Euphoria by Lily King
As Margaret Mead’s influential text “Coming of Age in Samoa” was published in 1928, enough time has passed so that readers today might be unaware of the iconic anthropologist who is the basis for this romantic, engrossing novel. With my deep admiration for Margaret Mead, I was fascinated by Ms. King’s novel. In her book, the complex relationship between three brilliant anthropologists is based upon the real-life romance between Mead, her husband at the time, and Gregory Bateson, who all met in 1933 while working in the field in New Guinea. Eventually, Mead and Bateson would marry. With “Euphoria’s” lush sensory descriptions of the island and its inhabitants, I recommend that you pack this book in your beach bag this summer and let the story transport you.