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SURFING THE WAVES OF POPULAR CULTURE
BY MICHAEL GILTZ & FRIENDS

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Bush Has Read 60 Books So Far This Year?

Shouldn't he be a little busy running the country? As if it's not bad enough they expect us to believe Bush is dipping into Camus' "The Stranger" and other weighty tomes, the White House now wants us to swallow the story that Bush and Karl Rove are having a book-reading contest and that Bush has read 60 books so far this year, compared to Rove's 50. Richboy pointed out this article to me and asked where I'm at in reading this year. I am an avid book reader and I'm certainly not near 60 books yet. (Of course, I spend two or three hours a day reading newspapers and news websites -- something Bush doesn't bother with.) But look at the recent books on Bush's nightstand: "Mao: The Unknown Story," "Lincoln: A Life Of Purpose and Power," "Polio: An American Story" and other weighty tomes. Two baseball books lighten the load a little. Almost all of them are 400+ page serious reads. Just for fun, I added up the length of the 12 books mentioned: it comes to 5,426 pages! That is a LOT of reading for anyone, much less a President with two countries to occupy and a Middle East meltdown.

Here are the books I've read since February (at least the ones I wrote down in my Palm Pilot)

1. Stowaway by Karen Hesse *** (hey, kids books are the only way I'll keep pace with Bushie)
2. The Adventures of Pinocchio by Carlo Collodi ***
3. Children of the New Forest by Frederick Maryat ** 1/2
4. Writing Home by Alan Bennett *** 1/2
5. Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen *** 1/2
6. The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo ***
7. I Say A Little Prayer by E. Lynn Harris *
8. What Becomes of the Broken-hearted by E. Lynn Harris ** 1/2
9. Dead Until Dark by Charlaine Harris ** 1/2
10. Living Dead in Dallas by Charlaine Harris ** 1/2
11. His Majesty's Dragon by Naomi Novik ** 1/2

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