

Oprah book choice raises more classification issues

By HILLEL ITALIE
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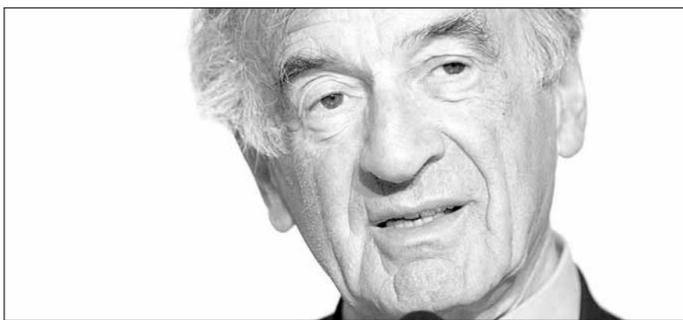
Another Oprah book club pick has raised the issue of fact vs. fiction. Barnes & Noble.com and Amazon.com both said that they were making changes to certify Elie Wiesel's "Night" as nonfiction.

Barnes & Noble.com is removing the book from its fiction list, while Amazon.com is also changing the categorization of "Night" and revising an editorial description to make clear that it does not consider the book a novel.

"We hope to make these changes as quickly as possible," said Jani Strand, a spokeswoman for Amazon.com.

Wiesel did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

Winfrey recently announced Wiesel's classic account of his family's placement in the Auschwitz death camp was her latest choice. "Night" quickly topped



AP PHOTO

Nobel Peace Prize winner and Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel listens to a question during a news conference in March in Washington. Wiesel's classic account of his family's placement in the Auschwitz death camp, "Night," has topped the best seller list on Amazon.com.

the best seller list on Amazon.com, displacing Winfrey's previous selection, James Frey's "A Million Little Pieces."

Frey's story of substance abuse has been widely disputed, with the author

acknowledging that he had embellished parts of the book, as reported by the investigative Web site, The Smoking Gun. Frey and Winfrey have defended "A Million Little Pieces," saying any fac-

tual problems were transcended by the book's emotional power.

No such allegations are being made about "Night," but there has long been confusion over how to label it. While Wiesel and his publisher, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, call it a memoir, "Night" is frequently listed as fiction on course syllabuses and was called a novel in a 1983 New York Times review of a Wiesel biography.

"Night" is described in an Amazon.com editorial review as "technically a novel," albeit so close to Wiesel's life that "it's generally — and not inaccurately — read as an autobiography."

Wiesel first wrote the book in the 1950s in Yiddish, then translated it into French. Hill & Wang, which Farrar, Straus now owns, published the original English-language edition in 1960. Wiesel's wife, Marion Wiesel, has translated the current English version.

Amazon.com has been categorizing the new edition of "Night" under "literature

and fiction," but is switching the book to "biographies and memoirs," blaming the problem on its "data source."

"Amazon.com's data source for the Oprah's Book Club edition of 'Night' inaccurately classified the book as fiction," said Strand, who declined to offer details.

Meanwhile, Amazon's editorial description of an earlier edition, published by Bantam in the 1980s, is being edited "to make it explicitly clear that 'Night' is nonfiction," Strand said.

The Bantam version, which is already classified under "biographies and memoirs," was No. 3 on Amazon.com as of Tuesday afternoon.

Strand described such changes as unusual, but not rare.

Also Tuesday, "Night" topped both the "biography" and "fiction" best seller lists on Barnes & Noble.com.

Barnes & Noble spokeswoman Carolyn Brown says some initial data that classified the book as fiction and was now being corrected.

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY BESTSELLERS

Hardcover fiction

1. "The Da Vinci Code" by Dan Brown (Doubleday)
2. "The Hostage" by W.E.B. Griffin (Putnam)
3. "Every Breath You Take" by Judith McNaught (Ballantine)
4. "The Cat Who Dropped a Bombshell" by Lillian Jackson Braun (Putnam)
5. "S Is for Silence" by Sue Grafton (Putnam)
6. "Mary, Mary" by James Patterson (Little, Brown)
7. "At First Sight" by Nicholas Sparks (Warner)
8. "Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt" by Anne Rice (Knopf)
9. "On the Run" by Iris Johansen (Bantam)
10. "Turning Angel" by Greg Iles (Scribner)
11. "All Night Long" by Jayne Ann Krentz (Putnam)
12. "The Lighthouse" by P.D. James (Knopf)
13. "Predator" by Patricia Cornwell (Putnam)
14. "Just Rewards" by Barbara Taylor Bradford (St. Martin's)
15. "The Camel Club" by David Baldacci (Warner)

Nonfiction/general

1. "For Laci: A Mother's Story of Love, Loss and Justice" by Sharon Rocha
2. "Marley and Me" by John Grogan (Morrow)
3. "My Friend Leonard" by James Frey (Riverhead)
4. "The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century" by Thomas L. Friedman (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)
5. "Bad Childhood — Good Life" by Laura Schlessinger (HarperCollins)
6. "The Year of Magical Thinking" by Joan Didion (Knopf)
7. "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner (William Morrow)
8. "Love Smart" by Dr. Phil McGraw (Free Press)
9. "The Sonoma Diet" by Connie Guttersen (Meredith)
10. "Natural Cures They Don't Want You to Know About" by Kevin Trudeau (Alliance Publishing)
11. "State of War: The Secret History of the CIA and the Bush Administration" by James Risen (Free Press)
12. "Our Endangered Values" by Jimmy Carter (Simon & Schuster)
13. "Team of Rivals" by Doris Kearns Goodwin (Simon & Schuster)
14. "Teacher Man" by Frank McCourt (Scribner)
15. "The Number" by Lee Eisenberg (Free Press)

Mass market paperbacks

1. "Memoirs of a Geisha" by Arther Golden (Vintage International)
2. "The Broker" by John Grisham (Dell)
3. "Red Lily" by Nora Roberts (Jove)
4. "Angels & Demons" by Dan Brown (Pocket)
5. "By Order of the President" by W.E.B. Griffin (Jove)
6. "Vendetta" by Fern Michaels (Zebra)
7. "Double Tap" by Steve Martini (Jove)
8. "State of Fear" by Michael Crichton (Avon)
9. "The Cat Who Went Bananas" by Lillian Jackson Braun (Jove)
10. "The South Beach Diet" by Arthur Agatston (St. Martin's Press)
11. "Summer Breeze" by Catherine Anderson (Signet)
12. "Alone" by Lisa Gardner (Bantam)
13. "Edge of Evil" by J.A. Jance (Avon)
14. "Star Wars: The Swarm War (Dark Nest III)" by Troy Denning (Del Rey)
15. "Unleash the Night" by Sherrilyn Kenyon (St. Martin's)

Bargersville resident honored for service to town

Live Lewis was honored recently by the Bargersville Plan Commission for more than 20 years of service to the town.

Lewis recently retired.

Jennifer Norton Mowrey of Franklin joined the Johnson County Community Foundation as its new donor services director.

Mowrey will work with existing



LEWIS



Annette Jones
PEOPLE

and potential donors to keep them apprised of the needs in the community and of giving options.

She holds a law degree from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego and a bachelor's

degree from Franklin College. Prior to joining the community foundation, she worked for the Indiana Securities Division.

Thomas McCauley, director of bands and instrumental activities at the University of Indianapolis, was honored recently as the Indiana Music Educators Association's outstanding music educator at the college/university level.

An Indianapolis resident, he is an assistant professor of music at the university.

Luke Austin Daugherty of Greenwood has been nominated for three

Momentum Awards through Indieheaven in Franklin, Tenn.

Daugherty has been nominated for Song of the Year ("My Heart Cries Out"), Male Vocalist of the Year and Acoustic Artist of the Year.

Daugherty's next performance is at 7 to 9 p.m. today at Going Home Café, 2316 E. Southport Road in Indianapolis.

Annette Jones is features editor of the Daily Journal. Items for her People column can be sent to the Daily Journal, P.O. Box 699, Franklin, IN 46131 or by fax at 736-2766.

Engines

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1)

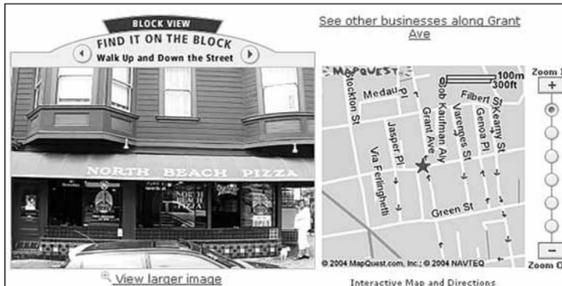
street-level images taken from vans, says the main goal of its site is to help people find local businesses. The company's site currently lists images from two dozen U.S. cities.

The most detailed images available from Microsoft's service are currently only for some U.S. cities, and there are some satellite images of international locations. Google offers images from all over the world, but the amount of detail varies greatly depending on the location.

For example, users scouting out urban areas like Seattle or New York City can make out individual houses and buildings, while those living in Lander, Wyo., see a much less detailed view with Google and only get a graphic map with Microsoft's service.

Google's service mostly gets its images from satellites, and while they're not nearly as detailed as those of Amazon or Microsoft, they are nevertheless good enough to recognize one's home.

John Hanke, a product director at Google, says the technology is



A restaurant is pictured along with a map through the Amazon.com site. Many sites now offer photos along with maps of areas of the United States.

popular for figuring out whether a vacation spot is all it's cracked up to be — Is that "beachfront" hotel really on the beach, or across the highway from the beach? — and for househunting.

Daniel DeConinck, an engineer and entrepreneur living in Toronto, used Google's site to find an accountant close to his house, and has since used it to scout out nearby bicycle shops and computer retailers. He thinks it has the potential to one day replace the local yellow pages.

"Anyone who I've shown Google Maps to, their jaw just drops when they see that," he said.

For her part, Li is somewhat

skeptical that mom-and-pop shops will quickly get on board and make photo-enriched local search a big money-maker.

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