While guide books are often very informative, visiting new countries through the eyes of characters, whether fictional or not, can help create a richer experience. Below is a list of books that is sure to please any first-time traveler to Costa Rica or someone who comes back time and time again. The list is a nice blend of both fiction and nonfiction, and the nonfiction suggested is never too heavy. This is a superb collection of short stories from all over Costa Rica. Having the book broken down into geographical regions is an extremely clever way to organize the stories, even though it might have upset the fluidity of the collection. It really impresses the importance of nature in life, and especially here in Costa Rica. There’s also an incredible range of stories. Blurb’s online book preview tool allowed buyers to see the quality of the book, a key factor in driving sales. Read more. “Blurb enables us to offer the book in various formats—including as an ebook. Of the 20 four-year scholarships we awarded to Maasai girls after our 2011 race, one was funded almost entirely from proceeds from our first Blurb book.” – Paul Ark, Amazing Maasai Girls Project.