

Who Hijacked the United States Senate?

By Jennifer Senior p.30

Also: Spring Traveler: Getaways for Partyers, Parents, Jungle Explorers, and Beach Bums

+ **Hello, Salinger Calling**

The publishing coup that wasn't p.65

David Simon Says

HBO's philosopher-king is back p.38

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The thriving world of VIP horndogs and their nightclub courtesans.*

By Lisa Taddeo

The

Half-Hooker Economy

\$4.99 USA/CANADA



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*And how Tiger Woods changed the game.



The Pampered Escapist

Beyond the beach bungalow and spa scrub—where to speedboat to secluded isles, commune with the desert, and spot wild horses.

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NIGHTS



Cartagena, Colombia

Splash around the Caribbean's newly anointed style capital.

IF COLOMBIA'S reputation as a nefarious narco-state hasn't been fully debunked yet, a week in sexy, urbane Cartagena should change that. Hit the hot tub as soon as you land: Rooftop plunges at increasingly swank boutique hotels like the Anandá (www.anandacartagena.com) are swarming with models. At sundown, join Latin soap stars over rum-spiked limonadas de coco (coconut lemonade) atop the old stone walls at trendy Café del Mar (575-664-6513). Sample the most

popular dishes at two of the city's best restaurants: the tiradito, raw fish marinated in lime juice and aji pepper, at Peruvian chef Gean Carlo Mayorga Macchiavello's La Perla, and the risotto pescatore at Vera, headed by Lupa and Otto alum Daniel Castaño. Hire a speedboat at the Muelle de los Pegasus pier (\$20 per person) and motor to nearby Islas del Rosario for a few days of doing absolutely nothing. The coralline archipelago of 27 protected islands far outdoes crowded city beaches like Bocagrande. Sleep in a private bungalow at Hotel Agua's property on Isla Barú (from \$299; hotelagua.com.co). Back in the walled city, book one of seven suites at Colombian fashion designer Silvia Tcherassi's new hotel and spa (from \$360; tcherassihotels.com), a 250-year-old mansion with an impressive vertical garden of 3,000 plants.

Cliff-jumping in Mallorca.



OR: *Eat your weight in fideuà and nap in the Mediterranean shade.*

Mallorca, Spain

BY SUMMER, Mallorca is overrun with pasty Northern Europeans dehydrating in the 100-plus-degree heat. But the spring is another story. Make the town of Deià your base for exploring the island's famous olive-tree-lined hills and rock-shored beaches (especially La Cala and Llucalcari). In tiny, quaint Sóller, hop on the tram to reach the beach, with chaises and umbrellas lifted right out of a fifties French Riviera postcard. Try the delicious fideuà (Mallorca's noodle-based take on paella) at any one of the beach's casual waterfront cafés, or sample creative, upscale dishes at romantic S'Àtic (hotelosgeranicos.com). Wander the streets of Palma, a miniature Barcelona with a Gaudí-detailed cathedral and designer-shopping, making a pit stop at La Bóveda (tabernadelaboveda.com) for tapas. Stay in a super-spacious room at La Residencia (from \$479; hotel-laresidencia.com).

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NIGHTS



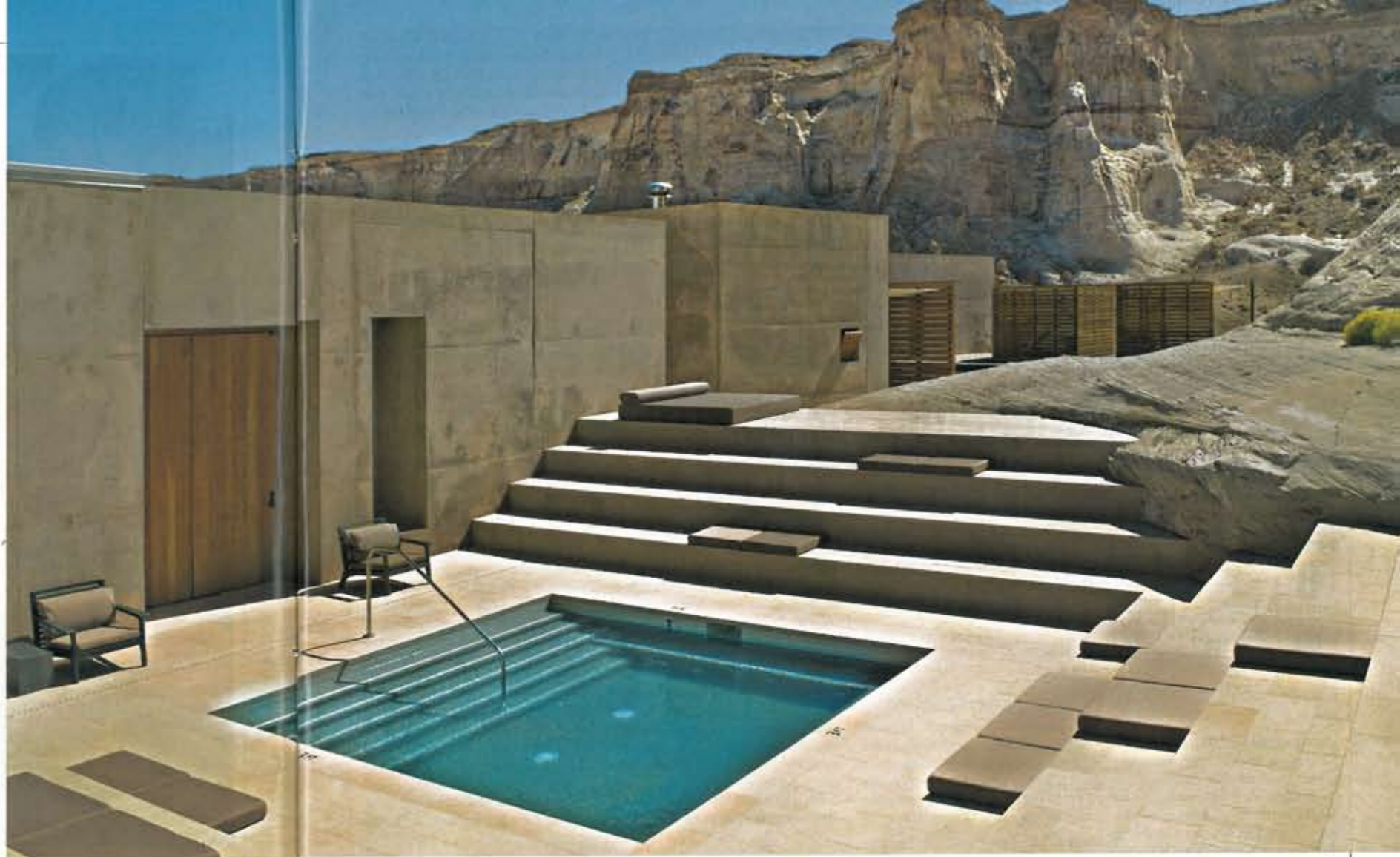
Canyon Point, Utah

Splurge on a spectacular desert disappearance act.

IT REQUIRES some effort to get to (a five-hour flight to Las Vegas, plus another five in the car) and can be blindingly expensive (some suites are upwards of \$3,000 a night), but the new Amangiri hotel

on the Utah-Arizona border falls in the once-in-a-lifetime, bucket-list-checkoff category. The series of low-slung suites, designed by the minimalist Aman group (arguably the most inventive hotelier in the world right now), is smack in the middle of a seemingly uninhabitable stratified red-rock desert (from \$800 for a Desert View suite; amangiri.com). Sign up for a naturalist-guided mini-hike (from \$395), which tends toward the low-key and educational but nonetheless provides an acceptable excuse to recover back at Amangiri's 25,000-square-foot spa. (Another good excuse: You're in the middle of nowhere, what else is there to do?) Ask for a "journey," a wrap, massage, and facial combo performed by an actual Navajo healer. For dinner there's Matthew Lash's hearty local fare (bison chili and short-rib ravioli), served in a great room with roaring fireplaces

PHOTOGRAPHS: THIS SPREAD, FROM LEFT, COREY RICH/AURORA PHOTOS; COURTESY OF AMANRESORTS



A plunge pool at Amangiri resort, Utah.

on one side and pool views on the other. If you start to miss people, drive twenty miles to the nearest town of Page, Arizona (pop. 7,300), for brews and pool at Gunsmoke Saloon (928-645-2161).

OR: *Swap desert sand for the beach—but hang on to the seclusion.*

Vieques, Puerto Rico

VIEQUES'S WHITE-SAND beaches, packs of wild horses, and surreal bioluminescent bay aren't the only reasons to visit the Edenic islet six miles off the coast of Puerto Rico. There's now an Alain Ducasse restaurant, a spa that treats seaweed wraps like a science, and a poolside cocktail scene, all courtesy of the brand-new W Retreat & Spa—Vieques Island (from \$289; whotels.com), which represents the island's first dalliance with a big-time resort. The hotel can arrange trips to the surrounding

cays to snorkel, scuba-dive, and kayak alongside leatherback turtles. Zip around the island on a moped (\$50 for 24 hours; rent through the hotel), with a stop at the lush Navio beach. Last stop before sundown: Duffy's (duffysesperanza.com), for spicy mahi mahi tacos and a Parcharita cocktail.

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NIGHTS



Watch Hill, Rhode Island

Dine, spa, and be butlered like a blue blood, then go bodysurfing.

RHODE ISLAND'S oceanfront hideaway has just as many gorgeous beaches as the Hamptons but none of its hype. In fact, the seaside enclave has been pretty

much off New Yorkers' radar until now, with the Ocean House, a reconstructed Victorian mansion spread across thirteen acres on a bluff above the Atlantic, reopening May 17 (from \$430; oceanhouseri.com). A five-year, \$140 million restoration has resulted in a croquet lawn, 24/7 butler service for all 49 rooms, five restaurants, and a spa offering beachfront cabana massages. In the spring, you're more likely to run into local surfcasters reeling in bluefish and striped bass than out-of-towners antique-shopping along Bay Street. Watch nesting ospreys and piping plovers at Napatree Point, or bodysurf the consistent swells at the hotel's private stretch of East Beach. Order sundowners aboard the *Gansett*, a 50-foot yacht (\$55; arranged through the hotel) that runs new 90-minute cruises past the ruins of Fort Mansfield and the Watch Hill Lighthouse.

OR: *Clink cocktails and clock moguls in the epicenter of swish.*

Palm Beach, Florida

TO REALLY live the Palm Beach life, choose a room on the Flagler Club level of the oceanfront Breakers hotel, where you get a dedicated concierge and all-day cocktails on a private wraparound terrace (from \$390; thebreakers.com). Lunch at the Café Boulud at the Brazilian Court hotel (thebraziliancourt.com), and reserve a table at the Palm Beach Grill—always packed with the pink-Polo-shirt set—for dinner (palmbeachgrill.com). A few doors down at New York-based photographer David Drebin's pop-up store (open through April), you can browse moody fashion photos and cityscapes (daviddrebin.com). Or just wander down Worth Avenue, Florida's answer to Madison Avenue, and watch the powder-blue Mercedes motorcade pass by.