman is the way you'll be treated back — if you're dealing with a quality woman."

Sneak peek
Think Like a Man
Opens March 9

SELF-PUBLISHED AUTHORS HIT IT BIG WITH E-BOOKS



And in the process, they're revolutionizing the publishing industry

By Deirdre Donahue
USA TODAY

In 2009, Michael Prescott's dream died, or so he thought.

After graduating from college in 1980, Prescott had labored for almost three decades to become a best-selling novelist, writing more than 20 books under various names. He enjoyed critical praise and some successes.

COVER STORY

But when 25 publishers passed on buying his thriller *Riptide*, Prescott thought the gig was up. Then, on a whim, he decided to self-publish it as an e-book.

Today, the soft-spoken Prescott, 51, is living his dream. He is one of 15 self-published authors whose e-books, often selling for just 99 cents, have cracked the top 150 on USA TODAY's Best-Selling Books list this year, threatening to change the face of publishing.

For Prescott and a handful of others, the numbers add up. Prescott says he has earned more than \$300,000 before taxes this year by selling more than 800,000 copies of his self-published e-books.

Five of Prescott's thrillers have logged a total of 42 weeks on USA TODAY's best-seller list.

"If someone in this year had told me I was going to make a lot of money with e-books, I wouldn't have believed him," Prescott says. "I thought maybe a couple of hundred dollars."

E-books are changing the way authors and readers connect.

Today, authors such as Prescott can bypass traditional publishers. They

Please see COVER STORY next page ▶

See this week's top 150 list at books.usatoday.com.



Skrillex: The electronic dance music producer is up for five Grammys.

By Bruno Postigo, AP

Electronic dance music hits a groove

Grammys cast a spotlight on genre

By Korina Lopez
USA TODAY

Will 2012 be the year for electronic dance music?

With dubstep artist Skrillex nabbing five Grammy Award nominations and superstar DJ deadmau5 landing three, all indicators say yes.

"Skrillex is a purely electronic artist, and getting a best-new-artist nomination is Grammy's way of acknowledging the rise of EDM (electronic dance music)," says Keith Caulfield, associate director of charts at *Billboard*. The awards "have overlooked EDM artists in the past, like David Guetta and Moby. Skrillex is the face of all EDM at the Grammys."

Who is Skrillex? With his eerie, spine-tingling samples and grinding bass lines, 23-year-old Sonny Moore

— a diminutive, bespectacled Los Angeles-based DJ and producer — is the undeniable leader of dubstep.

"What makes this an incredible achievement is that he has been so successful by being off the radar," Caulfield says. "Sure, kids know who he is, dance fans know him." But when the awards show rolls around Feb. 12, "your average music fan won't have the foggiest idea who he is."

EDM is having its moment, says electronica pioneer Moby, who broke through to mainstream audiences in 1999 with album *Play*, which sold 3 million copies.

"For pop stars, their main currency is youth and the record label. For rock stars, their currency is songwriting and their ability to play live," Moby says. "Electronic music artists are only as good as the last record they played, and their ability to play other people's records. Luck-

ily, there are a lot of good records out there."

Last summer yielded a bumper crop of electronic dance festivals, from Electric Daisy Carnival in Las Vegas, which pulled in 250,000 attendees, to Live Nation-backed Identity, the first electronica touring festival, which made 20 stops. Dozens more such fests are slated for 2012.

"If you go to a rock concert, there are four people standing onstage playing songs that sound nice," Moby says. "You go see Skrillex or deadmau5 live, and there's a huge production value, the lights, the sound. It's hard not to be impressed."

The audience for such spectacles is almost certain to get bigger.

"Pop music has become so aggressively uptempo, when people go to search for more of this kind of music, they're discovering this whole world that exists," Caulfield says.

