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Egan dives into journalism, fiction and her new novel

By Jake Cline
Staff writer

In Jennifer Egan's 2001 novel "Look at Me," an academic poses as a journalist in order to interview a fashion model. Working for a private eye, the fake journalist is seeking information on the whereabouts of a foreign-born terrorist, whom the model had befriended in a New York nightclub. As the plot develops, the model persuades the academic to engage in a bit of actual journalism, enlisting her to write about her life for a website called Extra/Ordinary.com. Although the phony reporter turned novice reporter interviews the model at length, she proceeds to embellish her subject's story.

Sixteen years later, the relationship between journalism and fiction continues to fascinate Egan, who based parts of "Look at Me" (though, to be clear, not the unethical subterfuge) on her own experiences reporting on the fashion industry. She'll discuss that relationship when she presents a speech titled "Novelist As Journalist/Journalist As Novelist" during opening night of Festival of Arts Boca. Egan, whose six books include the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel "A Visit From the Goon Squad" and the forthcoming "Manhattan Beach," began working in journalism after the publication of her first novel, "The Invisible Circus," in 1995.



Jennifer Egan wrote "A Visit From the Goon Squad."

"I'm most interested in working on pieces that involve a world that I don't understand," Egan says. "This would be a common element to my feeling about fiction and nonfiction. The closer something is to my life, the less interested I am."

"I thought, aha, if I write about them, and I'm writing for the New York Times, even if the story never sees the light of day, I'll have gotten my research done," she says. "I had no idea what I was doing, and it took awhile for that story to take shape. But ultimately, I was kind of hooked."

"My first piece of jour-

Egan says she got a rush from distilling months of reporting and "comprehensive knowledge of a world that I had acquired" into a story whose readership would be much broader than that of her books. "It felt different," she says. "It felt like another important thing that I could do."

Every year or so for the next 15 years, Egan burrowed into the kinds of articles that are called "long reads" but were once simply known as "stories." She studied seminarians in Maryland as they prepared for the priesthood. She investigated the phenomenon of cutting, or "self-injury," among girls and young women, and dug into a reported rise in bipolar disorders among children and adolescents. She published her most recent investigative piece, a profile on Lori Berenson, an American imprisoned in Peru for abetting terrorists, in 2011.

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Jennifer Egan will present "Novelist As Journalist/Journalist As Novelist" 7 p.m. Thursday during Festival of the Arts Boca at Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Tickets cost \$30. Call 866-571-2787 or go to FestivalOfTheArtsBoca.org.

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



AL SEIB/LOS ANGELES TIMES

Stunned looks abound after the Oscars best picture mistake was revealed Sunday night.

Academy apologizes for gaffe

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is apologizing to the cast and crews of the films "La La Land" and "Moonlight" for the mistaken announcement of the best picture winner during Sunday night's Oscars award ceremony.

The academy's apology comes after the accounting firm responsible for the integrity of the Academy Awards, PwC, said mistakes were made and its staffers did not move quickly enough to correct

the biggest error in Oscars history.

"We deeply regret the mistakes that were made during the presentation of the best picture category during last night's Oscar ceremony," the academy said in a Monday statement.

The academy also apologized to presenters Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway and to fans watching around the world.

The academy's statement noted that PwC,

formerly PricewaterhouseCoopers, has been entrusted with handling Oscar votes for 83 years, but said the academy "will determine what actions are appropriate going forward."

PwC wrote in its own statement that two of its partners assigned to the prestigious awards show did not act quickly enough when "La La Land" was mistakenly announced as the best picture winner.

— Associated Press

TODAY

Music

The Weight Band: The Band was one of the most beloved groups of the late 1960s. Now, musicians who played with The Band, the Levon Helm Band and Rick Danko Group come together playing hits like "Up on Cripple Creek," "The Weight" and "The Night they Drove Old Dixie Down." 8 p.m., Crest Theatre, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 561-243-7922. \$57-\$77.

Jersey Shore Tenors: "That's Amore": Three guys from the wrong side of the Jersey tracks prove they're willing to let it all hang out as they hilariously perform the best of Tom Jones, Engelbert Humperdinck, Sammy Davis Jr., Elvis Presley, Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra in the musical comedy cabaret. 2 p.m., Miramar Cultural Center, 2400 Civic Center Place. 954-602-4500. \$30-\$45.

Comedy

"Pump and Dump": Comedians Shayna Fern and Tracey Tee present a raucous, "parentally incorrect" evening swaddled in music, games, prizes, wine and validation as part of their 2017 Band of Mothers Tour. The show is designed as the ultimate respite for beleaguered parents everywhere. 7:30 p.m., Palm Beach Improv, 550 S. Rosemary Ave., West Palm Beach. 561-833-1812. \$25.

Theater

"Taj Express": The show explodes with the boisterous sounds of India and Bollywood, celebrating deep traditions and emerging trends. 8 p.m., Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. 561-832-7469. \$15-\$100.

Cumberbatch in "Melrose":

Benedict Cumberbatch will play the title character, an aristocratic playboy, in the five-part Showtime series "Melrose," which begins production this summer. The series is based on Edward St. Aubyn's series of books, and each episode will track one of five separate novels. Settings include the South of France in the 1960s and New York in the 1980s. No air date has been given.



Cumberbatch

Badgley weds: Former "Gossip Girl" star Penn Badgley has married Domino Kirke, the sister of "Girls" star Jemima Kirke. Domino Kirke shared an Instagram photo Monday of herself in a white dress next to Badgley, with the caption "married." She also shared a picture of the couple's vegan, gluten-free wedding cake.

March 1 birthdays: Singer Harry Belafonte is 90. Actor Robert Conrad is 82. Singer Roger Daltrey is 73. Actor-director Ron Howard is 63. Actor Tim Daly is 61. Actor Javier Bardem is 48. Actor Actress Lupita Nyong'o is 34. Singer Justin Bieber is 23.

Dilbert



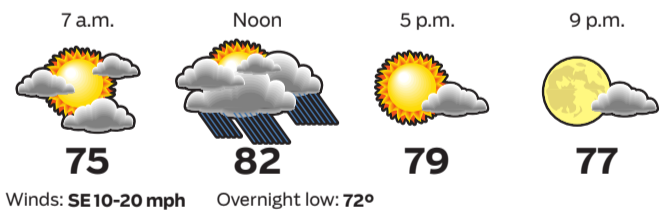
The weather

Latest updates and radar at SunSentinel.com/weather

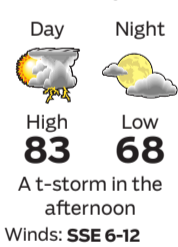
AccuWeather.com

Forecast for Wednesday

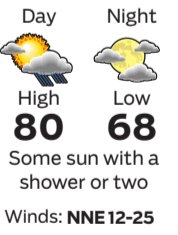
High: 83° RealFeel 88°



Thursday



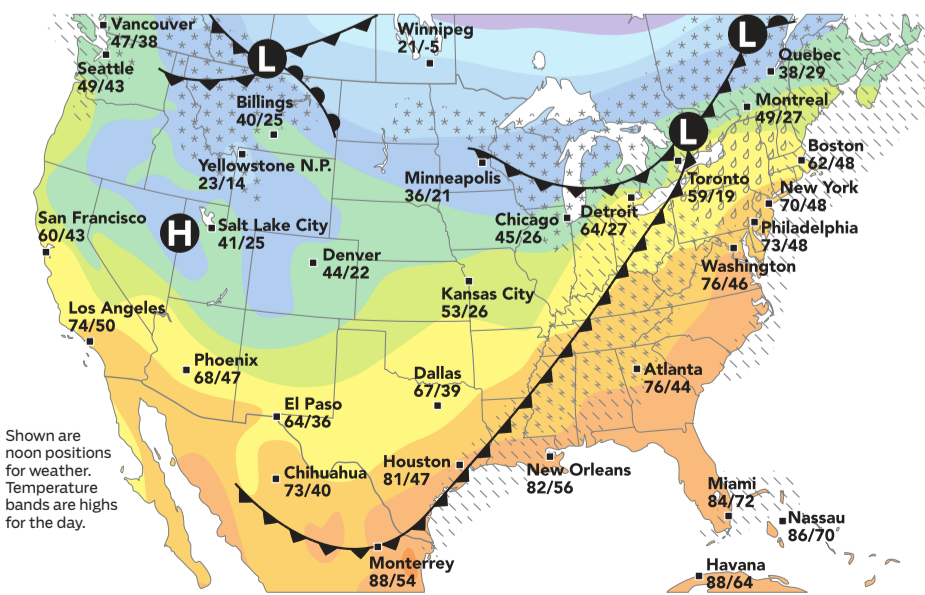
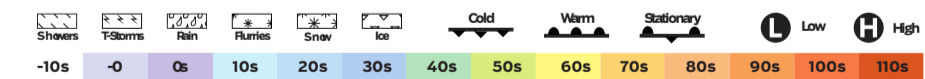
Friday



Jeff Berardelli's outlook

A nice day is on tap today. Expect partly sunny skies with an isolated shower and a warmy day. A front will bring hot weather Thursday and a chance of late day storms.

WPEC chief meteorologist, PO Box 198512, West Palm Beach, FL 33419. Email: jberardelli@sbgstv.com



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OUTDOOR PLANNER

Southeast Florida tides

Wednesday	High	Low
Bahia Mar Y.C.	10:22a	10:52p
Bkrs Hlvr-Inside	11:29a	11:59p
Boca Raton	10:55a	11:25p
Boynton Beach	11:37a	---
Delray Beach	11:56a	---
Fort Pierce	10:01a	10:31p
Hillsboro Inlet	10:16a	10:46p
Hollywood Beach	11:09a	11:39p
Jupiter Inlet	10:22a	10:52p
Lake Worth Inlet	9:50a	10:20p
Laud-by-the Sea	9:58a	10:28p
Port Everglades	10:03a	10:33p
Thursday		
Bahia Mar Y.C.	11:13a	11:48p
Bkrs Hlvr-Inside	12:15p	---
Boca Raton	11:41a	---
Boynton Beach	12:07a	12:23p
Delray Beach	12:26a	12:42p
Fort Pierce	10:47a	11:22p
Hillsboro Inlet	11:02a	11:37p
Hollywood Beach	11:55a	---
Jupiter Inlet	11:08a	11:43p
Lake Worth Inlet	10:37a	11:12p
Laud-by-the Sea	10:44a	11:19p
Port Everglades	10:49a	11:24p

Boating conditions

Area	Wind	Seas	Cond.
St. Aug to Jupiter Inlet	SE10-20	3-6	Mod.
Jupiter Inlet to Key Largo	SE8-16	2-4	Mod.
Key Largo to Dry Tortugas	SE8-16	2-4	Mod.
C. Sable to Troncy Sprgs	SE7-14	1-2	Light

UV Index

7 High
30 minutes to burn
The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Pollen level

35 high
CAUSE: Bay-berry/Oak
Source: Florida Center for Allergy & Asthma Care

Lawn-watering restrictions

Hallandale Beach and Lake Worth
Water once per week. Odd address: Monday; Even address: Thursday
Rest of Broward and Miami-Dade counties
Water twice per week. Odd address: Wed., Sat.; Even address: Thur., Sun.
Palm Beach County
Water twice per week. Odd address: Wed. and Sat.; Even address: Thur. and Sun.

Sun & Moon

FIRST: Mar 5
FULL: Mar 12
LAST: Mar 20
NEW: Mar 27
Sunset ton. 6:22 p.m.
Sunrise tom. 6:43 a.m.
Moonrise tod. 8:53 a.m.
Moonset tod. 9:40 p.m.

AROUND FLORIDA

Daytona Beach	Today	Thursday
Ft. Myers	85/62/pc	78/54/c
Gainesville	87/68/pc	85/63/pc
Jacksonville	88/62/pc	71/45/t
Naples	84/69/pc	69/43/t
NASA	84/66/pc	81/60/sh
Orlando	88/65/pc	85/59/c
Pensacola	81/54/c	68/46/pc
Tallahassee	84/60/c	69/42/pc
Tampa-St. Pete.	86/66/pc	81/58/c
Vero Beach	84/65/pc	84/64/c

US CITIES

Anchorage	17/2/pc	Los Angeles	74/50/s
Atlanta	76/44/t	Miami	84/72/pc
Atlantic City	66/51/t	Minneapolis	39/22/r
Baltimore	76/44/t	Minneapolis	36/21/sf
Boston	62/48/r	New York City	70/48/sh
Buffalo	60/24/r	Norfolk	83/56/c
Burlington, Vt.	59/36/r	Oklahoma City	61/30/s
Charlotte	80/46/pc	Philadelphia	73/48/r
Chicago	45/26/r	Phoenix	68/47/s
Cincinnati	65/33/t	Pittsburgh	66/34/r
Cleveland	68/30/r	Portland, Ore.	50/39/sh
Dallas	67/39/s	Raleigh	83/50/pc
Denver	44/22/s	Richmond	82/47/c
Des Moines	45/25/c	Rochester, N.Y.	67/25/r
Detroit	64/27/r	St. Louis	55/33/c
El Paso	64/36/s	Salt Lake City	41/25/pc
Hartford, Conn.	64/46/t	San Diego	72/50/s
Honolulu	78/66/t	San Francisco	62/43/s
Houston	81/47/c	San Jose	64/39/r
Indianapolis	62/31/r	Santa Fe	47/19/s
Kansas City	53/26/pc	Seattle	49/43/t
Las Vegas	61/43/s	Washington, D.C.	76/46/t

AROUND THE WORLD

Latin America	Canada		
Acapulco	85/71/s	Calgary	33/11/pc
Bogota	66/48/pc	Edmonton	18/0/c
Buenos Aires	88/70/pc	Halfax	44/40/r
Cancun	86/71/s	Montreal	49/21/r
Caracas	85/77/pc	Ottawa	45/19/r
Guadalajara	89/51/s	St. John's	32/31/c
La Paz	76/59/pc	Toronto	59/19/t
Mexico City	82/49/s	Vancouver	47/19/s
Monterrey	88/54/pc	Winnipeg	21/-5/c
Panama City	94/74/pc	International	
Rio de Janeiro	94/79/pc	Athens	66/52/pc
Santiago	89/60/s	Baghdad	76/53/s
Sao Paulo	87/72/pc	Beijing	47/24/pc
Veracruz	89/73/s	Berlin	47/37/pc
Caribbean		Budapest	47/31/pc
Barbados	84/73/pc	Cape Town	80/61/s
Bermuda	70/66/pc	Dublin	47/35/r
Bridgetown	84/76/pc	Geneva	44/41/r
Curacao	86/76/pc	Helsinki	39/33/sn
Freeport	82/69/s	Jerusalem	61/49/sh
Georgetown	85/74/s	London	46/40/r
Havana	88/64/s	Madrid	59/39/pc
Kingston	86/74/pc	Moscow	39/34/c
Montego Bay	86/72/pc	Paris	52/41/r
Nassau	86/70/s	Rome	60/42/pc
St. Domingo	87/69/r	Seoul	49/29/r
St. Maarten	84/77/pc	Stockholm	43/32/c
St. Thomas	84/74/pc	Sydney	71/69/t
San Juan	85/75/pc	Taipei	68/55/pc
Trinidad	87/74/sh	Tokyo	50/45/pc

Weather: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, H-high, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, tr-trace