Seven Lessons from the Seven Summits ................................. Kim Hess
Seven billion people inhabit our planet, and less than 60 have ever completed the Explorers Grand Slam, and only 12 of those are women. So writes Kim Hess on her website - https://kimhessclimbs.com. Ms. Hess set the goal of climbing the Seven Summits - the tallest mountain on each of the seven continents - and did so by the time she was 33 years old. Next are the Explorers Grand Slam, at the North Pole and the South Pole. A graduate of the University of Colorado, Kim Hess is a trailblazer and an inspirational speaker who exemplifies the power of a positive attitude. Through entertaining tales of adventures in climbing the Seven Summits, she takes audiences through a series of seven everyday lessons for life, lessons that are applicable to anyone at any age. Using breathtaking and awe-inspiring visuals, humor and candor, Ms. Hess focuses on strategies for overcoming obstacles and adversity, defining success and failure, and teamwork.

A Look Inside the Current Supreme Court ................................ Marcia Coyle
Marcia Coyle is the Chief Washington Correspondent for the National Law Journal, a weekly newspaper that covers law and litigation. A lawyer as well as a journalist, she has covered the Supreme Court for 30 years. She is also a regular contributor of Supreme Court analysis to PBS NewsHour. Ms. Coyle has written about the Supreme Court and a variety of legal issues for Vogue, Ms. Magazine, and The New York Times Book Review. She is the author of The Roberts Court and is a contributing author to a Year in the Life of the Supreme Court. Ms. Coyle earned her B.A. from Hood College, her M.S. in Journalism from Northwestern University, and her J.D. degree from the University of Baltimore School of Law. Her national journalism awards include the George Polk Award for legal reporting, the Investigative Reporters and Editors Award, the American Judicature Society’s Toni House Journalism Award for a career body of work involving coverage of the nation’s courts and justice system, and the Scripps-Howard Foundation Award for environmental journalism.

Funny He-Huh: Cartoons That Make Us Laugh and Think ............ Tom Toro
Tom Toro is a cartoonist and author, who has published over 200 cartoons in The New Yorker since 2010. His cartoons also appear in Playboy, The Paris Review, The New York Times, American Bystander, and elsewhere. He has written short stories for the New Haven Review as well as contributed a dozen essays to The New Yorker Cartoon Encyclopedia. Mr. Toro has illustrated several books and recently completed his own graphic memoir, Yes, The Planet Got Destroyed (Or: How I Learned to Cartoon Through Catastrophe.) He has a new syndicated cartoon strip called Home Free. Mr. Toro graduated cum laude from Yale. As an undergraduate he received the Bett Prize for his literary work while also serving as captain of the national champion lightweight rowing team and cartoon editor for the Yale Herald. He has had speaking engagements and interviews at NPR, Sirius Radio, Columbia University, Twitter headquarters, the Kansas City Art Institute, the San Francisco Chronicle, and The Kansas City Star.

Global Climate Change: What We Know and What We Don’t Know .......................................................David Helfand
Dr. David J. Helfand is Chair of the Department of Astronomy at Columbia University. Dr. Helfand’s science course, part of Columbia’s famed Core Curriculum, is taught to all Columbia’s first year students. He received the University’s 2001 Presidential Teaching Award and the 2002 Great Teacher Award from the Society of Columbia Graduates. Dr. Helfand spent three years at the University of Cambridge, most recently as the Sackler Distinguished Visiting Astronomer, and was a visiting scientist at the Danish Space Research Institute and the University of Copenhagen. He has authored more than 200 scientific publications. Dr. Helfand served as a Visiting Tutor and later as President and Vice-Chancellor at Quest University Canada, Canada’s first independent, non-profit, secular university. He is also working to expand this model, creating new universities in England, Wales, and Vietnam. His recently published book, A Survival Guide to the Misinformation Age, provides tools to combat the tsunami of mis- and dis-information, and is recommended for all informed citizens.
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