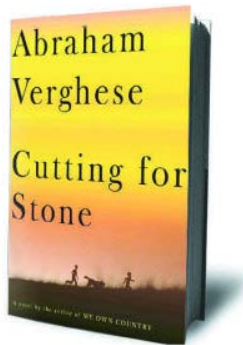


## Fresh Ink

Friday, January 8, 2010

*News and notes from the world of books:*



**"Cutting for Stone,"** the epic 2009 novel by Stanford Professor Abraham Verghese, has been chosen by influential British producer Amanda Ross as her favorite book for the new year. Ross, as the Los Angeles Times reported, is starting a new show, "TV Book Club," and her influence in Britain is likened to that of Oprah Winfrey in this country. "Cutting for Stone," meantime, was the sixth-best-selling hardcover fiction title in Bay Area independent stores in 2009. The other local fiction titles to make the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association list are "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society," by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows (No. 6), and "Fool" (No. 8), by Christopher Moore; nonfiction best-sellers were "The Art of Simple Food," by Alice Waters (No. 7), and "Zeitoun," by Dave Eggers (No. 9).