

erest...in shameful secrets

Penguin, \$26)

l Shteir's new book is remarkable for the fraught emotional terrain it unveils," said Laura Miller at *n.com*. By studying the act of lifting, she's lifted a rock "to a squirming array of human passions." Her insightfully curated tales of chronic shoplifters range from decorative to dangerous. These thieves "offer an unending of the wet knot of desire, fear, and guilt at the heart of the crime."

s of Hoarders

erigee, \$15)

e reads *The Secret Lives of Hoarders*, it's hard not to hear a voice whispering, "There but for the grace of God..." said Michael Ondaatje in *The Washington Post*. The book is filled with a cluttered basement in the words of Matt Paxton, a professional home-cleanup business. The book goes deep inside the homes of hoarders, examining why all of us hold on to things we don't. The short answer: It's not just stuff.

Marriage Confidential

by Pamela Haag (Harper, \$26)

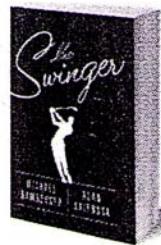


This thoughtful book lifts the curtain on a national epidemic of "semi-happy" marriages, said David McMillan in the Shreveport, La., *Times*. Author Pamela Haag cites studies indicating that most divorces arise from low-conflict relationships, then interviews married couples mired in passionless unions. She might be right in suggesting that the spark dies because too many of us are "marrying ourselves"—depending on shared temperaments and interests to get us through the long haul.

The Swinger

by Michael Bamberger and Alan Shipnuck

(Simon & Schuster, \$25)



The Swinger puts the swing back in Tiger Woods's tale, said Ron Green in the Charlotte, N.C., *Observer*. With the fictional golfer "Tree" Tremont, *Sports Illustrated* writers Michael Bamberger and Alan Shipnuck have created a highly believable version of the game's fallen hero. Tree's a golf icon with "a smoking-hot wife" but an unbridled libido. This inside chronicle of his fall makes good reading because it's "written with a smile," not disdain.