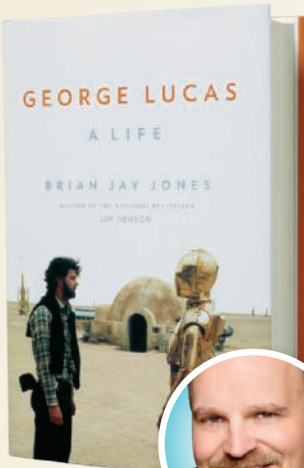
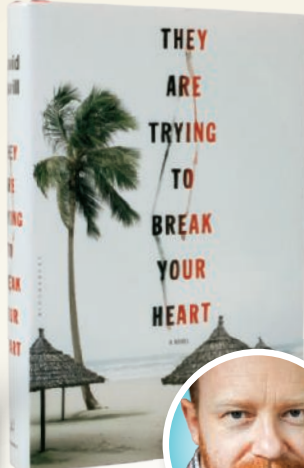


No. **12** The Best New Books
A Delhi woman's transgressions, the
Bosnian war's toll and *Star Wars*
director George Lucas's life story
EDITED BY **KIM HUBBARD**



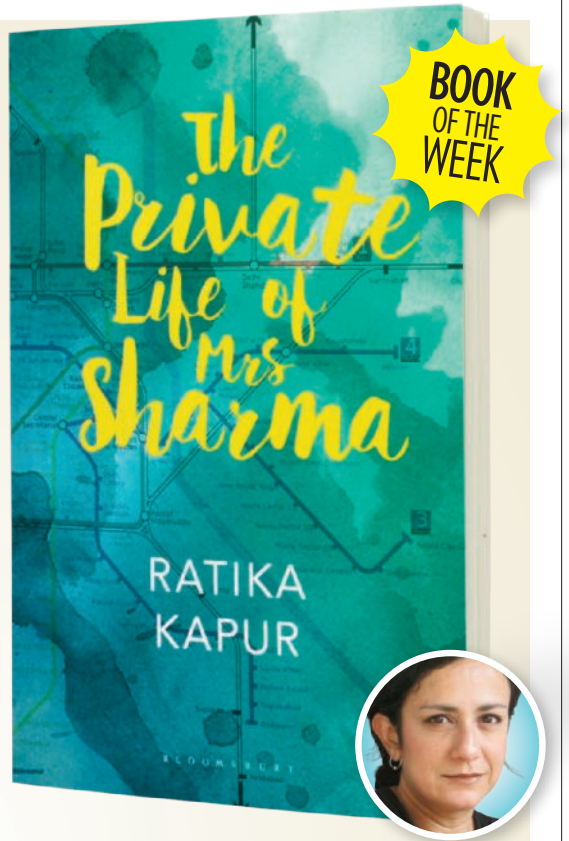
Brian Jay Jones
George Lucas: A Life

BIOGRAPHY Jones's ebullient bio shows that the Force has always been with filmmaker Lucas, whether he's creating billion-dollar franchises like *Star Wars* or masterminding advances in special effects. Packed with fun insider info (at first Han Solo was going to be a green-skinned alien), this is a whiz-bang tribute to a genius.



David Savill
They Are Trying to Break Your Heart

NOVEL The Bosnian war and Thailand's '04 tsunami come chillingly to life in this novel, which intertwines the stories of four people, one a human-rights researcher pursuing a soldier suspected of rape and murder. In lean, piercing prose, Savill brings the narrative to a surprising climax and paints a moving portrait of grief.



BOOK OF THE WEEK



Ratika Kapur
The Private Life of Mrs. Sharma

NOVEL A "simple woman from a good family," Mrs. Sharma is certain nothing untoward will happen when she meets a nice man in the Delhi metro. But her husband is working overseas, her beloved son has become impossible, work's a bore and... uh-oh. This delightfully funny novel delivers a serious message about what happens when our responsibilities push us to the breaking point.



LAST-MINUTE GIFT IDEAS

Todd M. Zimmermann
Olive the Ornament
When the Nelson family isn't looking, their Christmas ornaments can talk—and this year Oliver shares their secret. (Ages 3 and up)

Lori Weitzner
Ode to Color
Textile designer Weitzner presents "ten essential palettes for living and design." Waterside, Silverlight, Earthly... It's an inspiring visual delight from start to finish.

Elaine Vickers
Like Magic
Three girls approaching fifth grade with dread find comfort—and each other—thanks to a perceptive librarian and her mysterious treasure box. (Ages 8-12)