Word Substitution List for *The Life List*

**Chapter 1**

Pg 3  *ribbons of amber* – sunlight (amber – yellowish brown color)

Pg 3  *pumps* – high heel shoes

Pg 3  *paisley* – a swirly design

Pg 4  *brownstone* – a style of house

Pg 4  *bound* – get up quickly

Pg 4  *Krug* – champagne brand

Pg 4  *sequestered* – kept apart

Pg 4  *clutches* – hands (because they can clutch, or hold, things)

Pg 4  *splurged* – spent a lot of money

Pg 4  *suede loafers* – leather (suede) type of casual shoe (loafer)

Pg 4  *duo* – pair, twosome

Pg 5  *chastising* – scolding

Pg 5  *Kytril* – anti-nausea prescription drug

Pg 5  *bravado* – bravery

Pg 5  *tsunami* – catastrophic weather event in the ocean resulting in a huge wave of water

Pg 6  *voice cracking* – an unsteady voice; one that breaks, usually because of crying

Pg 6  *down comforter* – down is the super soft feathers of a bird; a comforter is a bed cover

Pg 6  *stupor* – daydream-like state of mind

Pg 6  *unkempt* – messy

Pg 6  *cowlick* – hair swirl that can’t be brushed out

Pg 7  *gaunt* – very, very thin

Pg 7  *clenched teeth* – biting down hard with the teeth

Pg 8  *foyer* – inside entryway to a house or building

Pg 8  *hiked* – her skirt moved up her thigh

Pg 8  *drool* – saliva that drips out of the mouth

Pg 8  *miff about* – stand around

Pg 8  *surreal* – not real, like a fantasy

Pg 8  *Bill Murray in Groundhog Day* – Bill M (actor) in GD (movie) about a day that repeats itself over and over

Pg 9  *temples* – the sides of the head next to the eyes (a common area for headaches and pain)

Pg 9  *snippets* – small pieces of something, in this case, memories

Pg 9  *fiasco* – disaster

Pg 9  *tipsy* – slightly drunk

Pg 9  *bats a hand at me* – waves my concern away

Pg 9  *story to pitch* – story to sell (convince other people to believe)

Pg 9  *slicker* – raincoat

Pg 9  *Bwett* – a young child’s mispronunciation of Brett

Pg 9  *crow’s-feet* – horizontal wrinkles on the face (usually at the sides of the eyes)

Pg 10  *colossal floral spray* – large flower arrangement

Pg 10  *pecks* – a light, quick kiss, usually on the cheek

Pg 10  *car carrier* – a baby car seat

Pg 11  *Casino Pink* – lipstick color, probably bright pink

Pg 11  *compact* – small round, flat container for make-up, usually foundation or blush

Pg 11  *composed* – professional

Pg 11  *CEO* – Chief Executive Officer (the highest position in a company)

Pg 11  *debacle* – mess (pronounced deb – ah – cl)

Pg 11  *a whit* – a care (doesn’t care at all)

Pg 12  *Penn’s* – short for the University of Pennsylvania

Pg 12  *cottage industry* – a small business run out of the owner’s home

Pg 12  *expand her line* – offer more products (expand her line of products)

Pg 12  *got wind* – heard of (as if the news was carried on the wind)

Pg 12  *Harpo Studios* – where the Oprah show is/was filmed

Pg 12  *prowess* – skills

Pg 12  *the bejesus* – the heck

Pg 13  *cherry desk* – a desk made of cherry tree wood

Pg 13  *pitching* – selling through a verbal presentation
streamlining – narrowing; removing waste from the budget
bowing out – quitting
slouch – someone unprofessional (to slouch is to have bad posture; the opposite of standing tall)
mahogany – another type of wood
lucidity – brightness, clarity
Spanx – brand name for super tight underwear designed to make women look thin
tempered – softened, weakened

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tempered – softened, weakened

smidgen – tiny bit
riveted – mesmerized, entranced
prater – to talk endlessly
bro – short for brother
horsepower – energy, power (usually refers to the size of a car’s engine)
mock befuddlement – pretend confusion
disheveled – the opposite of neat
rakes – runs his fingers through his hair, like a garden rake
kitty-corner – diagonally opposite
scant – small, brief
executor – this is pronounced with the accent on the second syllable and the “x” is soft, like a “g”: eggs-EC-u-tor. The same spelling can also be pronounced ex-e-CUT-or, with a sharp “x” and 3rd syllable stress, but there’s a big difference in meaning. The executor of an estate (as in the book) is the person in charge of making sure the deceased person’s will is carried out correctly. Often this is a family member, but it can also be a lawyer. An executor (second pronunciation) is someone who kills other people as part of his/her job. To further confuse things, to execute someone is to kill them, but to execute an order is to carry out that order. (Same pronunciation in both cases.)

more solvent – better able to pay their debts (because they have more money now)
idle folly – doing nothing
asterisk - * (refers the reader to a footnote, or in this case, a side note or a special condition)
intact – undisturbed
consecutive – one after the other, no skipping

cuticles – the ring of skin at the base of the fingernails
old relic – antique, fossil (referring to the house)
pragmatic – practical
impassive – not showing emotion
Northwestern – Northwestern University near Chicago
tumbledown – neglected, broken
chided – speak poorly of, berate, criticize
coveted – desired, envied
Gold Coast – Chicago’s historic district, also near Lake Michigan, very expensive and pretty
Louise Jefferson - a character from a 1980s sitcom (TV show)
moved on up – the theme song for the above TV show uses the words “I’m movin’ on up.” It’s about a man who is poor and then becomes rich – he “moves up” to a better life.

Gary, Indiana – a working class town, lots of industry, smog, etc.
sound mind – having a healthy, working mind (a common phrase in wills, it means that the person is mentally capable of making a will)
subordinate – someone who is beneath (of lower rank than) another person

Chapter 2
unabashedly pissed – not afraid to show (unabashedly) her anger (pissed)
tortoiseshell frames – glasses with frames with a turtle (tortoise) shell’s pattern
doodling – making little meaningless drawings
manically – quickly, in a frenzied way
Your mother’s shares – refers to Brett’s mom’s stock shares (money)
slouch – sit down in a slumped way, as if there are no muscles to hold her up
adjourn – dismiss
sheepish – embarrassed
unruly brown curls – messy (hard to manage)

brown curly hair
sibs – short for siblings

cackle – laugh, but more like a witch

nada – “nothing” in Spanish, used frequently by Americans

meanders – wanders

croak – speak with a hoarse (scratchy) voice
teetering on the edge of composure – balancing on the edge of keeping herself together (not crying)

portfolio – briefcase

mosaic creases – lots of small, angular folds (creases)

cock my head – tip the head slightly to the left or right

fished this list out of the trash – retrieved this list from the trash

Thumbing – going through the file (using the thumb to turn pages)

smart-aleck – someone who thinks they know everything

all bets are off – lots of uncertainty; too much uncertainty to place a bet on anything

breath catches – breathing goes back to normal

a little thick – he’s choking back tears

Beverly Hills 90210 – TV show

too nosy – too curious

stood me up – not shown up when he said he would

gullible – someone who believes anything

racking my brain – thinking very hard

angst – fear

stipulated – required, commanded

at bay – away

square my shoulders – stand tall and straight, with the shoulders back (not rounded)

grazes – lightly moves, barely touching her cheek

gushing – super happy; hardly able to contain his admiration

soften the blow – make bad news less bad

come clean – tell the truth

play it off – act as if

calling the shots – making the rules

scurry – run

wraps up – finishes

snark – critical, cutting, snide

learn the ropes – learn how something (Bohlinger Cosmetics) works; learn the rules, customs

groom you – get Brett ready; prepare her

cashmere – a soft, very expensive fabric

chignon – hairstyle

Chapter 3

free fall – a fast downward spiral

rifle – look through quickly

comforter – bed covering, like a bedspread

ershed – drunk

Chapter 4

charcoal – gray color

snap out of this – get over this; forget about this; move on

hon – short for honey (a term of endearment)

slack off – let things slide; be lazy
hackles rise – getting angry
thwarted – blocked
mustering the courage – finding the courage, or gathering the courage
thrums – beats
featherbrained – dumb
status-conscious – someone who care a lot about their place in society (their status)
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fits of hysteria – lots of laughing
overhead bin – the storage space above the seats on an airplane
chica – Spanish for girl
giving me the floor – letting me talk and be the center of attention
ploy – plan
asinine – stupid (pronounced ass – in – nine, accent on ass)
Old MacDonald – a farmer in a children’s nursery rhyme
peruses – looks it over; studies it
cinch – something that is super easy
My breath catches – a sudden intake of air, as in surprise or concern (not crying in this case)
horny frat boy – a college boy/man who wants sex and belongs to a fraternity (see sorority)
bridge – the part of the nose between the eyes
sub – short for substitute, meaning be a substitute teacher
in the bag – done
mull it over – think about it

Chapter 5
bubbles up – rises
swanky – elegant
a huge case – a big (important) lawsuit
shoots – rushes out
agape – open
splurge – spend money on
a bummer – too bad
plays hardball – is serious about something almost to the point of being mean about it
Gotta – slang for “got to”, which is bad grammar for “have to”
digs – surroundings (in this case, his office)
golden retriever – a type of friendly dog
cap and gown – refers to a graduation photo
beaming – smiling with pride
leather club chairs – typical leather chairs found in law offices (large, heavy, traditional)
bruised look – a hurt look
leather club chairs – typical leather chairs found in law offices (large, heavy, traditional)
inhalles audibly – breathes in so quickly Brett can hear it
flat-out – completely, 100%
platinum – a type of metal, in this case, Brett’s looking for a wedding ring
downplay – minimize
pains me – hurts me
favor these pursuits – like these activities
receiver – the part of the phone Brett is holding (to talk into)
grant – a proposal for money (this is a reference to his work)
get real – be realistic
short and sweet – over quickly
comfort zone – things that we feel comfortable doing (not things that make us nervous)
MC – master of ceremonies, or the show’s host; the person who introduces the next act, etc.
plugging – advertising
meekness – shy (same as timid)
Ellen-friggin’-Degeneres – comedian Ellen Degeneres (friggin’ is nice slang for fucking)
stand-up – refers to stand-up comedy, where the comedian stands alone on stage telling jokes
trajectory – path
choke up – almost begin to cry
It’ll be a blast – it will be fun!
wimp – someone who has no courage
in the tank – failing; refers to a toilet tank

Chapter 6
fodder – material (like jokes and funny situations that she can use for her comedy act)
mouthed the words – spoke the words by moving her lips, but not making any sound
stirs – moves
morphed – changed
unconventional, undemanding, and unencumbered – not traditional, not demanding, and not having any burdens
aspirations – goals, dreams
steady money-market . . . fund – from a safe financial investment to a very risky one
raucous, standing-room-only – excited, full room (no room to sit down, only room to stand)
three-deep – three rows of people
hole in the wall – she means a small, little-known bar or comedy place
din – noise
boner – penis erection
on a riff – talking on and on
bimbos and boobs – dumb girls (bimbos) and their breasts (boobs)
three shots – three small glasses of alcohol, meant to be drunk in one swallow
Let’s give it up – please clap
electric chair – the chair a prisoner sits in to be put to death
ruckus – noise
give him a hand – clap (he uses “him” because “Brett” is usually a boy’s name)
metal stand – the metal microphone stand
acres of faces – lots of faces (like she’s looking out across acres of land filled with people)
tremulous – trembling, shaky
screech – a sharp, loud, irritating sound
heckled – when an audience boos and makes fun of a performer
counterfeit – fake
bobs – moves up and down
palsy – a disease that causes uncontrollable shaking of the body
Tiffany – a girl’s name
torture chamber – a place where people are badly mistreated, usually prisoners
fiasco – totally messed up thing; a disaster
longneck bottle – beer that comes in a tall (long neck) bottle
Screw this! – an expression of exasperation.
bolt – run
shake it off, B.B. – let it go, Brett Bohlinger (it = the rude audience, the yelling, etc.)
abusive barbarians – mean (abusive) uncivilized people (barbarians)
torture chamber – a place where people are badly mistreated, usually prisoners
intermission – a break during a show
crucifix – the wooden cross that Jesus died on (a symbol of the Christian faith)
loincloth – a small cloth covering Jesus’ penis
racking – heaving, moving up and down because she’s crying so much
I sucked! – I was so bad!
laughingstock – the object of ridicule and laughter; someone everyone makes fun of
chutzpah – A Yiddish (Jewish) word meaning courage, audacity, spunk (pronounced: hoots – pa)
banality – unoriginal, boring
spunk . . . fortitude – enthusiasm (spunk), strength (fortitude)
Eleanor Roosevelt – President Franklin Roosevelt’s wife (1930s)

Chapter 7
tote – purse
out of the blue – randomly; out of nowhere; without any notice ahead of time
Cemetery – place where people are buried after they die

eddies – little pools or spots (of ice)

gales – bursts of wind

headstone – a marker for a grave, often made of stone

made the sign of the cross – a religious gesture (Catholic/Christian)

fiddle – mess around with, play with

play tag – a chasing game children often play (so the leaves seemed to be chasing each other)

perch on the marble slab – sit [perch] on his headstone (made of a big chunk [slab] of marble)

dog-eared – very word (the corners [ears] are bent, as if a dog had chewed on them)

bastard – a derogatory (bad) name for a man – in this case, Brett’s father

The El – short for elevated, because Chicago’s mass transit system is above the streets

lock eyes – two people whose stay connected

khaki Burberry trench coat – light brown [khaki] Burberry brand men’s rain coat [trench coat]

confessional booths – where Catholics go to confess their wrongdoings to a priest

harbored – kept (in secret)

on an emotional ledge . . . talk me down – she’s comparing herself to someone who steps out onto the ledge of a high building, intending to jump and kill themselves. If someone else “talks them down” it means they talked to the person and calmed them down enough to go back into the building.

My stop – Brett’s station to get off the El

imprinted – ducklings develop a special bond with the first person they see after they are born

Chapter 8

Sauvignon Blanc – white wine

seated at the head – head of the table (the end), a place of honor

southern drawl – southern (U.S.) accent

BC’s – Bohlinger Cosmetics

Chapter 9

nosedive – go downward (as in dive down, nose first)

freaked out – very upset

freshman at NYU – first year college student at New York University

pang of envy – feeling of jealousy

officious – official, professional

final entry – the last thing in her journal

settle down – stop traveling and buy a house, get married, have kids . . .

a lot to take in – a lot to think about (to take inside emotionally)

You bet – yes
old geezer – old man
roll my eyes – to look upward in sarcasm
ponder – think
fish my phone – get my phone
sub – short for substitute (teacher)
rifle through – dig through, search through
fridge – short for refrigerator
Heineken – beer
swig – swallow
Hummer – type of large car
knuckle sandwich – a baseball throw (so, like someone threw a baseball very hard at her)
modicum – small amount
gig – job
imposter – pretender, actor
rippled abs – abdomen muscles [abs] that are so strong you can see waves/lines [ripples] in them
all for it – very much in favor of it
fringe benefits – extra good things [benefits] of a job, like health insurance, paid time off, etc.
housing projects – apartments built by the government for poor people to live in
street gangs – groups of teenagers who often commit crimes or sell drugs
false start – an untrue start of labor (delivering a baby into the world)
make a dash – run
thumbs-up – a gesture of positive agreement (thumb pointing upward)
reverie – dream, memory
yank – quickly and forcefully
hindquarters – her butt
ass – a harsh word for butt
Medusa – a reference to the mythological woman with snakes for hair
taffy – a stretchy, chewy candy
Watcha – what do you
gay – homosexual

whooping and hollering – yelling and screaming
skulk – to walk stiffly, with resistance
Prada flats – expensive [Prada] shoes
prepubescent – haven’t yet reached puberty (physical maturity)
on all fours – on her hands and knees
interminable – unending
hoodlums – criminals, bad kids
downpour – heavy rain
reek – smell
Pohlonski – the detective trying to find her father
I’m losing it – I’m losing my mind
placating – calming, soothing
make ends meet – be financially stable (make the ends of your paycheck meet from one month to the next)
my clock is ticking – she’s getting older, closing the window on her ability to have children

Chapter 10 (pages 97-107)
hopscotch – a children’s hopping game
knocked off early – quit working early
kneads – rubs, massages
shitty – nasty, bad, mean
I’m not buying it – I don’t believe it
Mark my words – remember my words (because they will turn out to be true)
tucks a lock of hair – pushes a small amount of her hair behind her ear (a loving thing to do)
mil – short for million (dollars)
exorbitant trusts – huge trust funds (money)
tamp – squelch, dampen, smash
shooed – rushed, pushed
blindsided – hit suddenly, without warning
Madison – city in Wisconsin (where Carrie moved to, away from Brett)
I'd made the cheerleading squad – I was now a cheerleader (a girls’ activity in high school)

lesbian – a female who is sexually attracted to other females

bust out – abruptly begin, similar to ‘burst out with laughter’

hitting on you - flirting; trying to make Brett romantically interested in her

you get that, right – you understand, right?

feigned – pretended

springing – surprising Brett with

backbone – in this case, courage

close tabs on me – keeping a close watch on Brett

despicable – horrible in a shameful way

BLTs – bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwiches

made any headway – made any progress

high-five – when two people slap their hands together high in the air (an act of celebration)

rooting for you – hoping for you to be successful

catch up – learn about what she’s been doing all these years

face heat – her face turns red in embarrassment

making up – apologizing and making things right again

on board – in agreement

cut him loose – let him go (fire him)

whittled it down – narrowed the list

third party – someone other than the people directly involved in the case (so, not Brett or Brad)

CSI – TV show about solving crimes

breakers – waves

IQ – Intelligence Quotient (a test of intelligence)

cliques – groups

pursed her lips – as if for a kiss

Mandarin – a Chinese dialect

South Side – in Chicago, this is known as an especially poor and violent area

housing projects – apartment buildings built by the government for the poor

legit – short for legitimate; Megan means when Brad is a legitimate boyfriend of Brett’s

Cha-ching! – expensive (the sound cash registers used to make when a sale was rung up)

McMansions – super large houses that look more or less alike, made to impress others

commission, cut – Megan’s portion of the sale (it’s how realtors get paid)

prostitute – a woman who has sex in exchange for money

Touche – French for “you’re right, you make a good point even though I don’t want to admit it”

Chapter 11 (pages 109-124)

cement-block – a room made with rectangular blocks of cement, usually painted

custodian’s closet – closet where a janitor [custodian] keeps his/her supplies (mop, brooms, etc)

dotted geraniums – put flowers [geraniums] on the window ledge

Twinkie – yellow cake snack wrapped in cellophane

yada, yada, yada - blah, blah; etc. etc. etc.

baritone – a deep male voice

chum – friend

manipulative – takes advantage of people, tricks people

wreaking havoc – causing trouble

workup – evaluation

cerebral palsy – a genetic disorder causing difficulty with body movements

Dad’s not in the picture – no dad; refers to the family photo [picture] with no dad in it

barely register – Brett hardly hears him, hardly thinks about what he is saying
Hannibal Lecter – a serial killer (someone who kills over and over again)

yammer – talk. Also chatter in the next paragraph

get the hang of things – learn how to do her job

reimburse – to get paid back for work-related expenses

give a rip – care at all

gabbing – talking

predicament – situation

palpitating – moving, bouncing (this is an unusual use of this word)

obscenities – swear words; harsh words; expletives

silk hijab – head covering worn by some Muslim women

enunciate – pronounce very clearly

stench – bad smell

threadbare – fabric that is very worn

plastered leg – a cast is made from plaster, so her leg is hurt and in a solid cast

reimburse – to get paid back for work-related expenses

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Chapter 12 (pages 125-134)

laden – filled with

dab – touch lightly (to wipe away tears)

conventional – traditional, normal, ordinary

kooky – crazy

brunch – a late breakfast/early lunch

Mr. Newsome – Carrie’s dad

camcorder – video recorder (before cell phones)

drool – saliva (liquid in the mouth)

ditch – skip

shore . . . up – hold up (emotionally), help each other

a wedge of Asiago – a chunk of cheese
Cliff Huxtable – a lovable, caring father on a popular TV show

hijack – take over, kidnap

sullen – unwilling to talk, almost angry

Maury Povich – a TV talk show host (on a TV in the background)

honors section – the very smart students

duped – lied to, tricked

bangs – the short hair covering the forehead (‘fringe’ in British English)

polynomials, invert, negatives, 3y, 8x, etc. – just math talk

headrest – the part of a car’s seat that is just behind the head

Are you smarter than a seventh grader? – a play (joke) on the TV game show, Are you smarter than a 5th grader?

cocky – egotistical, think too highly of yourself

crack up – burst out laughing

gassy morph into sobs – laughs [guffaws] turn into [morph] crying [sobs]

going nuts – going crazy

to boot – in addition to

fair shot – an honest try, a reasonable trial

plummets – drops

Chapter 13 (pages 135-146)

hell-bent – insistent, determined

trek – journey

Miles Davis – jazz singer

came on the market – if any new real estate (houses, buildings) are for sale

gasp – a sharp intake of breath (in surprise or shock)

the mortgage . . . is upside down – what they owe the bank for their loft (their mortgage) is more than what the loft is worth; they owe more for the loft than they could sell it for

pool – combine

piker – cheap person (I’ve never heard this before)

scowls – frowns

pestering – bothering, annoying

Begrudgingly – with reservations, not willingly

dictate – direct, control

Catherine’s call – Catherine’s decision

glowers – looks angry

rendered impotent – made [rendered] useless, incapable of acting [impotent]

treasous – guilty of betrayal

comforter – blanket

salt-and-pepper – hair that has some gray (salt) and a little black (pepper) in it

olive skin – the light brown color of skin associated with people from the Mediterranean area

yanked away like some cruel prank – taken away like some mean trick

bolt upright – sit up fast

you got your way – you got what you wanted, got your wish

Happy Turkey Day – Happy Thanksgiving

pour out my heart – tell him everything that’s on her heart, all of her emotions

rough go – a rough, or difficult, time

sage stuffing – traditional Thanksgiving food

of their own volition – of their own doing

heave it – throw it

plop – sit

traipse – walk casually
lost its clientele – lost its people (the path is deserted)

round the bend – follow the curve in the road

Ferris wheel – a carnival ride, a giant wheel that takes people up and around in circles slowly

Navy Pier – a tourist area of Chicago

Labrador – a type of dog

sizes me up – looks me over

Under Armour – a brand of athletic wear

gain on him – get closer to him

a new low – a new low point, a level of behavior that she is ashamed of

pathetic – pitiful, someone to pity or feel sorry for

biological clock – aging; specifically, the ages during which she is able to have children

foreboding – fearing something bad, dreading what is to come

double-wrapped – wrapped with cellophane (clear plastic) so the food won’t spill

turkey loaf – a cheap “meat” made of turkey and other fillers, then shaped into a loaf

fixin’s – short for fixings, meaning all the things that go with turkey (gravy, vegetables, etc)
don’t gotta go – don’t got to go; correct grammar is: don’t have to go

waste buildup – the toxic (deadly) things inside her body caused by her kidney failure

kiddo – a friendly term for a child. Pronounced kid-doe (long o)
a’nt – are not

grandbabies – grandchildren

U-turn – turn around (which requires driving the car in a “U”)

background check – a police report of all arrests and convictions. This is mandatory (required) for anyone who works with children, like teachers.

kin – family

quarters – areas

strip it – take the sheets off the bed

will relieve you – will take your place

exploiting – taking advantage of

bosom – chest. Pronounced like “book” without the “k”, then “zm.” Like boozm

came a-calling – came to the house (calling on the residents at Joshua House)

running for – is a candidate for the position of judge

drum up – think of

Chapter 14 (pages 147-158)

hunch – a guess you think is correct

struck out – wasn’t successful

passed away – died

paid under the table – paid in cash so he wouldn’t have to pay taxes (this is illegal)
nursing home – home for old people
dead end – no more possibilities

exempt – to be excluded from

pawned – sold

illegitimate daughter – a child born outside of a legal marriage

appease me – make me happy

the one – the one she should marry

despises – hates

fallen on hard times – come to some misfortune

suckered – tricked

adjustable mortgage – a home loan with interest rates that go up and down

through the roof – very high

hard as nails – tough

index finger – the first finger

ulterior – untrue, secret

articulate – explain in detail

strip out – tricked

crouch – squats

the catch in his voice – the unsteadiness because he is feeling emotional
boobs – breasts
jinx – bring bad luck
grope – feel around
armoire – free-standing closet
gluttony – excess
trunk – storage in back of her car
steam – energy
meander – wander, walk slowly
sofa, love seat – couch, small couch
there is a list of all of her and Andrew’s expensive purchases (last full paragraph)
inventory – stuff, things
livid – super angry
plaster – glue
stalker – someone who follows someone else around in secret
lets loose – releases
high-pitched – high sounding voice
jiggle – laugh
rifle – look
liquor – alcohol (Glenlivet, for example)
burly – big, strong
Whatcha got – what do you have
goatee – male facial hair (moustache)
armed with – having
queasy – feeling sick (nervous)
ranch – a one-story house
utterly gleeful – completely happy
bungalow – house style
biracial – of two races
close-cropped – cut very short
Bloody Mary, Mimosa, eggnog – drinks
baby bump – her rounded stomach
mug – cup
starlet – celebrity
whiff – smell, scent
bask – soak
den – a room in the house
Farah Fawcett – 1980s star
towheaded – very light blonde hair

Chapter 15 (pages 160-166)
going places – going to be famous
hammers – beats strongly, loudly
moan, clap – shocked sound, slap
picks – plays his guitar strings
riff – notes (as in music)
saddled – burdened with
Uno – a card game
classy – elegant, a good person
smitten – in love with
stage name – not an actor’s (or singer’s) real name, the name he/she uses professionally
mass murderer – someone who kills many people. Charles Manson was crazy and famous for killing many innocent people in the U.S.
stigma – disgrace, shame
twofer – slang for ‘two for one’
sec – short for ‘second’
doll – cute, adorable, friendly, nice
condensed version – shorter story
duplex – a style of house
respite – rest, relief
brood – family
down the road – over time
proposing – asking Jenna to marry him
whining – complaining
rekindling – starting again
shallow pool – small group
confidantes – close friends
void – empty place
flat out – plainly, straight out
scavenger hunt – a game of finding hidden things
nuance, innuendo – subtlety, shades of meaning (not being clear)
slog – battle

Chapter 16 (pages 167-182)
pitch, satchel – throw, purse
Shel – short for Shelley
show dog – nearly perfect dog
rant – angry speech
top it off – in addition to that
peeked at his package – look at him sexually
arrested – put in jail
ass, goddamn, shit’s – swear words
check – the bill (for their meal)
loaded – very rich
material girl – interested in money/things
paid it forward – gave forgiveness to others
mutt – a dog that is of mixed breeds
Beemer – slang for BMW (car)
peck – kiss (quick, friendly)
Yup – Yep (or yes)
nephrologists – kidney disease specialist
psycho dude – psychotic boy
smart as a whip – very smart
shrink – psychiatrist
approachable – someone you can talk to
Nada – nothing (Spanish)
canine – dog
smidgen – little bit
nuzzle – rub her nose in
mongrel – stray, orphan
whatcha – what are you
three-ring binder – notebook
down the road – in the future
gelding – horse
arthritis – bone pain disease
whatnot – whatever, other things
stabled – kept at (a barn for horses)
tot – toddler (young child)
exempt – excluded
tad – little bit
break the bank – use all your money
kibbles – dry dog food
Fred and Ginger – a reference to Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, 1930s dancers
Pinot Noir – wine
roving – looking
clause – paragraph (in her will)
goblet – glass
vino – wine
prego – pregnant
devastated – totally destroyed
put the cart before the horse – do last things first
fuchsia/periwinkle – pink/blue-purple
specs – eyeglasses
sober – no longer laughing
skirmish – wrestling around
Granny - grandma
neat-freak – someone who is very, very neat
went to bat for you – argued in your favor
mutt – mixed breed dog
duvet – bedspread (bed covering)
connected the dots – followed the clues
credits of WC – end of the movie
throws back – tosses his head back to drink
Chop! Chop! – Hurry, hurry!
helm – front of a ship or boat
moseys – walks slowly and casually
tousles – gently messes it up with his fingers
for the ride – on the journey
Ditto – the same with me
disentangles – removes
marred – ruined, injured, messed up
stoop – top porch step
snout – nose (usually of an animal)
wince – a look of pain on her face
cramps – severe stomach pain

Chapter 17 (pages 183-185)
grief-stricken – emotion caused by sadness
paralysis – being unable to move
wails – cries of anguish/sadness
barren/womb – empty/uterus (place in a woman where the baby develops)
anesthetized – medical procedure so you can’t feel pain (or anything)
vacantly – empty, without emotion
phantom – imaginary/ghostly
panini grill – sandwich cooker
breaks anchor – lets go
raps – knocks
lecherous – sexually predatory

Chapter 18 (pages 186-191)
gig – job
blurt – talk suddenly
to boot – in addition to
chipper – happy, upbeat
Bloody Mary – alcoholic drink
sides up – comes over in a cautious but friendly way
brace yourself, sis – be prepared, sister
contagion – sickness
shuffling – moving (a book-only word)
pulse – heartbeat
stipulated – required
max – short for maximum
incredulous – unbelieving, shocked
smirk – mocking smile
heave – throw
nuzzling – burying her face in
scruffy ol’ mutts – dirty/ungroomed old mixed breed dogs
reality check – make sure all the facts are real and true
sibs – siblings (brothers, in this case)
self-loathing – hating oneself
meager – small
digs – place to live
scouring – looking over carefully
Loop – the business district of Chicago
subletting – renting a room in an individual’s house or condominium
slew – bunch (many)
riddled – covered with, criss-crossed with
baffled – totally confused
Chapter 19 (pages 192-201)

Pg 192 nephrology – study of kidney disease
Pg 193 waxen – sick, greasy, almost sweaty
Pg 193 gonna – going to
Pg 193 pry – intrude, get too personal
Pg 193 shuts down – becomes closed emotionally
Pg 194 foster care – state program where children live with other families when their own parents can’t care for them
Pg 194 gut wrenches – stomach twists
Pg 194 Marijuana/cocaine/Meth – illegal drugs
Pg 194 That’d be straight – that would be good
Pg 194 pediatrician – children’s doctor
Pg 194 vague – unclear
Pg 194 tenuous – fragile
Pg 194 compromised – weakened
Pg 194 potassium – a mineral (in bananas, for example)
Pg 194 cardiac arrest – heart attack
Pg 194 lab results – blood test results
Pg 194 time is of the essence – time matters
Pg 194 abort/fetus – remove/baby (end the pregnancy)
Pg 194 trimester – three months
Pg 194 prognosis – what Dr. Chan expects to happen to Sanquita (prediction of her survival)
Pg 194 at stake – in danger
Pg 194 thumb through – look at
Pg 197 rifle – turn the pages quickly
Pg 197 perk up – cheer up, get happier
Pg 197 window seat – bench in front of a window
Pg 197 hullabaloo – celebration, party
Pg 198 grouse – complain
Pg 198 out of step – not in line with the others
Pg 198 sitter – babysitter (to care for the kids)
Pg 198 traipse – walk

Pg 198 enviable – to be jealous of
Pg 198 Car – short for Carrie
Pg 198 shabby rental – rundown rented house
Pg 199 seduce – sexually interest her in him
Pg 199 hiatus – vacation, rest period. Pronounced hi-[long a]-tis, accent on the long a.
Pg 199 hooked up – had sex
Pg 199 old fart – older man
Pg 199 Yup – yep (yes)
Pg 200 gorgy – sleepy
Pg 200 duplex – type of house
Pg 200 omen – sign that predicts the future
Pg 200 trot – light run
Pg 200 devastating – crushing, horrible
Pg 200 giddy – happy, giggly
Pg 200 hunch – guess
Pg 200 beats me to the punch – is faster than me
Pg 201 bourbon – alcohol
Pg 201 gooseflesh – little bumps (of excitement)
Pg 201 nipples – tips of her breasts
Pg 201 despondent moan – sad sound/cry

Chapter 20 (pages 203-213)

Pg 203 pathetic – sad, useless
Pg 203 hoist/satchel – lift/purse
Pg 203 lamenting – feeling sad about
Pg 203 geraniums – flowers
Pg 204 nibble – bite lightly
Pg 204 thrown off – confused
Pg 205 period – monthly menstruation
Pg 205 snapshot – picture
Pg 205 futile – unsuccessful
Pg 205 dysfunction – not able to function in society
fold – family group

prescribe Xanax ... - give drugs

meds – medications (drugs)

vulnerability – open to being hurt

session – time, appointment (therapy)

hitting on me – flirting with me

tour de force – French for impressive, strong

Michael/Catherine, etc. – celebrity marriages with large age differences

havoc – craziness
clenched – locked together
cooed up – locked up, unable to leave

Dust Bowl – mid-America states

Lewis & Clark – American explorers (1800s)
yanks/grasp – grabs/hands

slush – melting ice and snow

escalating – rising, getting worse

placement – place for Peter to stay/live
tad – bit

caseload – the students (cases) she’s responsible for

redeeming – worthwhile

charity case – someone to feel sorry for

win him over – make him like you

isolated – alone

ominous – scary, frightening

jotting – writing quickly

hackles – hairs on a dog’s back that rise when he/she is angry

whip a U-Turn – turn the car around quickly

bloated – puffy, fat from water retention

glistens – shines

swallow the lump – choke back tears

implore – search, ask

feud/brewing – fight/starting

mediate – intervene to calm them down

page – call over the loud speakers

in my shit – in my stuff

pay no heed – ignore

‘cept sit... - except sit on your fat butt all day

agility/acrobat – nimbleness/gymnast

pivots – turns

weave – fake hair woven into real hair

obscenities – swear words

seize – grab

curses/bulge – swears/stick out

contained – unable to leave

blankly – without expression

cocks – tilts

gon’ – gonna (going to)

Hers be ... - hers is all torn up

‘fore ... before that lazy whore stole it from me

safe – a locked box

maitre d – head waiter

Chapter 21 (pages 214-222)
dash – run

ignition – the car’s engine

contractions – muscle movements that cause a woman to deliver a baby

hoist – lift and carry

pumps - shoes with heels

specialist – doctor (kidney in this case)

implying – trying to say without actually saying it

hustle – hurry

loiter – hang around

labor – birth process
fiasco – mess, disaster
working things out – solving their problems
jittery – nervous
cringe – shrink in shame
mocking – joking, making fun of
set him straight – let him know the truth
punching – tapping
catch sight – see
hustling – flirting with
sixty-something – 60+ year old
sizing up – evaluating, judging
twosome – couple
lull – silent break in conversation
muted – silent
mortifying – embarrassing
make-out – kissing
back on track – back to normal
branding fork – hot iron to burn an identification design into a cow’s hip
sears – burns
booty call – someone to be sexual with
postmortem – after death
beats . . . me – I don’t know
far-fetched – unrealistic
Way! – Way too far-fetched!
tit-for-tat – picky, picky
riff – conversation
terbutaline – a drug
breakdown – emotional collapse
conventional – traditional
peers – people of the same age
gamble – risk
sniffles – runny nose, a cold
prickle – tingle
pneumonia – water in the lungs
plagued – bothered
respiratory – breathing

Chapter 22 (pages 224-234)
roils – turns, boils, is upset
cruise/burb – drive/suburb (neighborhood)
fruitless – unsuccessful
creep – move slowly
potholed – large holes in the street
hightail it – leave quickly
cornices – wooden decorations
perimeter – outside edge
dual – two
urns/poinsettia – flower pots/flowers
wince – a painful look
cue – signal
hoops dangle – circles hang
the contagion of – [skip these words]
Yorkie/Chihuahua... - small dogs
rapid-fire – fast
stoked – excited
immaculate – super clean
embellishing – exaggerating
foreclosure – the bank took it back
exchange – conversation
ferrying – carrying, moving, taking
mis-matched end tables – unmatched tables that sit at either end of a couch or sofa
hip – fashionable
utensils – forks, knives, and spoons
ludicrous – ridiculous
Chapter 23 (pages 235-243)

Pg 235  **blind dates** – meeting someone you don’t know, in a romantic way (for a date)
Pg 235  **excruciating** – horribly painful
Pg 235  **toting** – carrying
Pg 235  **Clutching/trudge** – carrying/walk
Pg 235  **abuzz** – lively, full of action

Pg 236  **bottleneck** – a crowd of people
Pg 236  **turnstile** – something you go through in order to board the train (it rotates, or turns, and counts people as each person goes through)
Pg 236  **black Lab** – type of dog (Labrador)
Pg 236  **zigzagging** – going back and forth
Pg 236  **gaggle** – group
Pg 236  **herd/en masse** – group/all together
Pg 236  **hustle/idle** – move quickly/not moving
Pg 236  **an eye out** – looking for
Pg 236  **cartwheel** – flip, as in gymnastics
Pg 236  **lollygaggers** – people just standing around
Pg 236  **dash** – run
Pg 236  **skitter/compartment** - almost run/seat area
Pg 237  **walk** – short for sidewalk (to the house)
Pg 237  **huff** – breath
Pg 237  **once-over** – looks at her
Pg 237  **hot** – attractive, pretty
Pg 238  **chiseled** – angular
Pg 238  **flattered** – complimented
Pg 238  **snifter** – glass
Pg 238  **Refined . . .** – she’s describing Herbert as very elegant and refined, not rough like the outer covering (chaff) of wheat.
Pg 238  **incongruent** – at odds with, doesn’t go with
Pg 238  **botanical** – plant-like
Pg 238  **Bert and Ernie** – characters from a children’s TV program (Sesame Street)
Pg 238  **index finger** – his first finger, the one you point with
Pg 238  **lectern** – podium, speaker’s table
Pg 238  **repugnant pedant** – perfectionist
Pg 239  **pecks** – quickly kisses
Pg 240  **punch line** – the funny part of a joke
Pg 240  **derail** – get her off course
catch-and a half – a “catch” is a man worth marrying

swilling – drinking

constellations – stars in the night sky

Big Dipper – a star constellation

growing quite fond – beginning to like you

snicker – laugh

tamper – stop, control

hip – cool

nerd – someone who is not cool

we never cheat – nerds never have sexual relationships outside their marriage

rays – sunshine

ruckus – noise

deserting – leaving

second-guess – question

voice breaks – voice cracks (because she’s almost crying)

choked up – near to crying

off-guard – unaware, not ready

upfront – honest, straightforward

full of myself – egotistical

Chapter 24 (pages 244-258)

757 – an airplane

descent – lowering of the plane to land

Space Needle – tourist attraction in Seattle

traipse/hordes – walk/lots

nauseous – sick feeling in the stomach

borderline preppy – almost Ivy League looking (like people who attend top-notch schools in the East – Ivy League)

beside herself – super excited

veers – drives off

tuition – the cost of attending the school

vestibule – entrance/waiting area

whoop – a delightful sound

gleeful – happy

lumbers – walks heavily, not gracefully

alabaster – white and smooth

overbite – condition where the top teeth/jaw extend beyond the lower teeth/jaw

Down syndrome – a genetic disorder that causes mental challenges, among other things

walker – a device to help him walk without falling, usually used by older people

raspy – scratchy

equine – horse

drizzle – rain

play hooky – skip school

Navajo – American Indian

Crazy Eights – card game

obscure indie musicians – little known alternative music musicians

eggplant Parmesan – dinner

carafe – bottle

etch – carve (make it permanent)

tumbler – a glass for children

clink – tap together

loiter – stay, hang around

douse – turn out/tur

Gibson – guitar brand

gene – genetic material
		
twitches – moves, jerks

talisman – magical object

piece of work – someone hard to imagine

flinches – a quick movement as if in pain

livid – super angry

testify – speak in a court of law
slut – a woman who has sex with many men

weed – marijuana

pothead – someone who smokes a lot of marijuana

liability – drawback, danger

did me in – ruined me, killed me

saw through me – knew I was lying (saw through the lies he was telling)

lost track of – couldn’t find

fraud – fake, not real

plaguing – bothering

paternity – fatherhood

strums – plays (on the guitar)

vasectomy – medical procedure on a man so he can’t father children any more

devastated – very unhappy

bear hug – a big, friendly hug

hail a cab – get a cab

schlep – carry

for the life of me – as much as I try

conveyor belt – what the suitcases are on

steroids – drugs to make a person extra strong

chute – tunnel

carousel – the round machine with suitcases

one fell swoop – one big grab, all at once

crook – where the arm bends

knock off – finish

sweats – sweatpants and sweatshirt

gales – winds

bustling – busy

venture – go

perched/bullhorn – sitting/voice magnifier

calling the shots – directing

poops out – gets tired

linger – stay

coined – made, invented

doting – caring

suffocating – without air

bar stools - chairs

Chapter 25 (pages 259-271)
in labor – beginning to have her baby

lids – eyelids

C-section – doctors surgically remove the baby from Sanquita

cardiac arrest – heart attack (possible death)
distressed/all get-out – upset/as possible

knitted brow – angry look

bolt – jump out of

pass out – collapse, become unconscious

two-pound... - a normal baby weighs about 6-9 lbs (not two). CPAP – breathing machine

NICU – room for extremely fragile babies
gloat – show that you are right

interminable – never-ending

gravity – seriousness

unflinching – not moving or changing

murky – cloudy, dark

chappe/slack – dry/open

jerky spasms – uneven bursts

scowls – frowns

scrubs – the uniform medical people wear

corridor – hallway

nursery rooms – rooms for babies

isolettes – cribs

incubator – enclosed glass space to keep Sanquita’s baby warm
PB 264  **BABY DOE** – “Doe” is a generic name used to mean anyone. Also, Jane Doe, John Doe

PB 264  **adhere** – stick

PB 264  **IV** – intravenous (goes directly into her arm or foot)

PB 264  **protrudes** – sticks out

PB 264  **apparatus** – thing, machine

PB 264  **plethora** – many, array

PB 264  **peeved** – annoyed, irritated

PB 264  **downy hair** – very soft and fine hair

PB 265  **bloated** – puffy, inflated

PB 265  **cruel caricature** – mean cartoon

PB 266  **molasses** – thick syrup

PB 266  **startles** – jumps (as in fright)

PB 266  **snatch** – grab quickly and aggressively

PB 266  **buzzed into** – let in (by an electronic buzzer)

PB 266  **beeline** – go straight to

PB 266  **scrub in** – wash up to be sterile

PB 267  **reiterate** – repeat

PB 268  **jaundice** – yellowing of the skin

PB 268  **preemies** – babies born prematurely

PB 268  **frivolous** – unnecessary

PB 269  **puffy/quivers** – fat, bloated/shakes

PB 269  **trembles** – shakes

PB 269  **chatter** – quick tapping like she’s cold

PB 270  **embrace** – hug

PB 270  **quiver** – shakiness

PB 270  **dislodge** – move

PB 270  **quaking** – moving, shaking

PB 270  **audible** – able to be heard

**Chapter 26 (pages 272-279)**

PB 272  **cap and gown** – graduation clothes

PB 272  **eulogy** – speech about the deceased person

PB 272  **splinters** – breaks apart

PB 272  **long drag** – deeply inhales

PB 272  **running yourself ragged** – doing too much

PB 272  **resilient** – strong, able to bounce back

PB 272  **welfare** – well-being, quality of life

PB 272  **nasal** – nose

PB 274  **swaddled/papoose** – wrapped/baby bundle

PB 274  **scrunches/muted** – wrinkles/silent

PB 274  **whimper** – crying

PB 274  **fussy** – irritable

PB 274  **respiratory** – breathing

PB 274  **incubator** – warm, safe environment

PB 276  **contorted/wail** – arranged/cry

PB 276  **cut me some slack** – go easy on me

PB 276  **instinctual** – natural

PB 277  **nuzzle** – snuggle, hug

PB 277  **wean** – get

PB 277  **neuroses** – craziness

PB 278  **huddled** – in a group

PB 278  **fau-fur/skeletal** – fake fur/super skinny

PB 278  **slurred** – indistinct, running together

PB 278  **scuffle** – disagreement, argument

PB 278  **slump** – collapse, lean heavily

PB 278  **sued** – taken to court, have a lawsuit brought against the hospital

PB 278  **catch a whiff** – smell

PB 279  **obscenities/hurled** – swear words/thrown

PB 279  **squints** – almost closes her eyes

PB 279  **primal kicks in** – basic to humanity begins

**Chapter 27 (pages 280-288)**

PB 280  **neonatal/abuzz/chatter** – baby/lively/talk
high – like drunk, but with drugs
bile – vomit

be a cinch – be easy (pronounced: sinch)
no-brainer – super easy (don’t have to think)
SSI – money from the government
hell-bent – determined
motive – reason for doing something
scant – small amount (barely five months)

SSI – money from the government
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no-brainer – super easy (don’t have to think)
SSI – money from the government
hell-bent – determined
motive – reason for doing something
scant – small amount (barely five months)

coherent – able to speak clearly
at liberty – have permission
disability – government money
rehab – addiction program
crime-ridden – lots of crime
felony – serious crime
misdemeanor – less serious crime
formal charge – lawsuit

in a few – in a few minutes
fate/arbitrary – future/random or unknown
did a number on you – tricked you
shortsighted – thinking small, not thinking ahead
the prom – a high school dance
one-night stand – having sex with someone you’ve only known that night and never see again
gene pool – genetics, heredity
Screw you – Fuck you, the hell with you
premature – early
surrogate – stand-in, substitute
asking for your hand – asking to marry her
lug – carry (something heavy)
split the seam – cut the tape holding it closed
menagerie – variety
garnished – decorated
amputees – people with missing arms/legs
love seat – small couch
lapsed/coma – fell/unconsciousness
conscious – able to think, speak
clammy – slightly wet, sweaty
irrelevant – unimportant

crocodile tears – super big tears
Play hardball – Be mean, play hard (as opposed to playing softball – the girls’ version of baseball)
Nerf ball – a toy ball made of soft foam
pine pews – long wooden benches to sit on
calls ... order – begins
testifying – speaking in front of the judge
sworn in – promises to tell the truth
hinges – depends
chatting it up – talking casually
quivering – shaking uncontrollably
insistent – determined
handkerchief – cloth Kleenex (pronounced: hang-ker-chif)
hankie – short for handkerchief
hikes up – pulls up, lifts, raises
wags – moves back and forth (like a dog wagging its tail)
ducks in a row – everything in order
Perplexing – confusing
deporable – horrible, disgusting, bad
terminate – end (as in an abortion)
smirks – smiles in a better-than-you way
Sustained – the judge is agreeing with Brad
recess – break, rest
gavel – the hammer a judge holds and uses to quiet the courtroom
life sentence – refers to spending life in prison (her life would be like prison)
forsaking – betraying, letting her down
props/grips – leans/holds
break – break down emotionally
juven...delinq – child criminal
Buck up – get it together
horrific detour – horrible journey in another direction
seminal – largest, most important
in turns – at different times
soggy – wet
inadvertent – not on purpose, accidental
stammers – skips a beat, stops beating
layette – baby clothes
gushing – swooning, loving
contraption – thing (in this case, car seat)
I beg to differ – I disagree
chastise – scold, criticize
invaded – come into (without invitation)
whip up – make (in a short amount of time)
strolls – walk
breeze – walk happily, casually, lightly
Moby Wrap – baby holder the mom wears
sling – the Moby Wrap holding Austin
coons – the soft sounds a baby makes
suits you – is a good fit for you
beau – boyfriend (French)
fairy godmother – a pretend woman who watches over you and makes good things happen
the prototypical – just skip these two words
scorchers – super hot days
café con leche – coffee
coons – the soft sounds adults make to babies
drowsy – sleepy
gaze/laser-focused – eyes/super-focused
raring to go – excited about moving forward
stammers – pounds
muster – gather together
win over – make them like me
toussles – messes playfully
fickle – changing, slippery
engineered – made happen
wan – weak
endurance – lengthy
crushed – very sad, devastated
on one knee – the traditional stance a man takes to ask a woman to marry him
resort/all-inclusive – hotel/all one price
crip/seizes – muscle pain/grabs
consume – eat or drink
devastated/ungrateful – sad/un-thankful
clairvoyant – someone who can read minds
loco – Spanish for crazy
chaise – lounge chair often by pools
rickety – broken down, shaky
haggled/vendors/market – argued over prices/store owners/market
joint – place (to eat, in this case)
mariachi/sombreros – Mexican band/hats
patrons – customers
stifling – oppressive, limiting
Mission – job (putting Austin to bed)
check out – look at, see
mandatory – required
cue – signal
let loose/swoop – say/all at once
cemented – glued, stuck
balls – courage (literally: testicles)
stupified – confused, shocked
abyss – emptiness (of the night sky)

Chapter 30 (pages 316-329)

gabbing – talking
My cup... - a Bible expression meaning I have so many blessings, they overfill my cup.
fractured – broken, cracked
regretted – been sorry for
reveal/conception – tell/birth, or parentage
adamant – insistent, certain, unyielding
paternal – fatherly
infidelity – unfaithfulness in marriage (sex outside of the marriage)
infused – filled
chivalrous/deed – gentlemanly, generous/act
fruitless – unsuccessful
illicit – secret, illegal
brood – family
gnaws – chews with her front teeth
salivating – her mouth is watering
linens – in this case, tablecloths
promenading – walking
Baby Bjorn – baby carrier the mom wears
yakking – talking
chats – talks
bore – drill
mechanized – mechanical, automatic
agape – open
geezer – old man
pinkie/latches – littlest finger/grabs
frenetic/flimsy – active/thin
dart – look quickly
scoot – leave, go
comebacks – things to say back to him
hilarious – super funny
utterly mortified – completely embarrassed
clouds burst – rain starts
takes lodge – stays
endowment – gift of money
reinstate – begin again
feed bag – what horses eat out of
abandon – leave, give up on
vote of confidence – belief that she could do it
brimming/hydrangeas – filled with/flowers
reverie/pummeling – dream/hitting, pounding
sways – moves back and forth
gooseflesh – little bumps, also “goosebumps”
booster seat – child’s seat
upending – turning over
twosome – couple
harness – gather, hold
fury…tempest – storm
pelting downpour – rainstorm
knick – cut
postpone – delay
poppy – flower
crush – was attracted to
merged – came together
A crack of … - lightning cuts through the sky
forlorn – sad
nursery – room for a baby
screech – scream

Epilogue (pages 330-331)

forlorn – sad
nursery – room for a baby
screech – scream