

### **Books**

# Mortality

by Christopher Hitchens

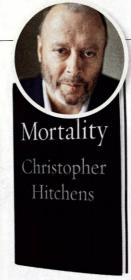


#### REVIEWED BY KYLE SMITH



Even as he lay dying of esophageal cancer last

vear, noted essayist Hitchens remained a wit and bon vivant. During his painful extended exit, he says, there were "so many tributes"



that it seemed as if "rumors of my life have also been greatly exaggerated." Dealing unflinchingly with bodily ravagement, reflecting on life's beauty and remaining rakish about his ideological foes, Hitchens proves that great writers are truly immortal.

## Those We Love Most

by Lee Woodruff | ★★★★



Woodruff knows all too well that life can change "in an instant"-also the

title of the book she wrote with her husband, ABC News anchor Bob Woodruff, about the injuries he sustained in Iraq. In this debut novel she mines that experience, creating a wrenching tale about a wife keeping guilty secrets, a

husband carrying his grief to the local bar and a family whose deepest truths are laid bare by tragedy. Can their bonds survive? Woodruff proves herself as a novelist by keeping us turning pages to find out. -M.M.

# The Time Keeper

by Mitch Albom | ★★★

### REVIEWED BY SUE CORBETT



In his newest book, Albom conjures a backstory for Father Time (here called

Dor), who must help a man dying of cancer and a teen considering suicide

make peace with the lives they've been given. There are no new ideas here-immortality isn't all that, God limits our days, so we must make each one preciousbut the dose of inspiration Albom's (mercifully short) sermon delivers is heartfelt.

