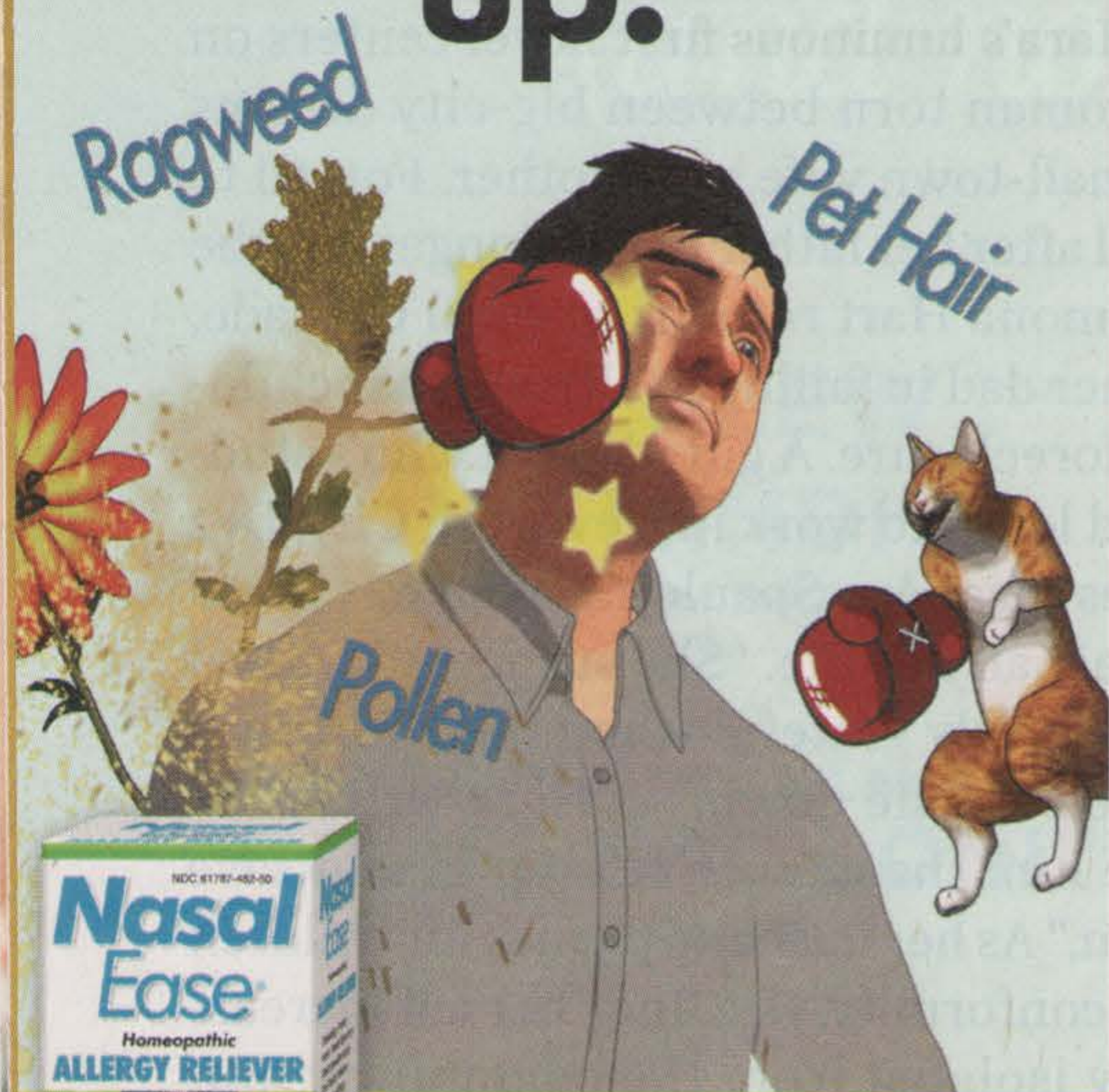


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Happier at Home

by Gretchen Rubin | ★★★★★

REVIEWED BY HELEN ROGAN

NON-FICTION

While unloading the dishwasher, Rubin found herself struck by a peculiar homesickness: “prospective nostalgia for now and here.” So she set about enriching her home life through tasks and maxims, in an earnest, self-effacing fashion fans of her best-selling *The Happiness Project* will recognize. No matter how you feel about self-help books, her core epiphanies are worth remembering: Be mindful, and be yourself.

NW

by Zadie Smith | ★★★★★

REVIEWED BY KYLE SMITH

NOVEL

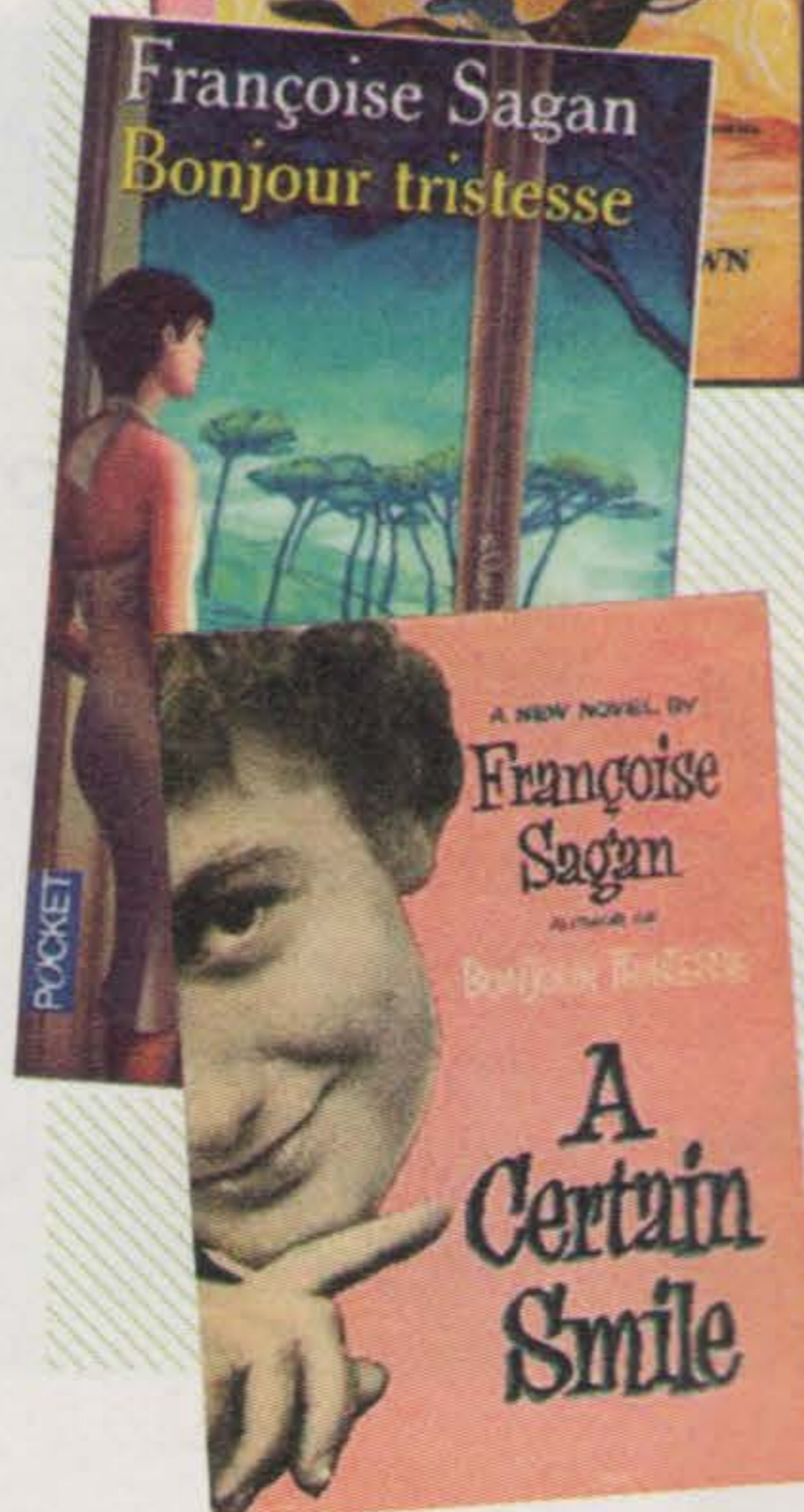
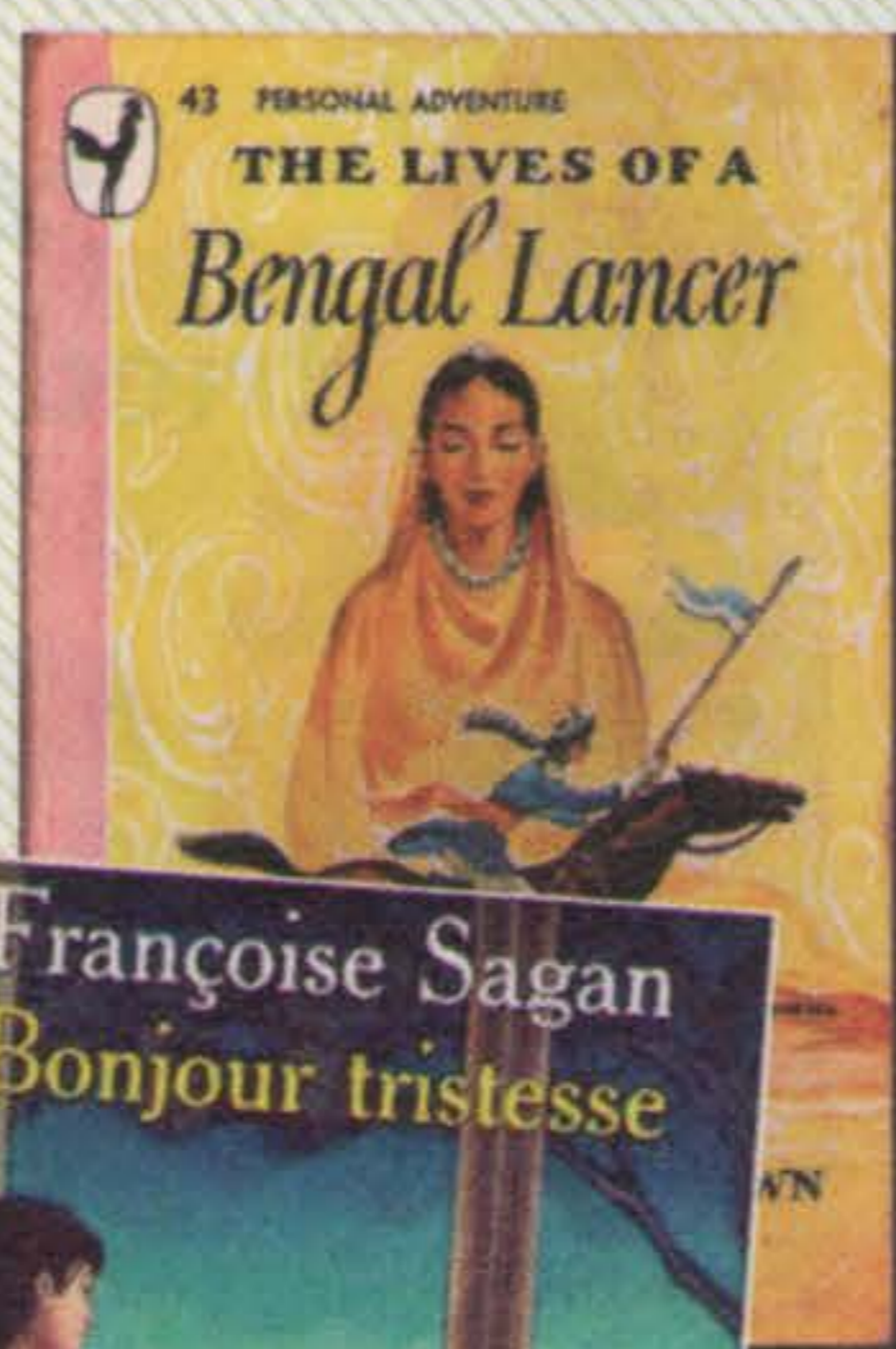
Multiculti malaise pervades Smith's fourth novel, set in working-class northwest London. Childhood pals Leah (who is white) and Keisha (Afro-Caribbean) grow apart as they grow up, the first turning to social work while the latter is a lawyer who frets about losing touch with her roots. Smith's wit remains



keen, but as misunderstandings fester, with everyone feeling disrespected or guilty, the book is often more depressing than enlightening.

READER TO READER

ZOSIA MAMET RECOMMENDS



FRANCOISE SAGAN NOVELS “I went on a kick and read everything she wrote,” says Mamet, 24, who plays Shoshanna on HBO's *Girls*. “*Bonjour Tristesse* is fabulous; *A Certain Smile* is amazing.”

STORIES THAT SWEEP YOU AWAY

“*The Lives of a Bengal Lancer* by Francis Yeats-Brown really does. It's about this man's wild life in India back when it was very grand and traditional.”

READING FOR FUN The daughter of playwright David Mamet says she and her ditzzy *Girls* alter ego are “literally opposite human beings. I'm sort of a stay-home, read-a-book kind of girl.” On tap right now: *Moby Dick*. —SYDNEY BERGER

