

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 **mill 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

Pg 13 **streamlining** – narrowing; removing waste from the budget

Pg 14 **bowing out** – quitting

Pg 14 **slouch** – someone unprofessional (to slouch is to have bad posture; the opposite of standing tall)

Pg 14 **mahogany** – another type of wood

Pg 14 **lucidity** – brightness, clarity

Pg 14 **Spanx** – brand name for super tight underwear designed to make women look thin

Pg 14 **tempered** – softened, weakened

Pg 15 **smidgen** – tiny bit

Pg 15 **riveted** – mesmerized, entranced

Pg 15 **prater** – to talk endlessly

Pg 15 **bro** – short for brother

Pg 15 **horsepower** – energy, power (usually refers to the size of a car's engine)

Pg 15 **mock befuddlement** – pretend confusion

Pg 15 **disheveled** – the opposite of neat

Pg 15 **rakes** – runs his fingers through his hair, like a garden rake

Pg 15 **kitty-corner** – diagonally opposite

Pg 16 **scant** – small, brief

Pg 16 **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-CU-tor, 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.)

Pg 16 **more solvent** – better able to pay their debts (because they have more money now)

Pg 16 **idle folly** – doing nothing

Pg 16 **asterisk** - * (refers the reader to a footnote, or in this case, a side note or a special condition)

Pg 17 **intact** – undisturbed

Pg 17 **consecutive** – one after the other, no skipping

Pg 17 **cuticles** – the ring of skin at the base of the fingernails

Pg 17 **old relic** – antique, fossil (referring to the house)

Pg 17 **pragmatic** – practical

Pg 17 **impassive** – not showing emotion

Pg 18 **Northwestern** – Northwestern University near Chicago

Pg 18 **tumbledown** – neglected, broken

Pg 18 **chided** – speak poorly of, berate, criticize

Pg 18 **coveted** – desired, envied

Pg 18 **Gold Coast** – Chicago's historic district, also near Lake Michigan, very expensive and pretty

Pg 18 **Louise Jefferson** - a character from a 1980s sitcom (TV show)

Pg 18 **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.

Pg 18 **Gary, Indiana** – a working class town, lots of industry, smog, etc.

Pg 18 **sound mind** – having a healthy, working mind (a common phrase in wills, it means that the person is mentally capable of making a will)

Pg 18 **subordinate** – someone who is beneath (of lower rank than) another person

Chapter 2

Pg 20 **unabashedly pissed** – not afraid to show (unabashedly) her anger (pissed)

Pg 20 **tortoiseshell frames** – glasses with frames with a turtle (tortoise) shell's pattern

Pg 20 **doodling** – making little meaningless drawings

Pg 20 **manically** – quickly, in a frenzied way

Pg 20 **Your mother's shares** – refers to Brett's mom's stock shares (money)

Pg 21 **slouch** – sit down in a slumped way, as if there are no muscles to hold her up

Pg 21 **adjourn** – dismiss

Pg 21 **sheepish** – embarrassed

Pg 21 **unruly brown curls** – messy (hard to manage) brown curly hair

Pg 21 **sibs** – short for siblings

Pg 22 **cackle** – laugh, but more like a witch

Pg 22 **nada** – “nothing” in Spanish, used frequently by Americans

Pg 22 **meanders** – wanders

Pg 22 **croak** – speak with a hoarse (scratchy) voice

Pg 22 **teetering on the edge of composure** – balancing on the edge of keeping herself together (not crying)

Pg 22 **portfolio** – briefcase

Pg 22 **mosaic creases** – lots of small, angular folds (creases)

Pg 24 **cock my head** – tip the head slightly to the left or right

Pg 24 **fished this list out of the trash** – retrieved this list from the trash

Pg 24 **Thumbing** – going through the file (using the thumb to turn pages)

Pg 24 **smart-aleck** – someone who thinks they know everything

Pg 25 **all bets are off** – lots of uncertainty; too much uncertainty to place a bet on anything

Pg 25 **breath catches** – breathing goes back to normal

Pg 25 **a little thick** – he’s choking back tears

Pg 26 **Beverly Hills 90210** – TV show

Pg 26 **too nosy** – too curious

Pg 26 **stood me up** – not shown up when he said he would

Pg 26 **gullible** – someone who believes anything

Pg 26 **racking my brain** – thinking very hard

Pg 27 **angst** – fear

Pg 29 **stipulated** – required, commanded

Pg 29 **at bay** – away

Pg 30 **Cole Haans** – a brand of watch

Chapter 3

Pg 31 **free fall** – a fast downward spiral

Pg 32 **rifle** – look through quickly

Pg 32 **comforter** – bed covering, like a bedspread

Pg 32 **sloshed** – drunk

Pg 32 **shut-eye** – sleep

Pg 32 **it all comes flooding back** – her memories come back quickly (like a flood)

Pg 33 **ducts** – tubes in a house (behind the walls) for the heat to pass through

Pg 33 **pad** – walk

Pg 33 **lumber** – walk heavily

Pg 33 **Tribune** – short for the *Chicago Tribune*, a major newspaper

Pg 33 **square my shoulders** – stand tall and straight, with the shoulders back (not rounded)

Pg 33 **coy** – evasive, sly, clever

Pg 34 **amnesty** – forgiveness

Pg 34 **clad** – clothed

Pg 35 **drapes** – puts his arm casually around her shoulder

Pg 35 **grazes** – lightly moves, barely touching her cheek

Pg 35 **gushing** – super happy; hardly able to contain his admiration

Pg 35 **soften the blow** – make bad news less bad

Pg 35 **come clean** – tell the truth

Pg 35 **play it off** – act as if

Pg 36 **calling the shots** – making the rules

Pg 36 **scurry** – run

Pg 36 **wraps up** – finishes

Pg 37 **snark** – critical, cutting, snide

Pg 37 **learn the ropes** – learn how something (Bohlinger Cosmetics) works; learn the rules, customs

Pg 37 **groom you** – get Brett ready; prepare her

Pg 38 **cashmere** – a soft, very expensive fabric

Pg 38 **chignon** – hairstyle

Chapter 4

Pg 40 **charcoal** – gray color

Pg 40 **snap out of this** – get over this; forget about this; move on

Pg 41 **hon** – short for honey (a term of endearment)

Pg 41 **slack off** – let things slide; be lazy

Pg 41 **hackles rise** – getting angry

Pg 41 **thwarted** – blocked

Pg 41 **mustering the courage** – finding the courage, or gathering the courage

Pg 41 **thrums** – beats

Pg 41 **featherbrained** – dumb

Pg 41 **status-conscious** – someone who care a lot about their place in society (their status)

Pg 41 **trappings** – appearances, objects

Pg 41 **old money** – people who have been wealthy for many generations

Pg 42 **spat** – past tense of “spit” (in this case it means: told)

Pg 41 **mediocre** – average (pronounced me – dee- oak – er, accent on oak)

Pg 42 **Safeway** – a grocery store

Pg 42 **Cape Cod** – a cozy style of house in New England

Pg 42 **proverbial bed they’ve . . .** – the expression is: you’ve made your bed, now lie in it. Meaning, you’ve made your choices, now live with the consequences.

Pg 43 **traipses** – walks

Pg 43 **the catch in her voice** – what your voice does when you feel like crying

Pg 43 **it was her calling** – something Shelley was called (presumably by God) to do; more of a passion than a job

Pg 43 **sitter** – short for babysitter

Pg 43 **hypotenuse** – one of the three legs of a triangle

Pg 43 **Chicago Bears** – a professional football team

Pg 43 **rendering** – making

Pg 43 **boobs** – breasts (slang)

Pg 44 **call girl** – polite word for prostitute

Pg 44 **sorority** – college group for women (fraternity is for men)

Pg 45 **poser** – someone who pretends to be someone important

Pg 45 **Y’all** – you all. A southern way of addressing more than one person

Pg 45 **Angelina and Brad . . . Suri** – celebrities

Pg 45 **Red Lobster** – an inexpensive seafood restaurant chain

Pg 45 **fits of hysteria** – lots of laughing

Pg 45 **overhead bin** – the storage space above the seats on an airplane

Pg 45 **chica** – Spanish for girl

Pg 45 **giving me the floor** – letting me talk and be the center of attention

Pg 45 **ploy** – plan

Pg 46 **asinine** – stupid (pronounced ass – in – nine, accent on ass)

Pg 46 **Old MacDonald** – a farmer in a children’s nursery rhyme

Pg 46 **peruses** – looks it over; studies it

Pg 46 **cinch** – something that is super easy

Pg 47 **My breath catches** – a sudden intake of air, as in surprise or concern (not crying in this case)

Pg 47 **horny frat boy** – a college boy/man who wants sex and belongs to a fraternity (see sorority)

Pg 47 **bridge** – the part of the nose between the eyes

Pg 47 **sub** – short for substitute, meaning be a substitute teacher

Pg 47 **in the bag** – done

Pg 47 **mull it over** – think about it

Chapter 5

Pg 48 **bubbles up** – rises

Pg 48 **swanky** – elegant

Pg 48 **a huge case** – a big (important) lawsuit

Pg 48 **shoots** – rushes out

Pg 49 **agape** – open

Pg 49 **splurge** – spend money on

Pg 49 **a bummer** – too bad

Pg 49 **plays hardball** – is serious about something almost to the point of being mean about it

Pg 49 **Gotta** – slang for “got to”, which is bad grammar for “have to”

Pg 49 **digs** – surroundings (in this case, his office)

Pg 49 **golden retriever** – a type of friendly dog

Pg 49 **cap and gown** – refers to a graduation photo

Pg 49 **beaming** – smiling with pride

Pg 49 **leather club chairs** – typical leather chairs found in law offices (large, heavy, traditional)

Pg 50 **bruised look** – a hurt look

Pg 50 **inhales audibly** – breathes in [inhales] so quickly Brett can hear it [audibly]

Pg 50 **flat-out** – completely, 100%

Pg 51 **platinum** – a type of metal, in this case, Brett’s looking for a wedding ring

Pg 51 **downplay** – minimize

Pg 51 **pains me** – hurts me

Pg 52 **vying** – working toward, trying to get

Pg 52 **springs to mind** – appears in my mind

Pg 52 **gnawing** – chewing on

Pg 52 **snap to attention** – quickly pay attention

Pg 52 **lost it** – lost her mind, gone crazy

Pg 52 **hear of it** – listen to this idea

Pg 53 **favor these pursuits** – like these activities

Pg 53 **receiver** – the part of the phone Brett is holding (to talk into)

Pg 53 **grant** – a proposal for money (this is a reference to his work)

Pg 53 **get real** – be realistic

Pg 53 **short and sweet** – over quickly

Pg 53 **comfort zone** – things that we feel comfortable doing (not things that make us nervous)

Pg 53 **MC** – master of ceremonies, or the show’s host; the person who introduces the next act, etc.

Pg 53 **plugging** – advertising

Pg 54 **meekness** – shy (same as timid)

Pg 54 **Ellen-friggin’-Degeneres** – comedian Ellen Degeneres (friggin’ is nice slang for fucking)

Pg 54 **stand-up** – refers to stand-up comedy, where the comedian stands alone on stage telling jokes

Pg 54 **trajectory** – path

Pg 54 **choke up** – almost begin to cry

Pg 55 **It’ll be a blast** – it will be fun!

Pg 55 **wimp** – someone who has no courage

Pg 55 **in the tank** – failing; refers to a toilet tank

Pg 55 **projections** – refers to the financial goal for the Alzheimer’s fundraiser

Pg 55 **stepped in** – she became involved in

Chapter 6

Pg 57 **fodder** – material (like jokes and funny situations that she can use for her comedy act)

Pg 59 **mouthed the words** – spoke the words by moving her lips, but not making any sound

Pg 59 **stirs** – moves

Pg 59 **morphed** – changed

Pg 59 **unconventional, undemanding, and unencumbered** – not traditional, not demanding, and not having any burdens

Pg 59 **aspirations** – goals, dreams

Pg 59 **steady money-market . . . fund** – from a safe financial investment to a very risky one

Pg 60 **raucous, standing-room-only** – excited, full room (no room to sit down, only room to stand)

Pg 60 **three-deep** – three rows of people

Pg 60 **hole in the wall** – she means a small, little-known bar or comedy place

Pg 60 **din** – noise

Pg 60 **boner** – penis erection

Pg 60 **on a riff** – talking on and on

Pg 60 **bimbos and boobs** – dumb girls (bimbos) and their breasts (boobs)

Pg 61 **three shots** – three small glasses of alcohol, meant to be drunk in one swallow

Pg 61 **Let’s give it up** – please clap

Pg 61 **inmate** – prisoner

Pg 61 **electric chair** – the chair a prisoner sits in to be put to death

Pg 61 **ruckus** – noise

Pg 61 **give him a hand** – clap (he uses “him” because “Brett” is usually a boy’s name)

Pg 61 **metal stand** – the metal microphone stand

Pg 61 **acres of faces** – lots of faces (like she’s looking out across acres of land filled with people)

Pg 61 **tremulous** – trembling, shaky

Pg 62 **screech** – a sharp, loud, irritating sound

Pg 62 **heckled** – when an audience boos and makes fun of a performer

Pg 62 **counterfeit** – fake

Pg 62 **bobs** – moves up and down

Pg 62 **palsy** – a disease that causes uncontrollable shaking of the body

Pg 62 **Tiffany** – a girl's name

Pg 63 **torture chamber** – a place where people are badly mistreated, usually prisoners

Pg 63 **fiasco** – totally messed up thing; a disaster

Pg 63 **longneck bottle** – beer that comes in a tall (long neck) bottle

Pg 63 **Screw this!** – an expression of exasperation.

Pg 63 **bolt** – run

Pg 63 **shake it off, B.B.** – let it go, Brett Bohlinger (it = the rude audience, the yelling, etc.)

Pg 63 **abusive barbarians** – mean (abusive) uncivilized people (barbarians)

Pg 63 **intermission** – a break during a show

Pg 63 **crucifix** – the wooden cross that Jesus died on (a symbol of the Christian faith)

Pg 36 **loincloth** – a small cloth covering Jesus' penis

Pg 64 **racking** – heaving, moving up and down because she's crying so much

Pg 64 **I sucked!** – I was so bad!

Pg 64 **laughingstock** – the object of ridicule and laughter; someone everyone makes fun of

Pg 65 **chutzpah** – A Yiddish (Jewish) word meaning courage, audacity, spunk (pronounced: hoots – pa)

Pg 65 **banality** – unoriginal, boring

Pg 65 **spunk . . . fortitude** – enthusiasm (spunk), strength (fortitude)

Pg 65 **Eleanor Roosevelt** – President Franklin Roosevelt's wife (1930s)

Chapter 7

Pg 66 **tote** – purse

Pg 66 **out of the blue** – randomly; out of nowhere; without any notice ahead of time

Pg 67 **taken aback** – surprised

Pg 67 **candor** – honesty

Pg 67 **knock off** – finish

Pg 67 **rant** – tirade, complaining speech

Pg 67 **get my fix** – get some much-needed coffee

Pg 67 **a cinch** – super easy

Pg 67 **macchiato, scone** – coffee, pastry

Pg 67 **tweezers** – a common instrument used to pull hairs out of skin

Pg 68 **tomboy** – a girl who likes boy-ish things, usually sports and other athletic activities

Pg 68 **girlie-girl** – refers to a girl who like girl-ish things, like make-up, dolls, pink things, etc.

Pg 68 **sauntered, toting** – walked, carrying

Pg 68 **play House** – pretend to be a family

Pg 68 **monkey bars** – playground equipment with bars that kids hang from and swing their way across

Pg 68 **out of our league** – too good for us

Pg 68 **hijacked** – taken (away from Brett)

Pg 68 **on a roll** – going strong; getting a lot done

Pg 68 **Andrew's take** – Andrew's opinion

Pg 68 **he's history** – he's in the past, meaning Brett's relationship with A is over (or should be)

Pg 68 **Achilles heel** – weakness; vulnerable point (physically, it's right behind the ankle)

Pg 69 **ballistic** – get extremely angry; explode

Pg 69 **unload on you** – tell you my problems

Pg 69 **get the hell out** – leave

Pg 69 **doesn't have the balls** – lacks the courage

Pg 69 **break it off** – end the relationship

Pg 70 **dump his ass** – end the relationship

Pg 70 **sit there and take it** – do nothing (take the abuse of Jimmy having affairs)

Pg 70 **orphan** – a child without parents

Pg 70 **out there** – out in the dating community

Pg 70 **teensy** – very small, tiny

Pg 71 **hell-bent** – very determined

Pg 71 **Cemetery** – place where people are buried after they die

Pg 71 **eddies** – little pools or spots (of ice)

Pg 71 **gales** – bursts of wind

Pg 71 **headstone** – a marker for a grave, often made of stone

Pg 71 **made the sign of the cross** – a religious gesture (Catholic/Christian)

Pg 72 **fiddle** – mess around with, play with

Pg 72 **play tag** – a chasing game children often play (so the leaves seemed to be chasing each other)

Pg 72 **perch on the marble slab** – sit [perch] on his headstone (made of a big chunk [slab] of marble)

Pg 72 **dog-eared** – very word (the corners [ears] are bent, as if a dog had chewed on them)

Pg 73 **bastard** – a derogatory (bad) name for a man – in this case, Brett’s father

Pg 73 **The El** – short for elevated, because Chicago’s mass transit system is above the streets

Pg 73 **lock eyes** – two people whose stay connected

Pg 73 **khaki Burberry trench coat** – light brown [khaki] Burberry brand men’s rain coat [trench coat]

Pg 73 **confessional booths** – where Catholics go to confess their wrongdoings to a priest

Pg 73 **harbored** – kept (in secret)

Pg 74 **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.

Pg 74 **My stop** – Brett’s station to get off the El

Pg 74 **imprinted** – ducklings develop a special bond with the first person they see after they are born

Chapter 8

Pg 75 **Sauvignon Blanc** – white wine

Pg 75 **seated at the head** – head of the table (the end), a place of honor

Pg 76 **southern drawl** – southern (U.S.) accent

Pg 76 **BC’s** – Bohlinger Cosmetics

Pg 76 **single-malt scotches** – alcohol

Pg 76 **abhors** – hates

Pg 76 **humidor** – a container for cigars

Pg 77 **transfixed** – completely engaged

Pg 78 **amplifies** - makes louder

Pg 78 **concierge** – French word for the caretaker of a hotel or apartment building

Pg 78 **clenched teeth** – teeth are clamped together by biting down hard

Pg 79 **blot** – dab, touch lightly, pat

Pg 79 **spring this** – surprise people with this

Pg 79 **tarnished** – ruined or dirtied in some way

Pg 80 **Bretel** – Carrie’s pet name for Brett

Pg 80 **kilts** – a type of skirt traditionally worn by men in Scotland, always with a plaid design

Pg 81 **snot** – the mucus that comes out of your nose when you cry or have a cold

Pg 81 **Gross!** – ick! Yucky! That’s weird!

Pg 81 **doubled over with laughter** – laughing so hard they were bent over at the waist

Pg 81 **dim-witted** – dumb

Pg 81 **atoning** – making up for something wrong you did; making amends

Pg 81 **Care Bear** – Brett’s nickname for Carrie

Chapter 9

Pg 82 **nosedive** – go downward (as in dive down, nose first)

Pg 83 **freaked out** – very upset

Pg 83 **freshman at NYU** – first year college student at New York University

Pg 83 **pang of envy** – feeling of jealousy

Pg 83 **officious** – official, professional

Pg 83 **final entry** – the last thing in her journal

Pg 83 **settle down** – stop traveling and buy a house, get married, have kids . . .

Pg 84 **a lot to take in** – a lot to think about (to take inside emotionally)

Pg 84 **You bet** – yes

Pg 85 **old geezer** – old man

Pg 85 **roll my eyes** – to look upward in sarcasm

Pg 86 **ponder** – think

Pg 86 **fish my phone** – get my phone

Pg 86 **sub** – short for substitute (teacher)

Pg 86 **rifle through** – dig through, search through

Pg 86 **fridge** – short for refrigerator

Pg 87 **Heineken** – beer

Pg 87 **swig** – swallow

Pg 87 **Hummer** – type of large car

Pg 87 **knuckle sandwich** – a baseball throw (so, like someone threw a baseball very hard at her)

Pg 87 **modicum** – small amount

Pg 87 **gig** – job

Pg 88 **imposter** – pretender, actor

Pg 88 **rippled abs** – abdomen muscles [abs] that are so strong you can see waves/lines [ripples] in them

Pg 88 **all for it** – very much in favor of it

Pg 89 **fringe benefits** – extra good things [benefits] of a job, like health insurance, paid time off, etc.

Pg 89 **housing projects** – apartments built by the government for poor people to live in

Pg 89 **street gangs** – groups of teenagers who often commit crimes or sell drugs

Pg 89 **false start** – an untrue start of labor (delivering a baby into the world)

Pg 90 **make a dash** – run

Pg 90 **thumbs-up** – a gesture of positive agreement (thumb pointing upward)

Pg 90 **reverie** – dream, memory

Pg 90 **yank** – quickly and forcefully

Pg 91 **hindquarters** – her butt

Pg 91 **ass** – a harsh word for butt

Pg 91 **Medusa** – a reference to the mythological woman with snakes for hair

Pg 91 **taffy** – a stretchy, chewy candy

Pg 92 **Watcha** – what do you

Pg 92 **gay** – homosexual

Pg 92 **whooping and hollering** – yelling and screaming

Pg 92 **skulk** – to walk stiffly, with resistance

Pg 93 **Prada flats** – expensive [Prada] shoes

Pg 93 **prepubescent** – haven't yet reached puberty (physical maturity)

Pg 93 **on all fours** – on her hands and knees

Pg 94 **interminable** – unending

Pg 94 **hoodlums** – criminals, bad kids

Pg 95 **downpour** – heavy rain

Pg 95 **reek** – smell

Pg 95 **Pohlonski** – the detective trying to find her father

Pg 95 **I'm losing it** – I'm losing my mind

Pg 95 **placating** – calming, soothing

Pg 95 **make ends meet** – be financially stable (make the ends of your paycheck meet from one month to the next)

Pg 96 **my clock is ticking** – she's getting older, closing the window on her ability to have children

Chapter 10 (pages 97-107)

Pg 97 **hopscotch** – a children's hopping game

Pg 97 **knocked off early** – quit working early

Pg 98 **kneads** – rubs, massages

Pg 98 **shitty** – nasty, bad, mean

Pg 98 **I'm not buying it** – I don't believe it

Pg 98 **Mark my words** – remember my words (because they will turn out to be true)

Pg 99 **tucks a lock of hair** – pushes a small amount of her hair behind her ear (a loving thing to do)

Pg 99 **mil** – short for million (dollars)

Pg 99 **exorbitant trusts** – huge trust funds (money)

Pg 100 **tamp** – squelch, dampen, smash

Pg 100 **shooed** – rushed, pushed

Pg 100 **blindsided** – hit suddenly, without warning

Pg 100 **Madison** – city in Wisconsin (where Carrie moved to, away from Brett)

Pg 100 **I'd made the cheerleading squad** – I was now a cheerleader (a girls' activity in high school)

Pg 101 **lesbian** – a female who is sexually attracted to other females

Pg 101 **bust out** – abruptly begin, similar to 'burst out with laughter'

Pg 101 **hitting on you** - flirting; trying to make Brett romantically interested in her

Pg 101 **you get that, right** – you understand, right?

Pg 101 **feigned** – pretended

Pg 102 **springing** – surprising Brett with

Pg 102 **backbone** – in this case, courage

Pg 102 **close tabs on me** – keeping a close watch on Brett

Pg 103 **despicable** – horrible in a shameful way

Pg 103 **BLTs** – bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwiches

Pg 103 **made any headway** – made any progress

Pg 104 **high-five** – when two people slap their hands together high in the air (an act of celebration)

Pg 104 **rooting for you** – hoping for you to be successful

Pg 104 **catch up** – learn about what she's been doing all these years

Pg 104 **face heat** – her face turns red in embarrassment

Pg 104 **making up** – apologizing and making things right again

Pg 104 **on board** – in agreement

Pg 104 **cut him loose** – let him go (fire him)

Pg 105 **whittled it down** – narrowed the list

Pg 105 **third party** – someone other than the people directly involved in the case (so, not Brett or Brad)

Pg 105 **CSI** – TV show about solving crimes

Pg 105 **breakers** – waves

Pg 105 **IQ** – Intelligence Quotient (a test of intelligence)

Pg 105 **cliques** – groups

Pg 105 **pursed her lips** – as if for a kiss

Pg 105 **Mandarin** – a Chinese dialect

Pg 106 **South Side** – in Chicago, this is known as an especially poor and violent area

Pg 106 **housing projects** – apartment buildings built by the government for the poor

Pg 106 **legit** – short for legitimate; Megan means when Brad is a legitimate boyfriend of Brett's

Pg 106 **Cha-ching!** – expensive (the sound cash registers used to make when a sale was rung up)

Pg 107 **McMansions** – super large houses that look more or less alike, made to impress others

Pg 107 **commission, cut** – Megan's portion of the sale (it's how realtors get paid)

Pg 107 **prostitute** – a woman who has sex in exchange for money

Pg 107 **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)

Pg 109 **cement-block** – a room made with rectangular blocks of cement, usually painted

Pg 109 **custodian's closet** – closet where a janitor [custodian] keeps his/her supplies (mop, brooms, etc)

Pg 109 **ledge . . . potted geraniums** – put flowers [geraniums] on the window ledge

Pg 110 **bedbug** – insect

Pg 110 **shrink** – slang for psychiatrist

Pg 110 **release** – written permission (for Brett to talk to the psychiatrist, Dr. Garrett Taylor)

Pg 110 **Twinkie** – yellow cake snack wrapped in cellophane

Pg 110 **yada, yada, yada** - blah, blah, blah; etc. etc. etc.

Pg 111 **baritone** – a deep male voice

Pg 111 **chum** – friend

Pg 111 **manipulative** – takes advantage of people, tricks people

Pg 111 **wreaking havoc** – causing trouble

Pg 111 **workup** – evaluation

Pg 111 **cerebral palsy** – a genetic disorder causing difficulty with body movements

Pg 111 **Dad's not in the picture** – no dad; refers to the family photo [picture] with no dad in it

Pg 111 **barely register** – Brett hardly hears him, hardly thinks about what he is saying

Pg 111 **Hannibal Lecter** – a serial killer (someone who kills over and over again)

Pg 113 **yammer** – talk. Also **chatter** in the next paragraph

Pg 113 **get the hang of things** – learn how to do her job

Pg 113 **reimburse** – to get paid back for work-related expenses

Pg 113 **give a rip** – care at all

Pg 114 **gabbing** – talking

Pg 114 **predicament** – situation

Pg 114 **palpitating** – moving, bouncing (this is an unusual use of this word)

Pg 115 **obscenities** – swear words; harsh words; expletives

Pg 115 **silk hijab** – head covering worn by some Muslim women

Pg 115 **enunciate** – pronounce very clearly

Pg 115 **stench** – bad smell

Pg 115 **threadbare** – fabric that is very worn

Pg 115 **plastered leg** – a cast is made from plaster, so her leg is hurt and in a solid cast

Pg 115 **recuperating** – getting healthy again

Pg 115 **dimples** – small indentations on each side of the mouth when a child smiles

Pg 116 **rapt** – paying very close attention

Pg 116 **senior** – in her last year of high school (age 17)

Pg 117 **short brunette** – a short woman with brown [brunette] hair

Pg 117 **once-over** – looks at her up and down, takes in all of Brett

Pg 117 **prescription** – medicine prescribed by a doctor

Pg 118 **drumming** – tapping all four fingers in succession, much like a drum

Pg 118 **Chardonnay** – her roommate

Pg 118 **It's straight** – it's good

Pg 119 **gotta** – slang for 'got to', which is incorrect grammar for 'has to'.

Pg 119 **suck at science** – am bad at science

Pg 120 **picture window** – a window that doesn't open (just for looking through)

Pg 120 **Jesus . . . beseeching . . . bloody palms** – a picture of Jesus on the cross with nails through his hands (therefore, blood), eyes looking sad

Pg 120 **barrels** – walks quickly, kind of like a bull or angry elephant

Pg 120 **rant** – yelling

Pg 120 **sprout of fuzz** – a bit of hair [fuzz]

Pg 121 **yaks** – talks and talks and talks

Pg 121 **windy city** – a nickname for Chicago

Pg 121 **orchids** – flowers

Pg 122 **my cheeks flame** – my cheeks get red (with embarrassment)

Pg 122 **lead balloon** – a balloon made of the metal, lead

Pg 122 **bucks** – dollars

Pg 123 **homemaker** – a woman who doesn't work outside of the home

Pg 123 **assembly line** – when products are made in a line with each worker putting one item on the product as it passes by him/her

Pg 124 **ally** – friend

Pg 124 **ur . . . crazy** – your . . . crazy

Pg 124 **akin** – like

Pg 124 **fender-bender** – a small car accident where no one is hurt (just the car's fender)

Chapter 12 (pages 125-134)

Pg 126 **laden** – filled with

Pg 126 **dab** – touch lightly (to wipe away tears)

Pg 126 **conventional** – traditional, normal, ordinary

Pg 126 **kooky** – crazy

Pg 126 **brunch** – a late breakfast/early lunch

Pg 127 **Mr. Newsome** – Carrie's dad

Pg 127 **camcorder** – video recorder (before cell phones)

Pg 127 **drool** – saliva (liquid in the mouth)

Pg 128 **ditch** – skip

Pg 128 **shore . . . up** – hold up (emotionally), help each other

Pg 128 **a wedge of Asiago** – a chunk of cheese

Pg 128 **Cliff Huxtable** – a lovable, caring father on a popular TV show

Pg 129 **hijack** – take over, kidnap

Pg 129 **sullen** – unwilling to talk, almost angry

Pg 129 **Maury Povich** – a TV talk show host (on a TV in the background)

Pg 129 **honors section** – the very smart students

Pg 129 **duped** – lied to, tricked

Pg 130 **bangs** – the short hair covering the forehead ('fringe' in British English)

Pg 130 **polynomials, invert, negatives, 3y, 8x, etc.** – just math talk

Pg 130 **headrest** – the part of a car's seat that is just behind the head

Pg 130 ***Are you smarter than a seventh grader?*** – a play (joke) on the TV game show, *Are you smarter than a 5th grader?*

Pg 130 **cocky** – egotistical, think too highly of yourself

Pg 131 **crack up** – burst out laughing

Pg 131 **jig** – dance

Pg 131 **hundredfold** – a hundred times

Pg 132 **Tudors** – a style of house architecture

Pg 132 **idyllic** – perfect, ideal

Pg 132 **straight face** – a sincere face; a face that is not joking

Pg 132 ***Green Eggs. . . Horton*** – Dr. Seuss children's books

Pg 132 **guffaws morph into sobs** – laughs [guffaws] turn into [morph] crying [sobs]

Pg 133 **going nuts** – going crazy

Pg 133 **to boot** – in addition to

Pg 133 **fair shot** – an honest try, a reasonable trial

Pg 134 **plummets** – drops

Chapter 13 (pages 135-146)

Pg 135 **hell-bent** – insistent, determined

Pg 135 **trek** – journey

Pg 136 **Miles Davis** – jazz singer

Pg 136 **came on the market** – if any new real estate (houses, buildings) are for sale

Pg 136 **gasp** – a sharp intake of breath (in surprise or shock)

Pg 137 **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

Pg 137 **pool** – combine

Pg 137 **piker** – cheap person (I've never heard this before)

Pg 137 **scowls** – frowns

Pg 137 **pestering** – bothering, annoying

Pg 137 **Begrudgingly** – with reservations, not willingly

Pg 138 **dictate** – direct, control

Pg 138 **Catherine's call** – Catherine's decision

Pg 138 **glowers** – looks angry

Pg 138 **rendered impotent** – made [rendered] useless, incapable of acting [impotent]

Pg 138 **treasonous** – guilty of betrayal

Pg 139 **comforter** – blanket

Pg 139 **salt-and-pepper** – hair that has some gray (salt) and a little black (pepper) in it

Pg 139 **olive skin** – the light brown color of skin associated with people from the Mediterranean area

Pg 139 **yanked away like some cruel prank** – taken away like some mean trick

Pg 139 **bolt upright** – sit up fast

Pg 139 **you got your way** – you got what you wanted, got your wish

Pg 140 ***Happy Turkey Day*** – Happy Thanksgiving

Pg 140 **pour out my heart** – tell him everything that's on her heart, all of her emotions

Pg 140 **rough go** – a rough, or difficult, time

Pg 140 **sage stuffing** – traditional Thanksgiving food

Pg 140 **of their own volition** – of their own doing

Pg 140 **heave it** – throw it

Pg 140 **plop** – sit

Pg 141 **traipse** – walk casually

Pg 141 **lost its clientele** – lost its people (the path is deserted)

Pg 141 **round the bend** – follow the curve in the road

Pg 141 **Ferris wheel** – a carnival ride, a giant wheel that takes people up and around in circles slowly

Pg 141 **Navy Pier** – a tourist area of Chicago

Pg 141 **Labrador** – a type of dog

Pg 141 **sizes me up** – looks me over

Pg 141 **Under Armour** – a brand of athletic wear

Pg 142 **gain on him** – get closer to him

Pg 142 **a new low** – a new low point, a level of behavior that she is ashamed of

Pg 142 **pathetic** – pitiful, someone to pity or feel sorry for

Pg 142 **biological clock** – aging; specifically, the ages during which she is able to have children

Pg 142 **foreboding** – fearing something bad, dreading what is to come

Pg 142 **double-wrapped** – wrapped with cellophane (clear plastic) so the food won't spill

Pg 142 **turkey loaf** – a cheap "meat" made of turkey and other fillers, then shaped into a loaf

Pg 142 **fixin's** – short for fixings, meaning all the things that go with turkey (gravy, vegetables, etc)

Pg 143 **don't gotta go** – don't got to go; correct grammar is: don't have to go

Pg 144 **waste buildup** – the toxic (deadly) things inside her body caused by her kidney failure

Pg 144 **kiddo** – a friendly term for a child. Pronounced kid-doe (long o)

Pg 144 **ain't** – are not

Pg 144 **grandbabies** – grandchildren

Pg 145 **U-turn** – turn around (which requires driving the car in a "U")

Pg 145 **background check** – a police report of all arrests and convictions. This is mandatory (required) for anyone who works with children, like teachers.

Pg 145 **kin** – family

Pg 146 **quarters** – areas

Pg 146 **strip it** – take the sheets off the bed

Pg 146 **will relieve you** – will take your place

Pg 146 **exploiting** – taking advantage of

Pg 146 **bosom** – chest. Pronounced like "book" without the "k", then "zm." Like boozm

Pg 146 **came a-calling** – came to the house (calling on the residents at Joshua House)

Pg 146 **running for** – is a candidate for the position of judge

Pg 146 **drum up** – think of

Chapter 14 (pages 147-158)

Pg 147 **hunch** – a guess you think is correct

Pg 148 **struck out** – wasn't successful

Pg 148 **passed away** – died

Pg 148 **paid under the table** – paid in cash so he wouldn't have to pay taxes (this is illegal)

Pg 148 **nursing home** – home for old people

Pg 148 **dead end** – no more possibilities

Pg 149 **exempt** – to be excluded from

Pg 149 **pawned** – sold

Pg 150 **illegitimate daughter** – a child born outside of a legal marriage

Pg 150 **appease me** – make me happy

Pg 150 **the one** – the one she should marry

Pg 151 **despises** – hates

Pg 151 **fallen on hard times** – come to some misfortune

Pg 151 **suckered** – tricked

Pg 151 **adjustable mortgage** – a home loan with interest rates that go up and down

Pg 151 **through the roof** – very high

Pg 151 **hard as nails** – tough

Pg 151 **index finger** – the first finger

Pg 151 **ulterior** – untrue, secret

Pg 152 **articulate** – explain in detail

Pg 152 **crouches** – squats

Pg 152 **the catch in his voice** – the unsteadiness because he is feeling emotional

Pg 152 **boobs** – breasts

Pg 152 **jinx** – bring bad luck

Pg 153 **grope** – feel around

Pg 153 **armoire** – free-standing closet

Pg 153 **gluttony** – excess

Pg 153 **trunk** – storage in back of her car

Pg 153 **steam** – energy

Pg 153 **meander** – wander, walk slowly

Pg 153 **sofa, love seat** – couch, small couch

Pg 153 **there is a list of all of her and Andrew's expensive purchases** (last full paragraph)

Pg 153 **inventory** – stuff, things

Pg 153 **livid** – super angry

Pg 154 **plaster** – glue

Pg 154 **stalker** – someone who follows someone else around in secret

Pg 154 **lets loose** – releases

Pg 154 **high-pitched** – high sounding voice

Pg 154 **giggle** – laugh

Pg 154 **rifle** – look

Pg 154 **liquor** – alcohol (Glenlivet, for example)

Pg 154 **burly** – big, strong

Pg 154 **Whatcha got** – what do you have

Pg 154 **goatee** – male facial hair (moustache)

Pg 154 **armed with** – having

Pg 154 **queasy** – feeling sick (nervous)

Pg 154 **ranch** – a one-story house

Pg 155 **utterly gleeful** – completely happy

Pg 156 **bungalow** – house style

Pg 156 **biracial** – of two races

Pg 156 **close-cropped** – cut very short

Pg 157 **Bloody Mary, Mimosa, eggnog** – drinks

Pg 157 **baby bump** – her rounded stomach

Pg 157 **mug** – cup

Pg 157 **starlet** – celebrity

Pg 157 **whiff** – smell, scent

Pg 158 **bask** – soak

Pg 158 **den** – a room in the house

Pg 158 **Farah Fawcett** – 1980s star

Pg 158 **towheaded** – very light blonde hair

Chapter 15 (pages 160-166)

Pg 160 **going places** – going to be famous

Pg 160 **hammers** – beats strongly, loudly

Pg 160 **moan, clap** – shocked sound, slap

Pg 161 **picks** – plays his guitar strings

Pg 161 **riff** – notes (as in music)

Pg 161 **saddled** – burdened with

Pg 161 **Uno** – a card game

Pg 161 **classy** – elegant, a good person

Pg 161 **smitten** – in love with

Pg 161 **stage name** – not an actor's (or singer's) real name, the name he/she uses professionally

Pg 162 **mass murderer** – someone who kills many people. Charles Manson was crazy and famous for killing many innocent people in the U.S.

Pg 162 **stigma** – disgrace, shame

Pg 162 **twofer** – slang for 'two for one'

Pg 162 **sec** – short for 'second'

Pg 163 **doll** – cute, adorable, friendly, nice

Pg 163 **condensed version** – shorter story

Pg 164 **duplex** – a style of house

Pg 164 **respite** – rest, relief

Pg 164 **brood** – family

Pg 164 **down the road** – over time

Pg 164 **proposing** – asking Jenna to marry him

Pg 165 **whining** – complaining

Pg 165 **rekindling** – starting again

Pg 165 **shallow pool** – small group

Pg 165 **confidantes** – close friends

Pg 165 **void** – empty place

Pg 166 **flat out** – plainly, straight out

Pg 166 **scavenger hunt** – a game of finding hidden things

Pg 166 **nuance, innuendo** – subtlety, shades of meaning (not being clear)

Pg 166 **slog** – battle

Chapter 16 (pages 167-182)

Pg 167 **pitch, satchel** – throw, purse

Pg 167 **Shel** – short for Shelley

Pg 167 **show dog** – nearly perfect dog

Pg 168 **rant** – angry speech

Pg 168 **top it off** – in addition to that

Pg 168 **peeked at his package** – look at him sexually

Pg 168 **arrested** – put in jail

Pg 168 **ass, goddamn, shit's** – swear words

Pg 168 **check** – the bill (for their meal)

Pg 168 **loaded** – very rich

Pg 168 **material girl** – interested in money/things

Pg 169 **paid it forward** – gave forgiveness to others

Pg 169 **mutt** – a dog that is of mixed breeds

Pg 169 **Beemer** – slang for BMW (car)

Pg 169 **peck** – kiss (quick, friendly)

Pg 169 **Yup** – Yep (or yes)

Pg 170 **nephrologists** – kidney disease specialist

Pg 170 **psycho dude** – psychotic boy

Pg 170 **smart as a whip** – very smart

Pg 170 **shrink** – psychiatrist

Pg 170 **approachable** – someone you can talk to

Pg 170 **Nada** – nothing (Spanish)

Pg 171 **canine** – dog

Pg 171 **smidgen** – little bit

Pg 172 **nuzzle** – rub her nose in

Pg 172 **mongrel** – stray, orphan

Pg 172 **whatcha** – what are you

Pg 172 **three-ring binder** – notebook

Pg 172 **down the road** – in the future

Pg 172 **gelding** - horse

Pg 172 **arthritis** – bone pain disease

Pg 172 **whatnot** – whatever, other things

Pg 173 **stabled** – kept at (a barn for horses)

Pg 173 **tot** – toddler (young child)

Pg 173 **exempt** – excluded

Pg 174 **tad** – little bit

Pg 174 **break the bank** – use all your money

Pg 175 **kibbles** – dry dog food

Pg 175 **Fred and Ginger** – a reference to Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, 1930s dancers

Pg 175 **Pinot Noir** – wine

Pg 175 **roving** – looking

Pg 176 **clause** – paragraph (in her will)

Pg 176 **goblet** – glass

Pg 176 **vino** – wine

Pg 177 **prego** – pregnant

Pg 177 **devastated** – totally destroyed

Pg 177 **put the cart before the horse** – do last things first

Pg 178 **fuchsia/periwinkle** – pink/blue-purple

Pg 178 **specs** – eyeglasses

Pg 178 **sober** – no longer laughing

Pg 178 **skirmish** – wrestling around

Pg 178 **Granny** - grandma

Pg 178 **neat-freak** – someone who is very, very neat

Pg 178 **went to bat for you** – argued in your favor

Pg 179 **mutt** – mixed breed dog

Pg 179 **duvet** – bedspread (bed covering)

Pg 179 **connected the dots** – followed the clues

Pg 179 **credits of WC** – end of the movie

Pg 179 **throws back** – tosses his head back to drink

Pg 180 **Chop! Chop!** – Hurry, hurry!

Pg 180 **helm** – front of a ship or boat

Pg 180 **moseys** – walks slowly and casually

Pg 180 **tousles** – gently messes it up with his fingers

Pg 180 **for the ride** – on the journey

Pg 181 **Ditto** – the same with me

Pg 181 **disentangles** – removes

Pg 181 **marred** – ruined, injured, messed up

Pg 182 **stoop** – top porch step

Pg 182 **snout** – nose (usually of an animal)

Pg 182 **wince** – a look of pain on her face

Pg 182 **cramps** – severe stomach pain

Chapter 17 (pages 183-185)

Pg 183 **grief-stricken** – emotion caused by sadness

Pg 183 **paralysis** – being unable to move

Pg 183 **wails** – cries of anguish/sadness

Pg 183 **barren/womb** – empty/uterus (place in a woman where the baby develops)

Pg 184 **anesthetized** – medical procedure so you can't feel pain (or anything)

Pg 184 **vacantly** – empty, without emotion

Pg 184 **phantom** – imaginary/ghostly

Pg 184 **panini grill** – sandwich cooker

Pg 184 **breaks anchor** – lets go

Pg 184 **raps** – knocks

Pg 185 **lecherous** – sexually predatory

Chapter 18 (pages 186-191)

Pg 186 **gig** – job

Pg 187 **blurt** – talk suddenly

Pg 187 **to boot** – in addition to

Pg 188 **chipper** – happy, upbeat

Pg 188 **Bloody Mary** – alcoholic drink

Pg 188 **sidles up** – comes over in a cautious but friendly way

Pg 188 **brace yourself, sis** – be prepared, sister

Pg 189 **contagion** – sickness

Pg 189 **shuffling** – moving (a book-only word)

Pg 189 **pulse** – heartbeat

Pg 189 **stipulated** – required

Pg 189 **max** – short for maximum

Pg 189 **incredulous** – unbelieving, shocked

Pg 189 **smirk** – mocking smile

Pg 190 **heave** – throw

Pg 190 **nuzzling** – burying her face in

Pg 190 **scruffy ol' mutts** – dirty/ungroomed old mixed breed dogs

Pg 190 **reality check** – make sure all the facts are real and true

Pg 190 **sibs** – siblings (brothers, in this case)

Pg 190 **self-loathing** – hating oneself

Pg 190 **meager** – small

Pg 190 **digs** – place to live

Pg 190 **scouring** – looking over carefully

Pg 191 **Loop** – the business district of Chicago

Pg 191 **subletting** – renting a room in an individual's house or condominium

Pg 191 **slew** – bunch (many)

Pg 191 **riddled** – covered with, criss-crossed with

Pg 191 **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 **groggy** – 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

Pg 205 **fold** – family group

Pg 206 **prescribe Xanax ...** - give drugs

Pg 206 **meds** – medications (drugs)

Pg 206 **vulnerability** – open to being hurt

Pg 206 **session** – time, appointment (therapy)

Pg 206 **hitting on me** – flirting with me

Pg 206 **tour de force** – French for impressive, strong

Pg 206 **Michael/Catherine, etc.** – celebrity marriages with large age differences

Pg 207 **havoc** – craziness

Pg 207 **clenched** – locked together

Pg 207 **cooped up** – locked up, unable to leave

Pg 207 **Dust Bowl** – mid-America states

Pg 207 **Lewis & Clark** – American explorers (1800s)

Pg 207 **yanks/grasp** – grabs/hands

Pg 208 **slush** – melting ice and snow

Pg 208 **escalating** – rising, getting worse

Pg 208 **placement** – place for Peter to stay/live

Pg 208 **tad** – bit

Pg 208 **caseload** – the students (cases) she's responsible for

Pg 208 **redeeming** – worthwhile

Pg 209 **charity case** – someone to feel sorry for

Pg 209 **win him over** – make him like you

Pg 209 **isolated** – alone

Pg 209 **ominous** – scary, frightening

Pg 209 **jotting** – writing quickly

Pg 209 **hackles** – hairs on a dog's back that rise when he/she is angry

Pg 210 **whip a U-Turn** – turn the car around quickly

Pg 210 **bloated** – puffy, fat from water retention

Pg 210 **glistens** – shines

Pg 210 **swallow the lump** – choke back tears

Pg 210 **implore** – search, ask

Pg 210 **feud/brewing** – fight/starting

Pg 210 **mediate** – intervene to calm them down

Pg 210 **page** – call over the loud speakers

Pg 211 **in my shit** – in my stuff

Pg 211 **pay no heed** – ignore

Pg 211 **'cept sit...** - except sit on your fat butt all day

Pg 211 **agility/acrobat** – nimbleness/gymnast

Pg 211 **pivots** – turns

Pg 211 **weave** – fake hair woven into real hair

Pg 211 **obscenities** – swear words

Pg 211 **seize** – grab

Pg 211 **curses/bulge** – swears/stick out

Pg 211 **contained** – unable to leave

Pg 212 **blankly** – without expression

Pg 212 **cocks** – tilts

Pg 212 **gon'** – gonna (going to)

Pg 212 **Hers be ...** - hers is all torn up

Pg 212 **'fore ...** before that lazy whore stole it from me

Pg 212 **safe** – a locked box

Pg 213 **maitre d** – head waiter

Chapter 21 (pages 214-222)

Pg 214 **dash** – run

Pg 214 **ignition** – the car's engine

Pg 214 **contractions** – muscle movements that cause a woman to deliver a baby

Pg 214 **hoist** – lift and carry

Pg 215 **pumps** - shoes with heels

Pg 215 **specialist** – doctor (kidney in this case)

Pg 215 **implying** – trying to say without actually saying it

Pg 216 **hustle** – hurry

Pg 216 **loiter** – hang around

Pg 216 **labor** – birth process

Pg 217 **fiasco** – mess, disaster

Pg 217 **working things out** – solving their problems

Pg 217 **jittery** – nervous

Pg 217 **cringe** – shrink in shame

Pg 218 **mocking** – joking, making fun of

Pg 218 **set him straight** – let him know the truth

Pg 218 **punching** – tapping

Pg 218 **catch sight** – see

Pg 218 **hustling** – flirting with

Pg 218 **sixty-something** – 60+ year old

Pg 218 **sizing up** – evaluating, judging

Pg 218 **twosome** – couple

Pg 219 **lull** – silent break in conversation

Pg 219 **muted** – silent

Pg 219 **mortifying** – embarrassing

Pg 219 **make-out** – kissing

Pg 219 **back on track** – back to normal

Pg 219 **branding fork** – hot iron to burn an identification design into a cow's hip

Pg 219 **sears** – burns

Pg 219 **booty call** – someone to be sexual with

Pg 220 **postmortem** – after death

Pg 220 **beats . . . me** – I don't know

Pg 220 **far-fetched** – unrealistic

Pg 220 **Way!** – Way too far-fetched!

Pg 220 **tit-for-tat** – picky, picky

Pg 220 **riff** – conversation

Pg 220 **terbutaline** – a drug

Pg 221 **breakdown** – emotional collapse

Pg 221 **conventional** – traditional

Pg 221 **peers** – people of the same age

Pg 222 **gamble** – risk

Pg 222 **sniffles** – runny nose, a cold

Pg 222 **prickle** – tingle

Pg 222 **pneumonia** – water in the lungs

Pg 222 **plagued** – bothered

Pg 222 **respiratory** – breathing

Chapter 22 (pages 224-234)

Pg 224 **roils** – turns, boils, is upset

Pg 224 **cruise/burb** – drive/suburb (neighborhood)

Pg 224 **fruitless** – unsuccessful

Pg 225 **creep** – move slowly

Pg 225 **potholed** – large holes in the street

Pg 225 **hightail it** – leave quickly

Pg 225 **cornices** – wooden decorations

Pg 225 **perimeter** – outside edge

Pg 225 **dual** – two

Pg 225 **urns/poinsettia** – flower pots/flowers

Pg 225 **wince** – a painful look

Pg 226 **cue** – signal

Pg 226 **hoops dangle** – circles hang

Pg 226 **the contagion of** – [skip these words]

Pg 226 **Yorkie/Chihua...** - small dogs

Pg 227 **rapid-fire** – fast

Pg 227 **stoked** – excited

Pg 227 **immaculate** – super clean

Pg 227 **embellishing** – exaggerating

Pg 228 **into foreclosure** – the bank took it back

Pg 228 **exchange** – conversation

Pg 228 **ferrying** – carrying, moving, taking

Pg 229 **mis-matched end tables** – unmatched tables that sit at either end of a couch or sofa

Pg 229 **hip** – fashionable

Pg 229 **utensils** – forks, knives, and spoons

Ps 229 **ludicrous** – ridiculous

Pg 230 **cliques** – groups

Pg 230 **final straw** – last thing, the thing that made her finally decide to go back to work

Pg 231 **breezes** – walks

Pg 231 **Loyola** – a university

Pg 231 **proposition** – offer, opportunity

Pg 231 **hotshot prof** – famous professor

Pg 231 **recruited from Penn** – hired from the University of Pennsylvania

Pg 231 **chugs** – drinks quickly

Pg 231 **WTF** – what the fuck (extreme surprise)

Pg 231 **geek** – nerd, weirdo

Pg 231 **measly** – small, insignificant

Pg 231 **muster up a shred** – gather up a little bit of

Pg 232 **tousles** – playfully messes up

Pg 232 **Regis Philbin** – older man on a TV talk show

Pg 232 **time is of the essence** – time is important

Pg 232 **patents** – legal rights for inventions

Pg 232 **in his league** – in his income bracket

Pg 233 **plotting** – planning

Pg 233 **thumbs up** – thumb pointing upward (a sign meaning “success!”)

Pg 233 **airfare** – cost of her plane ticket

Pg 233 **discharge papers** – papers the hospital gives you when you go home (instructions, etc)

Pg 234 **trifecta** – three wins

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 235 **bottleneck** – a crowd of people

Pg 235 **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/compartiment** - 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

Pg 240 **catch-and a half** – a “catch” is a man worth marrying

Pg 240 **swilling** – drinking

Pg 240 **constellations** – stars in the night sky

Pg 240 **Big Dipper** – a star constellation

Pg 240 **growing quite fond** – beginning to like you

Pg 241 **snicker** – laugh

Pg 241 **tamper** – stop, control

Pg 241 **hip** – cool

Pg 241 **nerd** – someone who is not cool

Pg 241 **we never cheat** – nerds never have sexual relationships outside their marriage

Pg 241 **rays** – sunshine

Pg 241 **ruckus** – noise

Pg 242 **deserting** - leaving

Pg 242 **second-guess** – question

Pg 242 **voice breaks** – voice cracks (because she’s almost crying)

Pg 242 **choked up** - near to crying

Pg 242 **off-guard** – unaware, not ready

Pg 243 **upfront** – honest, straightforward

Pg 243 **full of myself** – egotistical

Chapter 24 (pages 244-258)

Pg 244 **757** – an airplane

Pg 244 **descent** – lowering of the plane to land

Pg 244 **Space Needle** – tourist attraction in Seattle

Pg 244 **traipse/hordes** – walk/lots

Pg 244 **nauseous** – sick feeling in the stomach

Pg 245 **borderline preppy** – almost Ivy League looking (like people who attend top-notch schools in the East – Ivy League)

Pg 245 **beside herself** – super excited

Pg 245 **veers** – drives off

Pg 246 **tuition** – the cost of attending the school

Pg 246 **vestibule** – entrance/waiting area

Pg 246 **whoop** – a delightful sound

Pg 246 **gleeful** – happy

Pg 246 **lumbers** – walks heavily, not gracefully

Pg 246 **alabaster** – white and smooth

Pg 246 **overbite** – condition where the top teeth/jaw extend beyond the lower teeth/jaw

Pg 246 **Down syndrome** – a genetic disorder that causes mental challenges, among other things

Pg 247 **walker** – a device to help him walk without falling, usually used by older people

Pg 247 **raspy** – scratchy

Pg 247 **equine** – horse

Pg 248 **drizzle** – rain

Pg 248 **play hooky** – skip school

Pg 248 **Navajo** – American Indian

Pg 248 **Crazy Eights** – card game

Pg 248 **obscure indie musicians** – little known alternative music musicians

Pg 248 **eggplant Parmesan** – dinner

Pg 248 **carafe** – bottle

Pg 249 **etch** – carve (make it permanent)

Pg 249 **tumbler** – a glass for children

Pg 249 **clink** – tap together

Pg 249 **loiter** – stay, hang around

Pg 250 **douse** – turn out/turn off

Pg 250 **Gibson** – guitar brand

Pg 250 **gene** – genetic material

Pg 250 **twitches** – moves, jerks

Pg 250 **talisman** – magical object

Pg 251 **piece of work** – someone hard to imagine

Pg 251 **flinches** – a quick movement as if in pain

Pg 251 **livid** – super angry

Pg 251 **testify** – speak in a court of law

Pg 251 **slut** – a woman who has sex with many men

Pg 251 **weed** – marijuana

Pg 251 **pothead** – someone who smokes a lot of marijuana

Pg 251 **liability** – drawback, danger

Pg 251 **did me in** – ruined me, killed me

Pg 252 **saw through me** – knew I was lying (saw through the lies he was telling)

Pg 252 **lost track of** – couldn't find

Pg 253 **fraud** – fake, not real

Pg 253 **plaguing** – bothering

Pg 253 **paternity** – fatherhood

Pg 253 **strums** – plays (on the guitar)

Pg 253 **vasectomy** – medical procedure on a man so he can't father children any more

Pg 253 **devastated** – very unhappy

Pg 254 **bear hug** – a big, friendly hug

Pg 255 **hail a cab** – get a cab

Pg 255 **schlep** – carry

Pg 255 **for the life of me** – as much as I try

Pg 255 **conveyor belt** – what the suitcases are on

Pg 256 **steroids** – drugs to make a person extra strong

Pg 256 **chute** – tunnel

Pg 256 **carousel** – the round machine with suitcases

Pg 256 **one fell swoop** – one big grab, all at once

Pg 256 **crook** – where the arm bends

Pg 256 **knock off** – finish

Pg 256 **sweats** – sweatpants and sweatshirt

Pg 256 **gales** – winds

Pg 257 **bustling** – busy

Pg 257 **venture** – go

Pg 257 **perched/bullhorn** – sitting/voice magnifier

Pg 257 **calling the shots** – directing

Pg 257 **poops out** – gets tired

Pg 257 **linger** – stay

Pg 257 **coined** – made, invented

Pg 257 **dotting** – caring

Pg 258 **suffocating** – without air

Pg 258 **bar stools** - chairs

Chapter 25 (pages 259-271)

Pg 259 **in labor** – beginning to have her baby

Pg 260 **lids** – eyelids

Pg 260 **C-section** – doctors surgically remove the baby from Sanquita

Pg 260 **cardiac arrest** – heart attack (possible death)

Pg 260 **distressed/all get-out** – upset/as possible

Pg 260 **knitted brow** – angry look

Pg 260 **bolt** – jump out of

Pg 260 **pass out** – collapse, become unconscious

Pg 261 **two-pound...** - a normal baby weighs about 6-9 lbs (not two).

Pg 261 **CPAP** – breathing machine

Pg 261 **NICU** – room for extremely fragile babies

Pg 261 **gloat** – show that you are right

Pg 261 **interminable** – never-ending

Pg 261 **gravity** – seriousness

Pg 261 **unflinching** – not moving or changing

Pg 262 **murky** – cloudy, dark

Pg 262 **chappe/slack** – dry/open

Pg 262 **jerky spasms** – uneven bursts

Pg 263 **scowls** – frowns

Pg 263 **scrubs** – the uniform medical people wear

Pg 263 **corridor** – hallway

Pg 263 **nursery rooms** – rooms for babies

Pg 263 **isolettes** – cribs

Pg 263 **incubator** – enclosed glass space to keep Sanquita's baby warm

Pg 264 **BABY DOE** – “Doe” is a generic name used to mean anyone. Also, Jane Doe, John Doe

Pg 264 **adhere** – stick

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

Pg 264 **protrudes** – sticks out

Pg 264 **apparatus** – thing, machine

Pg 264 **plethora** – many, array

Pg 264 **peeved** – annoyed, irritated

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

Pg 265 **bloated** – puffy, inflated

Pg 165 **cruel caricature** – mean cartoon

Pg 266 **molasses** – thick syrup

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

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

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

Pg 266 **beeline** – go straight to

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

Pg 267 **reiterate** – repeat

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

Pg 268 **preemies** – babies born prematurely

Pg 268 **frivolous** – unnecessary

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

Pg 269 **trembles** – shakes

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

Pg 270 **embrace** – hug

Pg 270 **quiver** – shakiness

Pg 270 **dislodge** – move

Pg 270 **quaking** – moving, shaking

Pg 270 **audible** – able to be heard

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

Pg 272 **splinters** – breaks apart

Pg 272 **long drag** – deeply inhales

Pg 273 **running yourself ragged** – doing too much

Pg 273 **resilient** – strong, able to bounce back

Pg 273 **welfare** – well-being, quality of life

Pg 274 **nasal** – nose

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

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

Pg 274 **whimper** – crying

Pg 274 **fussy** – irritable

Pg 274 **respiratory** – breathing

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

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

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

Pg 276 **instinctual** – natural

Pg 277 **nuzzle** – snuggle, hug

Pg 277 **wean** – get

Pg 277 **neuroses** – craziness

Pg 278 **huddled** – in a group

Pg 278 **faux-fur/skeletal** – fake fur/super skinny

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

Pg 278 **scuffle** – disagreement, argument

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

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

Pg 278 **catch a whiff** – smell

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

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

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

Chapter 26 (pages 272-279)

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

Chapter 27 (pages 280-288)

Pg 280 **neonatal/abuzz/chatter** – baby/lively/talk

Pg 280 **high** – like drunk, but with drugs

Pg 280 **bile** – vomit

Pg 281 **be a cinch** – be easy (pronounced: sinch)

Pg 281 **no-brainer** – super easy (don't have to think)

Pg 281 **SSI** – money from the government

Pg 281 **hell-bent** – determined

Pg 281 **motive** – reason for doing something

Pg 281 **scant** – small amount (barely five months)

Pg 282 **pecks** – kisses

Pg 282 **gaga** – loves

Pg 282 **once-over** – looks at her quickly

Pg 283 **in a few** – in a few minutes

Pg 283 **fate/arbitrary** – future/random or unknown

Pg 283 **did a number on you** – tricked you

Pg 284 **shortsighted** – thinking small, not thinking ahead

Pg 284 **the prom** – a high school dance

Pg 284 **one-night stand** – having sex with someone you've only known that night and never see again

Pg 284 **gene pool** – genetics, heredity

Pg 284 **Screw you** – Fuck you, the hell with you

Pg 284 **premature** – early

Pg 284 **surrogate** – stand-in, substitute

Pg 284 **asking for your hand** – asking to marry her

Pg 285 **lug** – carry (something heavy)

Pg 285 **split the seam** – cut the tape holding it closed

Pg 285 **menagerie** – variety

Pg 286 **garnished** – decorated

Pg 286 **amputees** – people with missing arms/legs

Pg 286 **love seat** – small couch

Pg 286 **lapsed/coma** – fell/unconsciousness

Pg 286 **conscious** – able to think, speak

Pg 286 **clammy** – slightly wet, sweaty

Pg 287 **irrelevant** – unimportant

Pg 287 **coherent** – able to speak clearly

Pg 287 **at liberty** – have permission

Pg 287 **disability** – government money

Pg 287 **rehab** – addiction program

Pg 287 **crime-ridden** – lots of crime

Pg 287 **felony** – serious crime

Pg 287 **misdemeanor** – less serious crime

Pg 287 **formal charge** – lawsuit

Pg 287 **Hearsay** – a legal term referring to what someone heard from someone else, almost like gossip, and it's not allowed in a court of law

Pg 287 **traitor** – someone who betrays

Pg 287 **testing clean** – drug tests are showing no drugs

Pg 287 **foster care** – government program to place children in temporary homes

Pg 288 **reining in** – controlling, limiting

Pg 288 **open-and-shut** – simple, quickly done

Chapter 28 (pages 289-300)

Pg 289 **take root/trail** – be planted/follow

Pg 289 **sidles** – walks

Pg 290 **custody hearing** – a legal proceeding to determine a child's parent

Pg 290 **presiding** – in charge

Pg 290 **Nada** – nothing

Pg 290 **contest** – fight (pronounced kun-TEST)

Pg 290 **prognosis** – expected outcome, especially for medical problems

Pg 290 **terminal** – life-ending, can't be cured

Pg 290 **cat drug in** – cat brought in (usually cats bring smelly dead animals home)

Pg 291 **a lick** – even a little bit

Pg 291 **trumps** – is more important than

Pg 291 **crocodile tears** – super big tears

Pg 291 **Play hardball** – Be mean, play hard (as opposed to playing softball – the girls’ version of baseball)

Pg 291 **Nerf ball** – a toy ball made of soft foam

Pg 291 **pine pews** – long wooden benches to sit on

Pg 292 **calls ... order** – begins

Pg 292 **testifying** – speaking in front of the judge

Pg 292 **sworn in** – promises to tell the truth

Pg 292 **hinges** – depends

Pg 292 **chatting it up** – talking casually

Pg 292 **quivering** – shaking uncontrollably

Pg 292 **insistent** – determined

Pg 293 **handkerchief** – cloth Kleenex (pronounced: hang-ker-chif)

Pg 293 **hankie** – short for handkerchief

Pg 293 **hikes up** – pulls up, lifts, raises

Pg 293 **wags** – moves back and forth (like a dog wagging its tail)

Pg 293 **ducks in a row** – everything in order

Pg 294 **Perplexing** – confusing

Pg 294 **deplorable** – horrible, disgusting, bad

Pg 294 **terminate** – end (as in an abortion)

Pg 295 **smirks** – smiles in a better-than-you way

Pg 295 **Sustained** – the judge is agreeing with Brad

Pg 295 **recess** – break, rest

Pg 295 **gavel** – the hammer a judge holds and uses to quiet the courtroom

Pg 295 **life sentence** – refers to spending life in prison (her life would be like prison)

Pg 295 **forsaking** – betraying, letting her down

Pg 295 **props/grips** – leans/holds

Pg 296 **break** – break down emotionally

Pg 296 **juven..delinq** – child criminal

Pg 296 **Buck up** – get it together

Pg 296 **horrific detour** – horrible journey in another direction

Pg 296 **bailiff** – a courtroom guard

Pg 296 **sneakers/pumps** – tennis shoes/heels

Pg 296 **sit tight** – don’t move

Pg 296 **counsel/bench** – attorneys/judge’s area

Pg 296 **interminable** – unending

Pg 297 **aloft** – up in the air

Pg 297 **notarized** – witnessed

Pg 297 **sole custody** – be the only parent

Pg 297 **adjourned** – closed

Pg 297 **scurry/sprint** – rush/run

Pg 298 **laid eyes on** – seen

Pg 298 **half-mast** – half closed

Pg 298 **intrusive** – invading her privacy

Pg 299 **nippy** – cold

Pg 299 **thrive** – get better, be strong

Pg 299 **professing** – saying

Pg 300 **revisit** – look at again

Pg 300 **head-over-heels** – really, really!

Pg 300 **unworthy backdrop** – bad setting

Pg 300 **mull it over** – think about it

Pg 300 **down the road** – in the future

Pg 300 **mussed/sapphires** – messy/blue gemstones

Chapter 29 (pages 301-315)

Pg 301 **clutching** – holding

Pg 301 **shuttled** – moved, driven

Pg 301 **mutt** – dog

Pg 301 **duplex** – house

Pg 302 **pulse** – heartbeat

Pg 302 **thrust** – push

Pg 302 **fetch** – get

Pg 302 **heartstrings** – love emotions

Pg 302 **seminal** – largest, most important

Pg 302 **in turns** – at different times

Pg 303 **soggy** – wet

Pg 303 **inadvertent** – not on purpose, accidental

Pg 303 **stammers** – skips a beat, stops beating

Pg 303 **layette** – baby clothes

Pg 303 **gushing** – swooning, loving

Pg 305 **contraption** – thing (in this case, car seat)

Pg 305 **I beg to differ** – I disagree

Pg 305 **chastise** – scold, criticize

Pg 305 **invaded** – come into (without invitation)

Pg 305 **whip up** – make (in a short amount of time)

Pg 306 **strolls** – walks

Pg 306 **breeze** – walk happily, casually, lightly

Pg 307 **Moby Wrap** – baby holder the mom wears

Pg 307 **sling** – the Moby Wrap holding Austin

Pg 307 **coos** – the soft sounds a baby makes

Pg 307 **suits you** – is a good fit for you

Pg 308 **beau** – boyfriend (French)

Pg 308 **fairy godmother** – a pretend woman who watches over you and makes good things happen

Pg 308 **the prototypical** – just skip these two words

Pg 308 **scorchers** – super hot days

Pg 309 **café con leche** – coffee

Pg 309 **coos** – the soft sounds adults make to babies

Pg 309 **drowsy** – sleepy

Pg 309 **gaze/laser-focused** – eyes/super-focused

Pg 309 **raring to go** – excited about moving forward

Pg 309 **stammers** – pounds

Pg 309 **muster** – gather together

Pg 309 **win over** – make them like me

Pg 310 **toussles** – messes playfully

Pg 310 **fickle** – changing, slippery

Pg 310 **engineered** – made happen

Pg 310 **wan** – weak

Pg 310 **endurance** – lengthy

Pg 310 **crushed** – very sad, devastated

Pg 310 **on one knee** – the traditional stance a man takes to ask a woman to marry him

Pg 312 **resort/all-inclusive** – hotel/all one price

Pg 312 **cramp/seizes** – muscle pain/grabs

Pg 312 **consume** – eat or drink

Pg 313 **devastated/ungrateful** – sad/un-thankful

Pg 313 **clairvoyant** – someone who can read minds

Pg 313 **loco** – Spanish for crazy

Pg 313 **chaise** – lounge chair often by pools

Pg 313 **rickety** – broken down, shaky

Pg 313 **haggled/vendors/mercado** – argued over prices/store owners/market

Pg 313 **joint** – place (to eat, in this case)

Pg 313 **mariachi/sombreros** – Mexican band/hats

Pg 313 **patrons** – customers

Pg 313 **stifling** – oppressive, limiting

Pg 314 **Mission** – job (putting Austin to bed)

Pg 314 **check out** – look at, see

Pg 314 **mandatory** – required

Pg 314 **cue** – signal

Pg 314 **let loose/swoop** – say/all at once

Pg 314 **cemented** – glued, stuck

Pg 315 **balls** – courage (literally: testicles)

Pg 315 **stupefied** – confused, shocked

Pg 315 **abyss** – emptiness (of the night sky)

Chapter 30 (pages 316-329)

Pg 316 **gabbing** – talking

Pg 316 **My cup...** – a Bible expression meaning I have so many blessings, they overflow my cup.

Pg 317 **fractured** – broken, cracked

Pg 317 **regretted** – been sorry for

Pg 317 **reveal/conception** – tell/birth, or parentage

Pg 318 **adamant** – insistent, certain, unyielding

Pg 318 **paternal** – fatherly

Pg 318 **infidelity** – unfaithfulness in marriage (sex outside of the marriage)

Pg 318 **infused** – filled

Pg 318 **chivalrous/deed** – gentlemanly, generous/act

Pg 318 **fruitless** – unsuccessful

Pg 318 **illicit** – secret, illegal

Pg 319 **brood** – family

Pg 319 **gnaws** – chews with her front teeth

Pg 319 **salivating** – her mouth is watering

Pg 319 **linens** – in this case, tablecloths

Pg 320 **promenading** – walking

Pg 320 **Baby Bjorn** – baby carrier the mom wears

Pg 320 **yakking** – talking

Pg 320 **chats** – talks

Pg 320 **bore** – drill

Pg 320 **mechanized** – mechanical, automatic

Pg 321 **agape** – open

Pg 321 **geezer** – old man

Pg 322 **pinkie/latches** – littlest finger/grabs

Pg 323 **frenetic/flimsy** – active/thin

Pg 323 **dart** – look quickly

Pg 323 **scoot** – leave, go

Pg 323 **comebacks** – things to say back to him

Pg 323 **hilarious** – super funny

Pg 323 **utterly mortified** – completely embarrassed

Pg 324 **clouds burst** – rain starts

Pg 324 **takes lodge** – stays

Pg 324 **endowment** – gift of money

Pg 324 **reinstate** – begin again

Pg 325 **feed bag** – what horses eat out of

Pg 325 **abandon** – leave, give up on

Pg 325 **vote of confidence** – belief that she could do it

Pg 326 **brimming/hydrangeas** – filled with/flowers

Pg 326 **reverie/pummeling** – dream/hitting, pounding

Pg 326 **sways** – moves back and forth

Pg 326 **gooseflesh** – little bumps, also “goosebumps”

Pg 327 **booster seat** – child’s seat

Pg 327 **upending** – turning over

Pg 328 **twosome** – couple

Pg 328 **harness** – gather, hold

Pg 328 **fury...tempest** – storm

Pg 328 **pelting downpour** – rainstorm

Pg 328 **knick** – cut

Pg 328 **postpone** – delay

Pg 328 **poppy** – flower

Pg 329 **crush** – was attracted to

Pg 329 **merged** – came together

Pg 329 **A crack of ...** - lightning cuts through the sky

Epilogue (pages 330-331)

Pg 330 **forlorn** – sad

Pg 330 **nursery** – room for a baby

Pg 330 **screech** – scream