STAGE NOTES
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*Other Desert Cities*
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Glossary for Other Desert Cities

PLACE

The Actors Home (Pg. 49):
The Actors Home also refers to The Motion Picture & Television Country House and Hospital is a retirement community, with individual cottages, and a fully licensed, acute-care hospital, located at 23388 Mulholland Drive in Woodland Hills, California. It is a service of the Motion Picture & Television Fund, providing services for members of the motion picture and television industry.

Andorra, Spain (Pg. 30):
Andorra is a town and municipality in Spain with a population of 8,324, an area of 141 km² and a density of 58.89, located in Teruel province, in the autonomous community of Aragon. Andorra is the capital of the Andorra-Sierra de Arcos Aragonese comarca and is located in a region where there is much mining activity. The patron saint of the city is St. Macarius.

Baghdad (Pg. 5):
Baghdad is the capital of the Republic of Iraq, as well as the coterminous Baghdad Province. The population of Baghdad, as of 2011, is approximately 7,216,040, making it the largest city in Iraq, the second largest city in the Arab world (after Cairo, Egypt), and the second largest city in Western Asia (after Tehran, Iran). According to the government, which is preparing for a census, the population of the country has reached 35 million, with 9 million in the capital.

Bahia (Pg. 32):
Bahia is one of the 26 states of Brazil, and is located in the eastern part of the country on the Atlantic coast. It is the fourth most populous Brazilian state after São Paulo, Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro, and the fifth largest in size. Bahia's capital is the city of Salvador, or more properly, São Salvador da Bahia de Todos os Santos, and is located at the junction of the Atlantic Ocean and the Bay of All Saints, officially first seen by European sailors in 1501. The name "bahia" is an archaic spelling of the Portuguese word baía, meaning "bay".
Brown Derby (Pg. 4):
Brown Derby was the name of a chain of restaurants in Los Angeles, California. The first and most famous of these was shaped like a man's derby hat, an iconic image that became synonymous with the Golden Age of Hollywood. It was opened by Wilson Mizner. A chain of Brown Derby restaurants in Ohio are still in business today. The chain was started by Robert H. Cobb and Herbert Somborn (a former husband of film star Gloria Swanson). It is often incorrectly thought that the Brown Derby was a single restaurant, and the Wilshire Boulevard and Hollywood branches are frequently confused. Gus Girves started the Brown Derby chain in Ohio as Girves Brown Derby in 1941.

Bryn Mawr (Pg. 17):
Bryn Mawr College is a women's liberal arts college in Bryn Mawr, a community in Lower Merion Township, in the U.S. state of Pennsylvania, four miles west of Philadelphia. The phrase bryn mawr means "big hill" in Welsh. Bryn Mawr is one of the Seven Sister colleges, and is part of the Tri-College Consortium along with two other colleges founded by Quakers—Swarthmore College and Haverford College. The school has an enrollment of about 1300 undergraduate students and 450 graduate students. Katherine Hepburn graduated from Bryn Mawr in 1928.

Cape Town (Pg. 32):
Cape Town is the second-most populous city in South Africa, after Johannesburg, and the provincial capital and primate city of the Western Cape. As the seat of the National Parliament, it is also the legislative capital of the country. It forms part of the City of Cape Town metropolitan municipality. The city is famous for its harbour, for its natural setting in the Cape floral kingdom, as well as for such well-known landmarks as Table Mountain and Cape Point.

Chasen's (Pg. 4):
Chasen's was a restaurant in West Hollywood, California that was a hangout for entertainment luminaries. Located at 9039 Beverly Boulevard near Beverly Hills, it was the site of the Academy Awards party for many years and was also known for its chili. In 1962 Liz Taylor had several orders of Chasen's chili flown, packed in dry ice, to the set of Cleopatra while filming in Rome. Many of its regular customers had booths named in their honor. The Ronald Reagan booth, now on display at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library museum, was where Reagan proposed to Nancy Reagan (née Davis). Other well-known people who had a booth were Frank Sinatra, Alfred Hitchcock, James Stewart, and Groucho Marx.
Chasen’s, upon a steep decline in business, closed permanently in 1995. The restaurant, which opened its doors in 1936, was in service for nearly 60 years.

Desert Hot Springs (Pg. 49):
Desert Hot Springs, also known as DHS, is a city in Riverside County, California, United States. The city is located within the Coachella Valley geographic region, sometimes referred to as the Desert Empire. The population was 25,938 at the 2010 census, up from 16,582 at the 2000 United States Census. The city has undergone rapid development and high population growth since the 1970s, when there were 2,700 residents.

Encino (Pg. 6):
Encino is an affluent neighborhood in the San Fernando Valley region of Los Angeles, California. Encino has three public and eight private schools, including two private high schools, and the community has been the home of many notable people.

Hague (Pg. 32):
The seat of government in the Netherlands, and the capital city of the province of South Holland. Most foreign embassies in the Netherlands and 150 international organizations are located in the city, including the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, which makes The Hague one of the major cities hosting the United Nations, along with New York, Brussels, Geneva, Bonn, Vienna, Tokyo and Nairobi.

Hong Kong (Pg. 23):
Hong Kong, alternatively known by its initials H.K., is a former British Colony and is currently a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, enclosed by the Pearl River Delta and South China Sea. Hong Kong is known for its expansive skyline and deep natural harbor, and with a landmass of 1,104 km² (426 sq mi) and a population of over seven million people, is one of the most densely populated areas in the world.

Kabul (Pg. 10):
(also spelled Cabool, Caubul, Kabol, or Cabul) is the capital and largest city of Afghanistan. It is also the capital of Kabul Province, located in the eastern section of Afghanistan. According to a 2012 estimate, the population of the city was around 3,289,000, which included Tajiks,
Pashtuns, Hazaras and smaller numbers of Afghans belonging to other ethnic groups. It is the 64th largest and the 5th fastest growing city in the world.

**King Tut’s tomb (Pg. 25):**

KV62 is the standard Egyptological designation for the tomb of the young pharaoh Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings, now renowned for the wealth of treasure it contained. The tomb was discovered in 1922 by Howard Carter, underneath the remains of workmen's huts built during the Ramesside Period; this explains why it was spared from the worst of the tomb depredations of that time. KV is an abbreviation for the Valley of the Kings, followed by a number to designate individual tombs in the Valley.

**Laurel Canyon (Pg. 56):**

Laurel Canyon is a neighborhood located in the Hollywood Hills region of Los Angeles, California.

Laurel Canyon is focused on its central thoroughfare, Laurel Canyon Boulevard. However, unlike other nearby canyon neighborhoods, Laurel Canyon has houses lining one side of the main street most of the way up to Mulholland Drive.

**Long Beach (Pg. 52):**

Long Beach is a city in Los Angeles County in Southern California, on the Pacific coast of the United States. The city is the 36th-largest city in the United States and the seventh-largest in California. As of 2010, its population was 462,257. In addition, Long Beach is the second largest city within Greater Los Angeles Area, after Los Angeles, and a principal city of the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana metropolitan area.

**Ojai (Pg. 39):**

A city in Ventura County in the U.S. state of California. Located in the Ojai Valley, it is northwest of Los Angeles and east of Santa Barbara. The valley is about 10 miles (16 km) long by 3 miles (5 km) wide, surrounded by hills and mountains. The population was 7,461 at the 2010 census, down from 7,862 at the 2000 census.

**Palm Springs (Pg. 14):**

Palm Springs is a desert resort city in Riverside County, California, within the Coachella Valley. It is located approximately 55 miles (89 kilometres) east of San Bernardino, 107 miles (172 kilometres) east of Los Angeles, 123 miles (198 kilometres) northeast of San Diego, and
268 miles (431 kilometres) west of Phoenix, Arizona. The population was 44,552 as of the 2010 census. Palm Springs covers approximately 94 square miles, making it the largest city in the county by land area.

**Pasadena (Pg. 14):**
A city in Los Angeles County, California, United States. As of 2010 United States Census, the population of Pasadena was 137,122, making it the 180th-largest city in the United States, down from 168th place in 2009. Pasadena is the ninth-largest city in Los Angeles County. Pasadena was incorporated on June 19, 1886, becoming the fourth city to be incorporated in Los Angeles County, after Los Angeles (April 4, 1850), Anaheim (February 10, 1870) and Santa Ana (June 1, 1886); the latter two moved to Orange County after its separation from Los Angeles County in 1889. It is one of the primary cultural centers of the San Gabriel Valley.

**Pismo Beach (Pg.16):**
Pismo Beach is a beach city in southern San Luis Obispo County, in the Central Coast area of California, United States. The population was 7,655 at the 2010 census, down from 8,551 at the 2000 census. It is part of the Five Cities Area, a cluster of cities in that area of San Luis Obispo County.

**Punte del Este (Pg. 32):**
Punta del Este is a city and resort on the Atlantic Coast in the Maldonado Department of southeastern Uruguay. Although the city has a year-round population of about 9,280, the summer tourist boom adds to this a very large number of non-residents. Punta del Este is also the name of the municipality to which the city belongs. It includes Punta del Este proper and peninsula areas.

**Rangoon (Pg. 23):**
Yangon is a former capital of Burma (Myanmar) and the capital of Yangon Region. Although the military government has officially relocated the capital to Naypyidaw since March 2006, Yangon, with a population of over five million, continues to be the country's largest city and the most important commercial centre.

**Saks (Pg. 10):**
Saks Fifth Avenue is an American luxury department store chain owned by multinational corporation Hudson's Bay Company, which operates the flagship store and corporate headquarters in Midtown Manhattan, New York City. It competes with high-end specialty stores in the Upper East Side of Manhattan, notably Bergdorf Goodman, Barneys New York,
and Bloomingdale's; it also competes with luxury retailers; corporate cousin Lord & Taylor as well as Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom.

Sag Harbor (Pg. 1):
Sag Harbor is an incorporated village in Suffolk County, New York, United States, in the towns of East Hampton and Southampton. The population was 2,169 at the 2010 census.

Sri Lanka (Pg. 11):
An island country in the northern Indian Ocean off the southeast coast of the Indian subcontinent in South Asia. Known until 1972 as Ceylon. Sri Lanka has maritime borders with India to the northwest and the Maldives to the southwest.

Tangier (Pg. 34):
A major city in northern Morocco with a population of about 850,000 (2012 estimates). It is located on the North African coast at the western entrance to the Strait of Gibraltar where the Mediterranean Sea meets the Atlantic Ocean off Cape Spartel. It is the capital of the Tangier-Tetouan Region and of the Tangier-Asilah prefecture of Morocco.

PEOPLE

al-Qaeda (Pg. 17):
A global militant Islamist and Wahhabist organization founded by Osama bin Laden, Abdullah Azzam, and several other militants, at some point between August 1988 and late 1989, with origins traceable to the Soviet war in Afghanistan. It operates as a network comprising both a multinational, stateless army and a radical Wahhabi Muslim movement calling for global jihad and a strict interpretation of sharia law. It has been designated as a terrorist organization by the United Nations Security Council, NATO, the European Union, the United States, Russia, India and various other countries (see below). Al-Qaeda has carried out many attacks on targets it considers kafir. Amidst the Syrian civil war, al-Qaeda factions started fighting each other, as well as the Kurds and government.
al-Qaeda has attacked civilian and military targets in various countries, including the September 11 attacks, 1998 U.S. embassy bombings and the 2002 Bali bombings. The U.S. government responded to the September 11 attacks by launching the War on Terror. With the loss of key leaders, culminating in the death of Osama bin Laden, al-Qaeda’s operations have devolved from actions that were controlled from the top down, to actions by franchise associated groups, to actions of lone wolf operators. Characteristic techniques employed by al-Qaeda include suicide attacks and simultaneous bombings of different targets. Activities ascribed to it may involve members of the movement, who have taken a pledge of loyalty to Osama bin Laden, or the much more numerous "al-
al-Qaeda-linked" individuals who have undergone training in one of its camps in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq or Sudan, but who have not taken any pledge. al-Qaeda ideologues envision a complete break from all foreign influences in Muslim countries, and the creation of a new world-wide Islamic caliphate. Among the beliefs ascribed to al-Qaeda members is the conviction that a Christian–Jewish alliance is conspiring to destroy Islam. As Salafist jihadists, they believe that the killing of civilians is religiously sanctioned, and they ignore any aspect of religious scripture, which might be interpreted as forbidding the murder of civilians and internecine fighting. al-Qaeda also opposes man-made laws, and wants to replace them with a strict form of sharia law. al-Qaeda is also responsible for instigating sectarian violence among Muslims. al-Qaeda is intolerant of non-Wahhabi/Salafi branches of Islam and denounces them by means of excommunications called "takfir." al-Qaeda leaders regard liberal Muslims, Shias, Sufis and other sects as heretics and have attacked their mosques and gatherings. Examples of sectarian attacks include the Yazidi community bombings, the Sadr City bombings, the Ashoura Massacre and the April 2007 Baghdad bombings. The group is led by the Egyptian theologian Ayman al-Zawahiri.

Amish (Pg. 5):
The Amish are a group of traditionalist Christian church fellowships, closely related to but distinct from Mennonite churches, with whom they share Swiss Anabaptist origins. The Amish are known for simple living, plain dress, and reluctance to adopt many conveniences of modern technology, which is why Trip jokingly calls Brooke Amish when she says she doesn’t watch TV. The history of the Amish church began with a schism in Switzerland within a group of Swiss and Alsatian Anabaptists in 1693 led by Jakob Ammann. Those who followed Ammann became known as Amish.

Atilla the Hun (Pg. 24):
In reference to Polly’s argumentative nature, Silda quotes her as sounding like Atilla the Hun. Attila, frequently referred to, as Attila the Hun, was the ruler of the Huns from 434 until his death in 453. He was leader of the Hunnic Empire, which stretched from the Ural River to the Rhine River and from the Danube River to the Baltic Sea. During his reign he was one of the most feared enemies of the Western and Eastern Roman Empires. He crossed the Danube twice and plundered the Balkans, but was unable to take Constantinople. His unsuccessful campaign in Persia was followed in 441 by an invasion of the Eastern Roman Empire, the success of which emboldened Attila to invade the West.

Barry Goldwater (Pg. 39):
election. An articulate and charismatic figure during the first half of the 1960s, he was known as "Mr. Conservative".

Goldwater is the politician most often credited for sparking the resurgence of the American conservative political movement in the 1960s. He also had a substantial impact on the libertarian movement.

**Basques (Pg. 30):**
The Basques are an indigenous ethnic group who primarily inhabit an area traditionally known as the Basque Country (Basque: Euskal Herria), a region that is located around the western end of the Pyrenees on the coast of the Bay of Biscay and straddles parts of north-central Spain and south-western France.

**Beach Boys (Pg. 28):**
The Beach Boys are an American rock band, formed in Hawthorne, California in 1961. The group's original lineup consisted of brothers Brian, Dennis and Carl Wilson, their cousin Mike Love, and friend Al Jardine. Initially managed by the Wilsons' father Murry, the Beach Boys signed with Capitol Records in 1962. The band's early music gained popularity across the United States for its close vocal harmonies and lyrics reflecting a Southern California youth culture of surfing, cars and romance. During the early to mid-1960s, Brian Wilson's creative ambition and songwriting ability would dominate the group's musical direction. The primarily Wilson-composed Pet Sounds album and "Good Vibrations" single (both released in 1966) featured a complex, intricate and multi-layered sound that represented a departure from the simple surf rock of the Beach Boys' early years.

**Betsy Bloomingdale (Pg. 40):**
Betsy Bloomingdale (born Betty Lee Newling; August 2, 1922) is an American socialite and philanthropist. She is the widow of businessman Alfred S. Bloomingdale, heir to the department store chain. She has been on the International Best Dressed List since 1970. Her prominent status would have made her a possible friend of the Wyeth family.

**Chet Huntley (Pg. 52):**
Chester Robert "Chet" Huntley (December 10, 1911 – March 20, 1974) was an American television newscaster, best known for co-anchoring NBC's evening news program, The Huntley-Brinkley Report, for 14 years beginning in 1956.
Colin Powell (Pg. 4):
American statesman and a retired four-star general in the United States Army. He was the 65th United States Secretary of State, serving under U.S. President George W. Bush from 2001 to 2005, the first African American to serve in that position. During his military career, Powell also served as National Security Advisor (1987–1989), as Commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command (1989) and as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (1989–1993), holding the latter position during the Persian Gulf War. He was the first, and so far the only, African American to serve on the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and was the first of two consecutive African American office-holders to hold the key.

David Hockney (Pg. 13):
An English painter, draughtsman, printmaker, stage designer and photographer. He lives in Bridlington, East Riding of Yorkshire, and Kensington, London. Hockney maintains two residences in California, where he lived on and off for over 30 years: one in Nichols Canyon, Los Angeles, and an office and archives on Santa Monica Boulevard in West Hollywood. An important contributor to the Pop art movement of the 1960s, he is considered one of the most influential British artists of the 20th century.

Deep Throat (Pg. 45):
When Trip finds out that Silda helped Brooke write her book without their parents finding out, he refers to Silda as “Deep Throat.” Deep Throat is the pseudonym given to the secret informant who provided information to Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein of The Washington Post in 1972 about the involvement of United States President Richard Nixon’s administration in what came to be known as the Watergate scandal. Thirty-one years after Nixon's resignation and eleven years after Nixon's death, Deep Throat was revealed to be former Federal Bureau of Investigation Associate Director Mark Felt.

Didion (Pg. 29):
Joan Didion (born December 5, 1934) is an American author best known for her novels and her literary journalism. Her novels and essays explore the disintegration of American morals and
cultural chaos, where the overriding theme is individual and social fragmentation. A sense of anxiety or dread permeates much of her work.

**Dinah Shore (Pg. 39):**

Dinah Shore (born Frances Rose Shore; February 29, 1916 – February 24, 1994) was an American singer, actress, television personality, and the top-charting female vocalist of the 1940s. She reached the height of her popularity as a recording artist during the Big Band era of the 1940s and 1950s, but achieved even greater success a decade later, in television, mainly as hostess of a series of variety programs for Chevrolet.

**Donald Rumsfeld (Pg. 5):**


**Elie Wiesel (Pg.21):**

Eliezer "Elie" Wiesel KBE (ˈɛli vɪˈzɛl/; born September 30, 1928) is a Romanian-born Jewish-American professor and political activist. He is the author of 57 books, including Night, a work based on his experiences as a prisoner in the Auschwitz, Buna, and Buchenwald concentration camps. When Silda talks about her dream about Nazis, she compares her troubles to Elie Wiesel’s work and reputation.

When Wiesel was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, the Norwegian Nobel Committee called him a "messenger to mankind", stating that through his struggle to come to terms with "his own personal experience of total humiliation and of the utter contempt for humanity shown in Hitler's death camps", as well as his "practical work in the cause of peace". Wiesel had delivered a powerful message "of peace, atonement, and human dignity" to humanity.

**Gary Cooper (Pg. 6):**

An American film actor. Noted for his stoic, understated style, Cooper found success in a number of film genres, including westerns (High Noon), crime (City Streets), comedy (Mr. Deeds Goes to Town), and drama (The Pride of the Yankees). Cooper’s career spanned from 1925 until shortly before his death, and comprised more than one hundred films.
Cooper received five Academy Award nominations for Best Actor, winning twice for Sergeant York and High Noon. He also received an Honorary Award in 1961 from the Academy. Decades later, the American Film Institute named Cooper among the AFI's 100 Years...100 Stars, ranking 11th among males. In 2003, his performances as Will Kane in High Noon, Lou Gehrig in The Pride of the Yankees, and Alvin York in Sergeant York made the AFI's 100 Years...100 Heroes & Villains list, all of them as heroes.

**Hell's Angels (Pg. 16):**

The Hells Angels Motorcycle Club (HAMC) is a worldwide one-percenter motorcycle club whose members typically ride Harley-Davidson motorcycles and is considered an organized crime syndicate by the U.S. Department of Justice. In the United States and Canada, the Hells Angels are incorporated as the Hells Angels Motorcycle Corporation. Common nicknames for the club are the "H.A.", "Red & White", and "81" (H and A being the eighth and first letters of the alphabet).

**Mrs. Annenberg (Pg. 40):**

Leonore Cohn Annenberg (February 20, 1918 – March 12, 2009), also known as Lee Annenberg, was an American businesswoman, government official, and philanthropist, noted for serving as Chief of Protocol of the United States from 1981 to 1982. Annenberg was married to Walter Annenberg, who was an Ambassador to the United Kingdom and newspaper publishing magnate. She also served as the chairman and president of the Annenberg Foundation from 2002 until 2009. Her high profile status would have made her a probable friends of the well-to-do and famous Wyeths.

**Nancy Davis Reagan (Pg. 4):**

(born Anne Frances Robbins; July 6, 1921) is the widow of the 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, and was First Lady of the United States from 1981 to 1989.

**Pat Buckley (Pg. 24):**

Patricia Aldyen Austin Taylor "Pat" Buckley (July 1, 1926 – April 15, 2007) was a Canadian socialite, noted for her fundraising activities and her height; she stood just under six feet. She was the wife of conservative writer and activist William F. Buckley, Jr. and the mother of writer/satirist Christopher Buckley, their only child.

**Pucci (Pg. 22):**

Emilio Pucci, Marchese di Barsento (Italian pronunciation: [ɛˈmiːlio ˈputːtʃi]; (20 November 1914 – 29 November 1992) was a Florentine Italian fashion designer and politician. He and his eponymous company are synonymous with geometric prints in a kaleidoscope of colours.
Emilio Pucci clothes and accessories are sold through Emilio Pucci and Rossignol boutiques worldwide and in high-end department stores designed by Lena Pessoa, mostly feature the designer's original brightly colored, often swirly, prints or new designs in his original distinct style. The fashion house produces ready-to-wear clothes and accessories for women, in addition to a small range of men's accessories. In the past, the house has produced a more comprehensive range of men's wear, including a line in partnership with Ermenegildo Zegna, which included men's jackets lined with Pucci printed fabric, especially for American department store Saks Fifth Avenue.

Rock Hudson (Pg. 39):
An American actor. Although he was widely known as a leading man in the 1950s and 1960s, notably in romantic comedies opposite Doris Day, Hudson is also recognized for dramatic roles in films such as Giant and Magnificent Obsession. In later years, he found success in television, starring in the popular mystery series McMillan & Wife and the soap opera Dynasty.

Ronald Reagan (Pg. 5):
An American actor and politician. He was the 40th President of the United States (1981–89), and served as the 33rd Governor of California (1967–75) prior to his presidency. Ronald Reagan reshaped the Republican party, led the modern conservative movement, and altered the political dynamic of the United States. More men voted Republican under Reagan, and Reagan tapped into religious voters. The so-called "Reagan Democrats" were a result of his presidency.

After leaving office, Reagan became an iconic influence within the Republican party. His policies and beliefs have been frequently invoked by Republican presidential candidates since 1989. The 2008 Republican presidential candidates were no exception, for they aimed to liken themselves to him during the primary debates, even imitating his campaign strategies. Republican nominee John McCain frequently said that he came to office as "a foot soldier in the Reagan Revolution". Lastly, Reagan's most famous statement that "Government is not a solution to our problem, government is the problem", has become the unofficial slogan for the rise of conservative commentators like Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh, as well as the emergence of the Tea Party movement.
Sinatra (Pg. 39):
Frank Sinatra was an American singer, actor, director, film producer, and conductor. Beginning his musical career in the swing era as a boy singer with Harry James and Tommy Dorsey, Sinatra found success as a solo artist from the early to mid-1940s after being signed by Columbia Records in 1943. Being the idol of the "bobby soxers", he released his first album, *The Voice of Frank Sinatra* in 1946. His professional career had stalled by the early 1950s, but it was reborn in 1953 after he won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his performance in *From Here to Eternity*. He signed with Capitol Records in 1953 and released several critically lauded albums (such as *In the Wee Small Hours*, *Songs for Swingin' Lovers!*, *Come Fly with Me*, *Only the Lonely*, and *Nice 'n' Easy*). Sinatra left Capitol to found his own record label, Reprise Records in 1961 (finding success with albums such as *Ring-a-Ding-Ding!*, *Sinatra at the Sands*, and *Francis Albert Sinatra & Antonio Carlos Jobim*), toured internationally, was a founding member of the Rat Pack and fraternized with celebrities and statesmen, including John F. Kennedy.

Stalin (Pg. 45):
Joseph Stalin was the leader of the Soviet Union from the mid-1920s until his death in 1953. Among the Bolshevik revolutionaries who took part in the Russian Revolution of 1917, Stalin was appointed general secretary of the party's Central Committee in 1922. He subsequently managed to consolidate power following the 1924 death of Vladimir Lenin through suppressing Lenin's criticisms (in the postscript of his testament) and expanding the functions of his role, all the while eliminating any opposition. By the late 1920s, he was the unchallenged leader of the Soviet Union. He remained general secretary until the post was abolished in 1952, concurrently serving as the Premier of the Soviet Union from 1941 onward.

Totie Fields (Pg. 21):
Totie Fields (May 7, 1930 – August 2, 1978) was an American comedienne. Fields gained fame during the 1960s and 1970s. Ed Sullivan gave Fields her first big break when he booked her on his show after seeing her perform at the Copacabana in New York. She made multiple appearances on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, *The Mike Douglas Show*, and *The Merv Griffin Show*, as well as a fifth season episode of *Here's Lucy* starring Lucille Ball.

In 1972, Fields wrote a humorous diet book titled *I Think I'll Start on Monday: The Official 8½ Oz. Mashed Potato Diet*. Silda references her dieting style jokes and her diabetic amputation, comparing it to her drinking problem.
Zapotec Indian (Pg. 44):
The Zapotecs are an indigenous people of Mexico. The population is concentrated in the southern state of Oaxaca, but Zapotec communities exist in neighboring states, as well. The present-day population is estimated at approximately 800,000 to 1,000,000 persons, many of whom are monolingual in one of the native Zapotec languages and dialects. In pre-Columbian times, the Zapotec civilization was one of the highly developed cultures of Mesoamerica, which, among other things, included a system of writing. Many people of Zapotec ancestry have emigrated to the United States over several decades, and they maintain their own social organizations in the Los Angeles and Central Valley areas of California.

MISCELLANEOUS

Anthrax (Pg.7):
An acute disease caused by the bacterium Bacillus anthracis. Most forms of the disease are lethal, and it affects both humans and animals. Effective vaccines against anthrax are now available, and some forms of the disease respond well to antibiotic treatment. Anthrax spores can and have been used as a biological warfare weapon. Its first modern incidence occurred when Scandinavian rebels, supplied by the German General Staff, used anthrax with unknown results against the Imperial Russian Army in Finland in 1916. Anthrax was first tested as a biological warfare agent by Unit 731 of the Japanese Kwantung Army in Manchuria during the 1930s; some of this testing involved intentional infection of prisoners of war, thousands of whom died. Anthrax, designated at the time as Agent N, was also investigated by the Allies in the 1940s. American military and British Army personnel are routinely vaccinated against anthrax prior to active service in places where biological attacks are considered a threat.

Givenchy (Pg. 13):
A luxury French brand of Haute Couture clothing, accessories, perfumes and cosmetics with Parfums Givenchy. The house of Givenchy was founded in 1952 by designer Hubert de Givenchy and is a member of Chambre Syndicale de la Haute Couture et du Pret-a-Porter. It is owned by luxury group LVMH and in 1993 achieved a total sales worth of $176 million, making it the second largest apparel division of LVMH after Dior.

Gourmet (Pg.11):
Gourmet magazine was a monthly publication of Condé Nast and the first U.S. magazine devoted to food and wine. Founded by Earle R. MacAusland (1890–1980) and first published in 1941, Gourmet also covered "good living" on a wider scale.
Goy (Pg. 2):
The standard Hebrew biblical term for a "nation", including the "great nation" of Israel. Long before Roman times it had also acquired the meaning of "gentile". The latter is also its meaning in Yiddish. The word is also used to pejoratively describe those not of Jewish descent. It is regularly used by Jews to refer to any and all peoples of faiths other than Judaism.

Green card marriages (Pg. 18):
Green card marriage is a neologism that refers to the marriage of convenience between a legal resident of a country and a person who would be ineligible for residency but for being married to a resident. Tripp says that Brooke’s ex-husband only married her for his green card, something which is not all that uncommon.

Guinness Book of World Records (Pg. 26):
*Guinness World Records*, known from its inception in 1955–2000 as *The Guinness Book of Records* and in previous U.S. editions as *The Guinness Book of World Records*, is a reference book published annually, listing world records, both human achievements and the extremes of the natural world. The book itself holds a world record, as the best-selling copyrighted book of all time. It is one of the most frequently stolen books from public libraries in the United States.

Gumshoe (Pg. 16):
Tripp uses this old slang term for a detective or investigator (police-affiliated or private) to describe the roles his father used to play in movies. Variants include "dick" or "private dick," the connotations of which were not meant to be obscene.

Shoes in the late 1800s were made of gum rubber - the soft-soled precursors of the modern sneaker. The phrase "to gumshoe" meant to sneak around quietly as if wearing gumshoes.

"Gumshoe man" was originally slang for "thief," but by about 1908 the term "gumshoe" was used to refer to a police detective, and the term has stuck ever since (pun intended).

Gunslinger (Pg. 16):
Gunfighter and gunslinger are literary words used historically to refer to men in the American Old West who had gained a reputation of being dangerous with a gun and had participated in gunfights and shootouts. Gunman was a more common term used for these individuals in the 19th century. Today, the term gunslinger can be used to denote someone who is good and fast with pistols, but can also refer to riflemen and shotgun messengers. Trip also describes his father’s movie career by calling him a “gunslinger.”
Knopf (Pg. 29):
Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. is a New York publishing house, founded by Alfred A. Knopf, Sr. in 1915. It was acquired by Random House in 1960 and is now part of the Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group at Random House, which has been owned since 1998 by the German private media corporation Bertelsmann. The publishing house is known for its borzoi colophon (shown at right), which was designed by co-founder Blanche Knopf. Many of its hardcover books later appear as Vintage paperbacks. Vintage is a sister imprint under the Knopf Publishing Group. In late 2008 and early 2009, the Knopf Publishing Group merged with the Doubleday Publishing Group to form the Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group.

L.A. Times (Pg. 5):
The Los Angeles Times is a daily newspaper published in Los Angeles, California, since 1881. It was the largest metropolitan newspaper in circulation in the United States in 2008 and the fourth most widely distributed newspaper in the country. In 2000, the Tribune Company, parent company of the Chicago Tribune and the area's KTLA, purchased the Los Angeles Times.

Loehmann's (Pg. 23):
Loehmann's is an online fashion retailer. It started as a single store in Brooklyn, New York and grew to a chain of off-price department stores in the United States. The chain was best known for its "Back Room", where women interested in fashion can find designer clothes at prices lower than in department stores, which is exactly what Polly makes fun of concerning Silda's wardrobe. While the largest portion of its client base was historically women, the chain also offered shoes, accessories, and men's clothing.

Lord of the Rings (Pg. 15):
The Lord of the Rings is an epic high fantasy novel written by English author J. R. R. Tolkien. The story began as a sequel to Tolkien's 1937 fantasy novel The Hobbit, but eventually developed into a much larger work. It was written in stages between 1937 and 1949, much of it during World War II. It is one of the best-selling novels ever written, with over 150 million copies sold. Trip’s description of the epic is supposed to reference the journey of Frodo to destroy the Ring at Mount Doom.

National Geographic (Pg. 23):
National Geographic, formerly The National Geographic Magazine, is the official magazine of the National Geographic Society. It has been published continuously since its first issue in 1888, nine months after the Society itself was founded. It primarily contains articles about geography, history, and world culture. The magazine is known for its thick square-bound glossy format with a yellow rectangular border and its extensive use of dramatic photographs.
The New Yorker (Pg 31):
The *New Yorker* is an American magazine of reportage, commentary, criticism, essays, fiction, satire, cartoons, and poetry. It is published by Condé Nast. Started as a weekly in 1925, the magazine is now published 47 times annually, with five of these issues covering two-week spans. When Brooke reveals that portions of her book will be published in the New Yorker, she is admitting that it’s wide readership will read all of the secrets of her family in a high profile magazine before her book is even released. Although its reviews and events listings often focus on the cultural life of New York City, *The New Yorker* has a wide audience outside of New York. It is well known for its illustrated and often topical covers, its commentaries on popular culture and eccentric Americana, its attention to modern fiction by the inclusion of short stories and literary reviews, its rigorous fact checking and copyediting, its journalism on politics and social issues, and its single-panel cartoons sprinkled throughout each issue.

Nihilism (Pg. 54):
A philosophical doctrine that suggests the negation of one or more reputedly meaningful aspects of life. Most commonly, nihilism is presented in the form of existential nihilism, which argues that life is without objective meaning, purpose, or intrinsic value. Moral nihilists assert that morality does not inherently exist, and that any established moral values are abstractly contrived. Nihilism can also take epistemological or ontological/metaphysical forms, meaning respectively that, in some aspect, knowledge is not possible, or that reality does not actually exist.

Oprah (Pg. 45):
The *Oprah Winfrey Show*, often referred to simply as *Oprah*, is an American syndicated talk show that aired nationally for 25 seasons from 1986 to 2011. Produced and hosted by its namesake, Oprah Winfrey, it remains the highest-rated talk show in American television history. The show was highly influential, and many of its topics penetrated into the American pop-cultural consciousness. Winfrey used the show as a platform to teach and inspire, providing viewers with a positive, spiritually uplifting experience by featuring book clubs, compelling interviews, self-improvement segments, and philanthropic forays into world events. The show gained credibility by not trying to profit off the products it endorsed; it had no licensing agreement with retailers when products were promoted, nor did the show make any money from endorsing books for its book club.
Paramount (Pg.16):
Paramount Pictures Corporation (commonly known as Paramount Pictures or simply Paramount, and formerly known as Famous Players-Lasky Corporation) is a film studio, television production company and motion picture distributor, consistently ranked as one of the "Big Six" film studios of Hollywood. It is a subsidiary of U.S. media conglomerate Viacom. Paramount is a member of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA). Lyman, in his days as a movie star, probably worked for Paramount.

Patchouli (Pg. 43):
The heavy and strong scent of patchouli has been used for centuries in perfumes and, more recently, in incense, insect repellers, and alternative medicines.

Travel and Leisure (Pg. 11):
*Travel + Leisure* is a travel magazine based in New York City, New York. Published 12 times a year, it has 4.8 million readers, according to its corporate media kit. It is put out by Time Inc. Its main competitors are *Condé Nast Traveler* and *National Geographic Traveler*.

“trust but verify” (Pg. 29):
Suzanne Massie, a writer on Russia, met with President Ronald Reagan many times between 1984 and 1987. She taught him the Russian proverb, "doveryai no proveryai" (trust, but verify) advising him that "The Russians like to talk in proverbs. It would be nice of you to know a few. You are an actor – you can learn them very quickly". Reagan, who subsequently used it frequently when discussing U.S. relations with the Soviet Union, adopted the proverb as a signature phrase. Polly uses this phrase in reference to reading Brooke’s book.

Turner Classic Movies (Pg 24):
Turner Classic Movies (TCM) is an American movie-oriented basic cable and satellite television network that is owned by the Turner Broadcasting System subsidiary of Time Warner. TCM is headquartered at the Techwood Campus in Atlanta, Georgia's Midtown business district.

Historically, the channel's programming consisted mainly of featured classic theatrically released feature films from the Turner Entertainment film library – which comprises films from Warner Bros. Pictures (covering films released before 1950) and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (covering films released before May 1986). However, TCM now has licensing deals with other Hollywood film studios as well as its Time Warner sister company Warner Bros. (which now controls the Turner Entertainment library and its own later films), and occasionally shows somewhat more recent films. In *Other Desert Cities*, Lyman’s films would have been regularly shown on TMC.
Virginia Slims (Pg. 22):
Virginia Slims is a brand of cigarette manufactured by Altria Group (formerly Phillip Morris Companies). The brand was introduced in 1968 and marketed to young professional women using the slogan "You've come a long way, baby." Later campaigns have used the slogans, "It's a woman thing," in the 1990s, and "Find your voice."

Warner Brothers (Pg. 25):
Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc., also known as Warner Bros. Pictures, formerly known as Warner Bros. Studios, commonly referred to as Warner Bros. (spelled Warner Brothers during the company's early years), Warners, or simply WB—is an American producer of film, television, and music entertainment.


Weapons of Mass Destruction (Pg. 5):
A weapon of mass destruction (WMD or WoMD) is a nuclear, radiological, biological, chemical, or other weapon that can kill and bring significant harm to a large number of humans or cause great damage to man-made structures (e.g. buildings), natural structures (e.g. mountains), or the biosphere. The scope and application of the term has evolved and been disputed, often signifying more politically than technically. Coined in reference to aerial bombing with chemical explosives, it has come to distinguish large-scale weaponry of other technologies, such as chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear.
Family Myth in Modern Plays

Though a common theme in many plays, the family drama has become the center of American playwrights’ attention in the last decade. Even aside from the plays of Arthur Miller of the Sophoclean tragedies of the family of Thebes, the focus on the bonds that connect parents, children, siblings, and spouses has become increasingly relevant as we struggle to understand our origin, our futures, and ourselves. Along with Other Desert Cities, the following plays focus on the idea of families and family myth, beyond the realm of family secrets into the legends that create who we are:

After the Revolution by Amy Herzog
All My Sons by Arthur Miller
Another Part of the Forest by Lillian Hellman
Appropriate by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins
August: Osage County by Tracy Letts
Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller
Fences by August Wilson
How I Learned to Drive by Paula Vogel
Jimmy the AntiChrist by Keith Powell
Little Foxes by Lillian Hellman
Long Day’s Journey Into Night by Eugene O’Neill
next to normal by Brian Yorkey and Tom Kitt
Picnic by William Inge
Proof by David Auburn
Raised in Captivity by Nicky Silver
The Effect Of Gamma Rays On Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds by Paul Zindel
The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams
The House of Blue Leaves by John Guare
The Skin of Our Teeth by Thornton Wilder
Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolfe? By Edward Albee
Actors Turned Politicians

Though Ronald Reagan and Arnold Schwarzenegger are well known for their political ventures after their time on the Silver Screen, many actors have turned to politics as another platform for spreading ideas. Here is a list of just a few:

• **Fred Dalton Thompson** won a special election to the United States Senate in 1994 and was reelected for a full term in 1996. He did not run for reelection in 2002. A Republican, he represented his home state of Tennessee from December 2, 1994 – January 3, 2003.

• In November 1990, professional wrestler turned actor **Jesse Ventura** was elected to a four-year term as mayor of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis with a population of around 56,000.

• **Shirley Temple** became the United States Ambassador to Ghana in her adulthood and was an active member of the Republican Party in California in the 1960s.

• Though **Ben Stein** is most famous for intoning “Bueller... Bueller...” he is a renowned economist and served as a speechwriter for both Presidents Nixon and Ford.

• **Jerry Springer** became mayor of Cincinnati well before his show first aired.

• “So you gotta ask yourself one question... do I feel lucky?” **Clint Eastwood**, after *Dirty Harry*, served as the nonpartisan mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea, California from 1986 to 1988.

• **Fred Grandy** was destined to become more than just “Gopher” from *Love Boat*. In 1986, he decided to run for Congressman as a Republican for the state of Iowa, and won. He received 3,000 votes. He served 4 consecutive terms (1986-1995).

• Of “Sonny and Cher” fame, **Sonny Bono** also mayor of Palm Springs, California from 1988 to 1992, and congressman for California's 44th district from 1994 until his death in a skiing accident while still in office.

• After appearing for many years on *Saturday Night Live*, **Al Franken** is currently the junior United States Senator from Minnesota, where he has served since 2009.
Information on Anti-Depressants

There are many different types of drugs used in the treatment of depression, including selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), atypical antidepressants, tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs), and monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs).

Side effects are common in all antidepressants, and for many people, these effects are serious enough to make them stop taking the medication.

Side effects of SSRIs (selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors)

The most widely prescribed antidepressants come from a class of medications known as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs). The SSRIs include well-known antidepressants such as Prozac, Zoloft, and Paxil. Research suggests there is little difference in the effectiveness of these newer antidepressants, but there may be differences in side effects, cost, and how long the medication takes to work.

The SSRIs act on serotonin, a chemical in the brain that helps regulate mood. Serotonin also plays a role in digestion, pain, sleep, mental clarity, and other bodily functions, which is why SSRI antidepressants cause a wide range of side effects, including:

- Nausea
- Insomnia
- Anxiety
- Restlessness
- Decreased sex drive
- Dizziness
- Weight gain

- Tremors
- Sweating
- Sleepiness or fatigue
- Dry mouth
- Diarrhea
- Constipation
- Headaches

While some side effects go away after the first few weeks of drug treatment, others persist and may even get worse.

Studies show that in adults over the age of 65, SSRIs may increase the risk for falls, fractures, and bone loss. The SSRIs can also cause serious withdrawal symptoms if you stop taking them abruptly.
Information on Antabuse

Antabuse, or disulfiram as it is also known, was the first medicine approved for the treatment of alcohol abuse and alcohol dependence by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Antabuse is prescribed to help people who want to quit drinking by causing a negative reaction if the person drinks while they are taking antabuse.

How Does It Work?
When alcohol is consumed it is metabolized by the body into acetaldehyde, a very toxic substance that causes many hangover symptoms heavy drinkers experience. Usually, the body continues to oxidize acetaldehyde into acetic acid, which is harmless. Antabuse interferes with this metabolic process, stops the process with the production of acetaldehyde and prevents the oxidation of acetaldehyde into acetic acid. Because of this, antabuse will cause a build up of acetaldehyde five or 10 times greater than normally occurs when someone drinks alcohol.

What Are the Effects?
The high concentration of acetaldehyde that occurs when someone drinks while taking antabuse can cause reactions that range widely from mild to severe, depending on how much antabuse and how much alcohol is consumed, none of which are pleasant.
If you drink while taking antabuse, you can experience these symptoms:

- Flushing
- Nausea
- Copious Vomiting
- Sweating
- Thirst
- Throbbing in the Head and Neck
- Throbbing Headache
- Respiratory Difficulty
- Chest Pain
- Palpitations
- Dyspnea
- Hyperventilation
- Tachycardia
- Hypotension
- Syncope
- Marked Uneasiness
- Weakness
- Vertigo
- Blurred Vision
• Confusion

Those are the "mild" symptoms. Severe reactions can include respiratory depression, cardiovascular collapse, myocardial infarction, acute congestive heart failure, unconsciousness, arrhythmias, convulsions, and death.

Who Can Use Antabuse?
Only someone who wants to try to quit drinking and who is fully aware of the consequences of drinking while on the medication should take antabuse. Antabuse should never be given to some without their full knowledge or to anyone who is intoxicated. Because of the possible severe reactions, antabuse should not be given to anyone with a history of severe heart disease, psychosis, or an allergy to antabuse. Women who are pregnant should not take antabuse and no one taking paraldehyde or metronidazole should use antabuse.

What Antabuse Does Not Do
Antabuse serves merely as physical and psychological deterrent to someone trying to stop drinking. It does not reduce the person's craving for alcohol, nor does it treat any alcohol withdrawal symptoms.

How Effective Is Antabuse?
The effectiveness of antabuse in helping someone quit drinking depends on the person's continued use of medication. Because antabuse is administered in a daily pill, people can merely stop taking the drug and begin drinking a few days later. However, research in Europe, where antabuse is much more widely used than in the United States, has shown that long-term use of antabuse is very effective in helping people stop drinking, producing abstinence rates of 50 percent. The longer people take antabuse, the more effective it is, because they develop a "habit" of not drinking, research revealed.
Jury of Your Peers and Court TV

Though the court TV show mentioned in Other Desert Cities “Jury of Your Peers” is not a real TV show, court TV has been a genre for several decades. Court shows present content mainly in the form of legal hearings between plaintiffs and defendants presided over by a pseudo-judge. At present, these shows typically portray small claims court cases, produced in a simulation of a small claims courtroom inside of a television studio. The genre began in radio broadcasting in the 1930s and moved to television in the late 1940s. Far more realistic than its dramatized predecessors, arbitration-based reality versions do not use actors, scripts, or recreations. Rather, they feature litigants who have legitimately been served and filed lawsuits, presenting their cases to an adjudicator. Behavior and commentary from all participants involved is self-directed as opposed to script-directed. As such, these types of court shows fall into a subcategory of reality television. It is for these reasons that many of these particular programs make clear claims to authenticity, as text and voiceovers remind viewers that the cases, litigants, and outcomes are "real."

Other court TV shows include:

- Judge Judy
- The People’s Court
- Judge Mathis
- Divorce Court
- Hot Bench
- Justice with Mablean Ephriam
- Judge Faith
- Paternity Court
- Justice for All with Judge Cristina Perez
- Eye for an Eye
- State v.
- Moral Court
- Arrest & Trial
- The Blame Game
- Judge Karen’s Court
- Swift Justice with Nancy Grace
- Family Court with Judge Penny
- Curtis Court
- Judge Joe Brown
The Genogram

A pictorial representation of the relationships in a family. A psychological tool used in family studies, this graphic can help establish patterns and visualize connections.

Example from Moliere’s *The Miser*:

![Genogram Diagram]

Key/ Legend:

- **Male**
- **Female**
- **Relationship**
- **Tense Relationship**
- **Strong Relationship**
- **Connection/ Similarity/ Juxtaposition**
Using this model, create your own genogram for the Wyeth’s in *Other Desert Cities* below:
The Anti-War Movement and the Vietnam War

The movement against U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War began small—among peace activists and leftist intellectuals on college campuses—but gained national prominence in 1965, after the United States began bombing North Vietnam in earnest. Anti-war marches and other protests, such as the ones organized by Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), attracted a widening base of support over the next three years, peaking in early 1968 after the successful Tet Offensive by North Vietnamese troops proved that war’s end was nowhere in sight.

In August 1964, North Vietnamese torpedo boats attacked two U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin, and President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered the retaliatory bombing of military targets in North Vietnam. And by the time U.S. planes began regular bombings of North Vietnam in February 1965, some critics had begun to question the government’s assertion that it was fighting a democratic war to liberate the South Vietnamese people from Communist aggression.

The anti-war movement began mostly on college campuses, as members of the leftist organization Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) began organizing “teach-ins” to express their opposition to the way in which it was being conducted. Though the vast majority of the American population still supported the administration policy in Vietnam, a small but outspoken liberal minority was making its voice heard by the end of 1965. This minority included many students as well as prominent artists and intellectuals and members of the hippie movement, a growing number of young people who rejected authority and embraced the drug culture.

By November 1967, American troop strength in Vietnam was approaching 500,000 and U.S. casualties had reached 15,058 killed and 109,527 wounded. The Vietnam War was costing the U.S. some $25 billion per year, and disillusionment was beginning to reach greater sections of the taxpaying public. More casualties were reported in Vietnam every day, even as U.S. commanders demanded more troops. Approximately 40,000 young men were called into service each month under the draft system, thus adding fuel to the fire of the anti-war movement.

On October 21, 1967, one of the most prominent anti-war demonstrations took place, as some 100,000 protesters gathered at the Lincoln Memorial; around 30,000 of them continued in a march on the Pentagon later that night. After a brutal confrontation with the soldiers and U.S. Marshals protecting the building, hundreds of demonstrators were arrested. One of them was the author Norman Mailer, who chronicled the events in his book “The Armies of the Night,” published the following year to widespread acclaim. Also in 1967, the anti-war movement got a big boost when the civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. went public with his opposition to the war on moral grounds, condemning the war’s diversion of federal funds from domestic programs as well as the disproportionate number of African-American casualties in relation to the total number of soldiers killed in the war.
American Democrats and Republicans

This comparison examines the differences between the policies and political positions of the Democratic and Republican parties on major issues such as taxes, the role of government, entitlements (Social Security, Medicare), gun control, immigration, healthcare, abortion and gay rights. These two parties dominate America’s political landscape but differ greatly in their philosophies and ideals.

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<tr>
<th>Philosophy</th>
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<th>Republican</th>
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<td>Economic Ideas</td>
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<td>Conservative, right-leaning.</td>
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<td>Minimum wages and progressive</td>
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<td>Social and human ideas</td>
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<td>responsibility</td>
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<td>Traditionally strong in states</td>
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<td>Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas</td>
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<td>Symbol</td>
<td>Donkey</td>
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<td>Color</td>
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<td>Founded in</td>
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<td>Woodrow Wilson, Jimmy Carter,</td>
<td>George Bush, Richard Nixon</td>
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<td>Barack Obama</td>
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Timeline of United States Middle East Involvement Post 9/11

September 11, 2001
Hijackers crash two airliners into the World Trade Center in New York. A third strikes the Pentagon, and a fourth crashes in a field in rural Pennsylvania. More than 3,000 people are killed in the terror attacks.

September 14, 2001
Congress authorizes George W. Bush to use "all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations, or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed, or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001, or harbored such organizations or persons, in order to prevent any future acts of international terrorism against the United States by such nations, organizations, or persons."

October 2, 2001
The USA Patriot Act is introduced in Congress.

October 5, 2001
One thousand soldiers from the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division are sent to the Central Asian nation of Uzbekistan, which borders Afghanistan.

October 7, 2001
The U.S. begins bombing Afghanistan. In a televised address, President Bush tells the nation: "On my orders, the United States military has begun strikes against al Qaeda terrorist training camps and military installations of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. These carefully targeted actions are designed to disrupt the use of Afghanistan as a terrorist base of operations, and to attack the military capability of the Taliban regime."

October 26, 2001
President Bush signs the USA Patriot Act into law.

January 29, 2002
In his State of the Union address, President Bush describes an "axis of evil" between Iraq, Iran, and North Korea. Osama bin Laden is not mentioned in the speech.

March 19, 2002
Testifying before the Senate Intelligence Committee, CIA Director George Tenet claims that there are links between Iraq and al Qaeda: "There is no doubt that there have been (Iraqi) contacts and linkages to the al Qaeda organization. As to where we are on September 11, the jury is still out. As I said carefully in my statement, it would be a mistake to dismiss the
possibility of state sponsorship whether Iranian or Iraqi and we'll see where the evidence takes us."

**May 20-24, 2002**
The Bush administration issues an unprecedented series of terror warnings. Vice President Cheney warns it is "not a matter of if, but when" al Qaeda will next attack the U.S., a warning repeated by Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld says that terrorists will "inevitably" obtain weapons of mass destruction, and FBI Director Mueller says more suicide bombings are "inevitable." Authorities also issue separate warnings that al Qaeda terrorists might target apartment buildings nationwide, banks, rail and transit systems, the Statue of Liberty, and the Brooklyn Bridge.

**August 16, 2002**
Speaking from his ranch in Mount Crawford, Texas, President George Bush addresses criticism of his Iraq policy: "I am aware that some very intelligent people are expressing their opinions about Saddam Hussein and Iraq. I listen very carefully to what they have to say. I'll continue to consult.... I will use all the latest intelligence to make informed decisions about how best to keep the world at peace, how best to defend freedom for the long run.... Listen, it's a healthy debate for people to express their opinion. People should be allowed to express their opinion. But America needs to know, I'll be making up my mind based upon the latest intelligence and how best to protect our own country plus our friends and allies." But he also adds, "There should be no doubt in anybody's mind that this man is thumbing his nose at the world, that he has gassed his own people, that he is trouble in his neighborhood, that he desires weapons of mass destruction."

**August 20, 2002**
Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, citing various "intelligence reports," claims that the Iraqi government is "hosting, supporting or sponsoring" an al-Qaeda presence in Iraq. And in an interview with Fox News, he rejects calls for the administration to disclose its evidence that Iraq has weapons of mass destruction. "Think of the prelude to World War II. Think of all the countries that said, well, we don't have enough evidence," he says. "I mean, Mein Kampf had been written. Hitler had indicated what he intended to do. The people who argued for waiting for more evidence have to ask themselves how they are going to feel at that point where another event occurs."

**September 12, 2002**
The White House publishes a 26-page government white paper titled "A Decade of Defiance and Deception," which seeks to demonstrate that Saddam Hussein represents a serious and imminent threat to the United States and its people.
In a speech to the United Nations General Assembly, President Bush says: "Right now, Iraq is expanding and improving facilities that were used for the production of biological weapons . . .
Iraq has made several attempts to buy high-strength aluminum tubes used to enrich uranium for a nuclear weapon," and announces that the US "will work with the UN Security Council."

**September 17, 2002**
The U.S. military releases a new National Security Strategy, making the "Bush Doctrine" of preemptive military action official policy. It is very similar to a draft "Defense Planning Guidance" document written 10 years earlier by Paul Wolfowitz, now Deputy Secretary of Defense.
The White House releases a detailed timeline depicting past Iraqi attempts to obstruct United Nations efforts, including Saddam's repeated refusals to provide inspectors access to sites they wanted to visit.

**September 18, 2002**
The joint Congressional committee investigating 9/11 holds its first public hearing.
Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld warns the House Armed Services Committee that "no terrorist state poses a greater and more immediate threat to the security of our people and the stability of the world than the regime of Saddam Hussein."

**September 19, 2002**
Iraqi Foreign Minister Naji Sabri tells the U.N.: "I hereby declare before you that Iraq is totally clear of all nuclear, chemical and biological weapons."
The White House delivers a draft of a strongly worded resolution to Congress authorizing the President to use "all appropriate means" against Iraq. The 20-paragraph draft includes provisions that would allow Bush to ignore the U.N. and "use all means that he determines to be appropriate, including force, in order to enforce" the U.N.'s Security Council resolutions, "defend the national security interests of the United States against the threat posed by Iraq, and restore international peace and security in the region."
U.N. Chief Weapons Inspector Hans Blix tells the Security Council that he intends to position an advance weapons inspection team in Iraq by October 15.
A group of nineteen House Democrats form a coalition against war in Iraq and draft a resolution advocating multilateral diplomacy.

**October 11, 2002**
Congress passes a joint resolution authorizing President Bush to use military force against Iraq.

**November 15, 2002**
Congress approves legislation creating an independent commission to "examine and report on the facts and causes relating to the September 11th terrorist attacks" and "make a full and complete accounting of the circumstances surrounding the attacks." President Bush signs it into law November 27, 2002.
November 18, 2002
A team of 26 U.N. weapons inspectors arrives in Baghdad.

November 20, 2002
On the eve of a 2-day NATO summit in Prague, President Bush says, that "Saddam Hussein has been given a very short time to declare completely and truthfully his arsenal of terror."

December 3, 2002
Iraq reiterates its claim that it has no weapons of mass destruction in the country. President Bush counters, "He [Saddam Hussein] says he won't have weapons of mass destruction; he's got them."

December 7, 2002
Iraq submits an 11,807-page declaration of military and civilian chemical, biological and nuclear capabilities to the U.N. General Hussam Amin, the officer in charge of Iraq's National Monitoring Directorate, tells reporters: "We declared that Iraq is empty of weapons of mass destruction."

January 9, 2003
The IAEA submits a preliminary report to the U.N. Security Council, stating "no evidence of ongoing prohibited nuclear or nuclear-related activities has been detected, although not all of the laboratory results of sample analysis are yet available."
UNMOVIC inspectors say they have yet to uncover evidence indicating that Iraq has resumed its production of weapons of mass destruction. Hans Blix tells reporters, "We have now been there for some two months and been covering the country in ever wider sweeps and we haven't found any smoking guns."
During his daily press briefing, White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer asserts, "We know for a fact that there are weapons there."

January 22, 2003
The United Nations panel in charge of monitoring sanctions against the al Qaeda network says it has found no evidence of collaboration between al Qaeda and Iraq.
During a joint press conference, French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder announce that they intend to work together to oppose the Bush administration's plan to invade Iraq.
NATO denies a request from the Bush administration for military assistance.

February 15, 2003
Nearly 1.3 million people gather in cities around the world to protest war in Iraq.
March 18, 2003
In a televised speech, President Bush gives Saddam Hussein 48 hours to leave Iraq, or the U.S. will begin military action "at a time of our choosing."

March 20, 2003
90 minutes after the 48-hour deadline expires, at 5:30 am local time, explosions are heard in Baghdad. President Bush announces that he has ordered the coalition to launch an "attack of opportunity" against specified targets in Iraq. Troops from the United States, Britain, Australia, and Poland invade Iraq. Bush sends a letter to Congress, saying that he has determined that further diplomacy will not protect the U.S., and that the U.S. is "continuing to take the necessary actions against international terrorists and terrorist organizations, including those nations, organizations, or persons who planned, authorized, committed, or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001."

March 22, 2003
"Shock and awe" airstrikes on Baghdad continue.

April 19, 2003
Baghdad falls to U.S. forces. Some Iraqis cheer in the streets as American infantrymen seize deserted Ba'ath Party ministries and pull down a huge statue of Saddam Hussein. Large-scale looting of government offices takes place throughout the city.

U.S. authorities in Iraq seize a trailer at a checkpoint in the northern city of Mosul. The government will later claim that this trailer, and a similar one discovered on May 9, are mobile biological weapons labs.

June 15, 2003
The U.S. military begins Operation Desert Scorpion, a series of raids across Iraq intended to find Iraqi resistance and heavy weapons.

July 24, 2003
The independent 9/11 commission releases the declassified portion of an 800-page report on findings stemming from its investigation of the September 11 attacks. Commissioner Max Cleland tells United Press International that the White House had delayed the publishing of the report for fear that it might undermine its case for war: "The reason this report was delayed for so long — deliberately opposed at first, then slow-walked after it was created — is that the administration wanted to get the war in Iraq in and over ... before (it) came out."

August 19, 2003
A truck bomb at the U.N. Headquarters in Baghdad kills the U.N. Special Representative to Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello, and 21 others.
**November 14, 2003**
The Bush Administration reverses policy and in a deal with the Iraqi Governing Council, agrees to transfer power to an interim government in early 2004.

**November 15, 2003**
The Iraqi Governing Council unveils an accelerated timetable for transferring the country to Iraqi control.

**December 13, 2003**
U.S. 4th Infantry Division captures former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Adwar, a small village near Tikrit.

**January 15, 2004**
Tens of thousands of Shiites hold a peaceful demonstration in Basra in support of direct elections.

**January 17, 2004**
The number of U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq since the start of the war reaches 500. Of those, 346 soldiers were killed in combat and 154 died from accidents.

**February 19, 2004**
U.N. Secretary General Kofi Anan concludes that "elections cannot be held before the end of June, that the June 30 date for the handover of sovereignty must be respected, and that we need to find a mechanism to create the caretaker government and then prepare the elections sometime later in the future."

**April 1, 2004**
Four American private security contractors, all former members of the U.S. Special Forces, are shot and burned in their cars in Fallujah. A cheering crowd dismembers the corpses and hangs two of them from a bridge over the Euphrates River.

**April 11, 2004**
The U.S. orders a cease-fire in Fallujah to give political discussions a chance to break the cycle of violence. Two members of the Iraqi Governing Council resign in protest of the American offensive.

**April 15, 2004**
The Bush administration agrees to a U.N. proposal to replace the Iraqi Governing Council with a caretaker government when the U.S. returns sovereignty to Iraqis on June 30.
April 30, 2004
Photographs published in U.S. media outlets bring to light the physical and sexual abuse of Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad.

June 16, 2004
A report by the staff of the independent 9/11 commission finds "no credible evidence" that Iraq had cooperated with al Qaeda in staging the attacks. According to the report, Osama bin Laden had approached the Saddam Hussein regime, but had been rebuffed.

June 27, 2004
On its opening weekend Michael Moore's controversial film Fahrenheit 9/11 is the number one film in the country, with $21.8 million in ticket sales — instantly becoming the highest-grossing documentary of all time. The film, harshly critical of the Bush administration's response to the September 11 attacks and the war in Iraq, had earlier won the highest award at the Cannes Film Festival.

June 29, 2004
Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi announces that the Iraqi Interim Government will assume legal custody of Saddam Hussein and several other senior members of his regime the following day, and would be indicted on charges of crimes against humanity, genocide and war crimes the next day. The prisoners will remain in the physical custody of the U.S. until Iraq has a sufficient security infrastructure in place to hold them.

The Pentagon announces plans to involuntarily recall over 5,000 retired and discharged soldiers to active duty for possible service in Iraq and Afghanistan, in the first major activation of the Individual Ready Reserve since the 1991 Gulf War.
About the Play

The play was originally titled *Love and Mercy*.

*Other Desert Cities* premiered Off-Broadway at the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater at Lincoln Center Theater on January 13, 2011, in a limited engagement run, closing on February 27. The production starred Stockard Channing as Polly Wyeth, Linda Lavin as Silda Grauman, Stacy Keach as Lyman Wyeth, Thomas Sadoski as Trip Wyeth and Elizabeth Marvel as Brooke Wyeth. It was named Outstanding New Off-Broadway Play by the Outer Critics Circle.

The play transferred to Broadway, opening at the Booth Theatre on November 3, 2011, with Judith Light replacing Lavin and Rachel Griffiths replacing Marvel. Both the Off-Broadway and Broadway production have been directed by Baitz's former romantic partner and Tony Award-winner Joe Mantello. This production received five nominations for the 2012 Tony Awards, including for Best Play, Best Actress in a Play (Stockard Channing), Best Featured Actress in a Play (Judith Light), Best Scenic Design (John Lee Beatty), and Best Lighting Design (Kenneth Posner). Judith Light won for Best Featured Actress in a Play.

*Other Desert Cities* was a finalist for the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Ben Brantley, in his review of the Broadway production for *The New York Times*, wrote that the play (Off-Broadway) was "...the most thoroughly integrated and sustained work from Mr. Baitz, who had been regarded as a promising wunderkind for long past his sell-by date." Brantley went on to write: "... directed with a masterly combination of shadow and shimmer by Joe Mantello, emerges as stronger, more sincere, and more credible in its Broadway reincarnation. 'Cities' is now less of a showoff than it was, and its ensemble more of a piece. It has, in other words, settled comfortably into its own skin, which makes its characters' discomfort all the more palpable."

The reviewer for *The Hollywood Reporter* (of the Broadway production) noted that "When it premiered in January, Jon Robin Baitz’s first new play in six years, 'Other Desert Cities', was smart and entertaining. But in its move to Broadway, this domestic dustup has ripened significantly. It has acquired a riveting center in the raw performance of Rachel Griffiths, who makes a knockout New York stage debut. With discreet adjustments to the text and more penetrating characterizations all around from the sterling cast, the balance between comedy and intense family drama has been fine-tuned in richly satisfying ways."
About the Playwright

Jon Robin Baitz was born in Los Angeles, California, the son of Edward Baitz, an executive of the Carnation Company. Baitz was raised in Brazil and South Africa before the family returned to California, where he attended Beverly Hills High School. After graduation, he worked as a bookstore clerk and assistant to two producers, and the experiences became the basis for his first play, a one-act entitled *Mizlansky/Zilinsky*. He drew on his own background for his first two-act play, *The Film Society*, about the staff of a prep school in South Africa. Its 1987 success in L.A. led to an off-Broadway production with Nathan Lane the following year, which earned him a Drama Desk Award nomination for Outstanding New Play. This was followed by *The End of the Day* starring Roger Rees, and *The Substance of Fire* with Ron Rifkin and Sarah Jessica Parker.

In 1991, Baitz wrote and directed the two-character play *Three Hotels*, based on his parents, for a presentation of PBS’s “American Playhouse”, then reworked the material for the stage, earning another Drama Desk Award nomination for Outstanding New Play for his efforts. In 1993, he co-scripted (with Howard A. Rodman) *The Frightening Frammis*, which was directed by Tom Cruise and aired as an episode of the Showtime anthology series *Fallen Angels*. Two years later, Henry Jaglom cast him as a gay playwright who achieves success at an early age - a character inspired by Baitz himself - in the film *Last Summer in the Hamptons*; the following year he appeared as Michelle Pfeiffer’s business associate in the screen comedy *One Fine Day*. In 1996, he was one of the three finalists for the Pulitzer Prize for his semi-autobiographical play *A Fair Country*.

Subsequent stage works include *Mizlansky/Zilinsky* or "Schmucks", a revised version of *Mizlansky/Zilinsky*, starring Nathan Lane, and directed by Baitz’s then-partner Joe Mantello (1998), a new adaptation of Henrik Ibsen’s *Hedda Gabler* (first at L.A.’s Geffen Playhouse with Annette Bening in 1999, then at Long Island’s Bay Street Theater with Kate Burton in 2000, followed by a Broadway production with the same star the following year), *Ten Unknowns* (2001), starring Donald Sutherland and Julianna Margulies, and *The Paris Letter* (2005) with Ron Rifkin and John Glover. His screenplays include the adaptation of his own *Substance of Fire* (1996), with Tony Goldwyn and Timothy Hutton joining original cast members Rifkin and Parker, and *People I Know* (2003), which starred Al Pacino.

Baitz’s occasional work writing for such television series as *The West Wing* and *Alias* led to his position as creator and executive producer of the ABC TV drama *Brothers & Sisters*, which premiered in September 2006 and ran for five seasons, ending in May 2011.