



Book Club in a Bag List

A listing of all book-club-
in-a-bags throughout
Delaware County Libraries

Summer 2015

An * after a library code indicates that that bag contains at least one large print book. All DE bags have large print books and one book on CD.

***The 19th Wife* by David Ebershoff**

The story of Ann Eliza Young's crusade against polygamy intertwines with a tale of murder involving a polygamist family in present-day Utah.

HISTORICAL MYSTERY; PARALLEL NARRATIVES

DE

***22 Britannia Road* by Amanda Hodgkinson**

Leaving Poland for England at the end of World War II, Silvana is accompanied by eight-year-old, near-feral Aurek, with whom she shares traumatic wartime memories that set them apart from her husband, who has remade himself as an Englishman to forget the past.

HISTORICAL FICTION, PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION, ENGAGING

MA*

***The Accidental* by Ali Smith**

Barefoot, thirty-something Amber shows up at the door of a cottage that the Smarts are renting for the summer, insinuating herself into their family. Dazzled by her seeming exoticism, the Smarts begin to examine the accidents of their lives under the searing lens of Amber's perceptions. When the mother Eve finally banishes her from the cottage, Amber disappears from their sight, but not from their profoundly altered lives.

DOMESTIC FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION

MA*

***The Age of Miracles* by Karen Thompson Walker**

On a seemingly ordinary Saturday in a California suburb, 11-year-old Julia and her family awake to discover that the rotation of the earth has suddenly begun to slow. As she struggles to navigate an ever-shifting landscape, Julia is also coping with the normal disasters of everyday life--the fissures in her parents' marriage, the hopeful anguish of first love.

LITERARY FICTION; HAUNTING; THOUGHT-PROVOKING

HA*

***The Alchemist* by Paul Coelho**

A fable about undauntingly following one's dreams, listening to one's heart, and reading life's omens features dialogue between a boy and an unnamed being.

**LITERARY FICTION; FABLES; SPIRITUAL FICTION; TRANSLATIONS
HA***

***All Fall Down* by Jennifer Wiener**

Struggling with the demands of her job, distant husband, spoiled daughter and Alzheimer's patient father, Allison becomes addicted to painkillers and lands in rehab, where amid fellow inpatients she confronts incompatible recovery techniques, barely trained counselors and her own denial.

**WOMEN'S LIVES AND RELATIONSHIPS; ISSUE- ORIENTED
HA***

***The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion* by Fannie Flagg**

The best-selling author of *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe* presents a hilarious new mystery that, spanning decades, generations and America in the 1940s and today, centers around five women who worked in a Phillips 66 gas station during the WWII years.

**FUNNY; HEARTWARMING; UPBEAT; CHARACTER DRIVEN
DE**

***All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr**

A stunningly ambitious and beautiful novel about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Ten years in the writing, this is Doerr's most ambitious and dazzling work.

**HISTORICAL FICTION; COMPELLING; LYRICAL
HA**

***Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver**

When Kingsolver and her family move from suburban Arizona to rural Appalachia, they take on a new challenge: to spend a year on a locally produced diet, paying close attention to the provenance of all they consume.

**NONFICTION: FARMING; SUSTAINABLE LIVING; ENLIGHTENING
HA**

***Annie Freeman's Fabulous Traveling Funeral* by Kris Radish**

Katherine Givens, an attorney and divorced mother, finds her life turned upside down when she receives an unexpected bequest from her late friend, Annie G. Freeman, taking her and four other women on a life-transforming road trip from New Mexico to Lake Superior, as they celebrate the bonds of female friendship.

WOMEN'S RELATIONSHIPS; MOVING; BITTERSWEET

PP

***The Art of Hearing Heartbeats* by Jan-Philipp Sendker**

A successful lawyer suddenly disappears leaving behind his wife and daughter. Neither have any idea where he might be until they discover an old love letter written years ago to a woman in Burma. Daughter Julia takes it upon herself to solve the mystery of her father's past as she uncovers a tale that will reaffirm the listener's belief in the power of love.

ROMANTIC FICTION; BITTERSWEET; MOVING

HA*

***Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein**

Enzo knows he is different from other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul (and an obsession with opposable thumbs), he has educated himself by watching television and by listening closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver. On the night before his death, Enzo takes stock of his life, recalling all that he and his family have been through, hoping, in his next life, to return as a human.

LITERARY FICTION; MOVING; THOUGHT PROVOKING; INSPIRING

RK*

***The Ashford Affair* by Lauren Willig**

Feeling unfulfilled in the face of an imminent legal partnership and a broken engagement, Manhattan lawyer Clementine Evans learns of a long-buried family secret that leads her to the inner circles of World War I British society and the red hills of Kenya.

FAMILY SAGAS; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; ROMANTIC

HA*

***The Astronaut Wives Club* by Lily Koppel**

As America's Mercury Seven astronauts were launched on death-defying missions, television cameras focused on the brave smiles of their young wives. Overnight, these women were transformed from military spouses into American royalty. They had tea with Jackie Kennedy, appeared on the cover of *Life* magazine, and quickly grew into fashion icons. THE ASTRONAUT WIVES CLUB tells the story of the women who stood beside some of the biggest heroes in American history.

NONFICTION; WOMEN IN HISTORY; FRIENDSHIPS

RK

***Atonement* by Ian McEwan**

Three children lose their innocence, as the sweltering summer heat bears down on the hottest day in 1935, and their lives are changed forever.

HISTORICAL FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL; DRAMATIC

HA

***The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin**

A story inspired by the marriage between Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh traces the romance between a handsome young aviator and a shy ambassador's daughter whose relationship is marked by wild international acclaim.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL; HISTORICAL FICTION

MA*

Confucius say:

You cannot open a book without learning something.

***Away* by Amy Bloom**

Arriving in America alone after her family is destroyed in a Russian pogrom; Lillian Leyb receives word that her daughter, Sophie, might still be alive. She embarks on a risky odyssey that takes her from New York's Lower East Side to Siberia to find the missing girl.

HISTORICAL FICTION; MOVING; REFLECTIVE

HA

***Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* by Amy Chua**

Chua's memoir describes how she raised her two daughters according to traditional Chinese methods and values, in contrast to what she views as the overly permissive and less effective Western style of parenting.

NONFICTION; CHILD-REARING; CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

HA

***Beautiful Ruins* by Jess Walter**

The award-winning author of *The Financial Lives of the Poets* presents his most romantic and enjoyable novel yet that follows a young Italian innkeeper and his almost-love affair with a beautiful American starlet, which draws him into a glittering world filled with unforgettable characters.

MAINSTREAM FICTION; ROMANTIC; UPBEAT

RK*

***The Beekeeper's Apprentice* by Laurie King**

When Mary Russell meets famous detective Sherlock Holmes, she discovers that he is also a beekeeper. Soon she finds herself on the trail of kidnapers and discovers a plot to kill both her and Holmes.

HISTORICAL MYSTERY; LYRICAL; COMPELLING

HA

***The Blessings* by Elise Juska**

This finely-crafted story is told through a series of Blessing family members' points of view over a two-decade span of time. A deceptively small book with very big themes, this novel is gentle and wise. It made me look at my own close and extended family with new eyes; now I see the ways in which we are alike, not the ways in which we are different. A transformative reading experience.

DOMESTIC FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; MOVING

HA*

***Blue Asylum* by Kathy Hepinstall**

Arrested and declared insane for seeking justice for her plantation owner husband's slaves at the height of the Civil War, Iris Dunleavy endures a lengthy institutional "rehabilitation" under the eye of a pompous superintendent.

HISTORICAL FICTION; LOVE STORY; ROMANTIC

RK

***The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison**

Eleven-year-old Pecola Breedlove, an African-American girl in an America whose love for blond, blue-eyed children can devastate all others, prays for her eyes to turn blue, so that she will be beautiful, people will notice her, and her world will be different.

LITERARY FICTION; COMING-OF-AGE; BLEAK

HA

***The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak**

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel, a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

HISTORICAL FICTION; COMING-OF-AGE; MOVING

HA, DE, RK*

***The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown**

This book tells the story of the University of Washington's 1936 eight-oar crew and their epic quest for an Olympic gold medal, a team that transformed the sport and grabbed the attention of millions of Americans. It traces the story of the team that defeated elite rivals at Hitler's 1936 Berlin Olympics, sharing the experiences of their enigmatic coach, a visionary boat builder, and a homeless teen rower.

NON-FICTION; RESILIENCY

HA*

***The Buddha in the Attic* by Julie Otsuka**

In the early 20th-century a group of "picture brides" arrive in San Francisco from Japan and are subjected to back-breaking migrant work, cultural struggles, children who reject their heritage, and the prospect of wartime internment.

LITERARY FICTION; POETIC; EXPERIMENTAL

HA

***Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks**

Growing up in the tiny settlement of Great Harbor amid a small band of pioneers and Puritans, Bethia Mayfield yearns for an education that is closed to her due to her gender. At twelve, she encounters Caleb, the young son of a chieftain, and the two forge

a secret friendship that draws each into the alien world of the other.

**HISTORICAL FICTION; LITERARY FICTION; LYRICAL, LUSH
DE**

***Call the Midwife* by Jennifer Worth**

In the 1950s, twenty-two-year-old Jenny Lee leaves her comfortable home to move into a convent and become a midwife in London's East End slums. While delivering babies all over the city, Jenny encounters a colorful cast of women—from the plucky, warm-hearted nuns with whom she lives, to the woman with twenty-four children who can't speak English, to the prostitutes of the city's seedier side.

**NONFICTION; MEMOIR
RK**

***Cartwheel* by Jennifer DuBois**

"When Lily Hayes arrives in Buenos Aires for her semester abroad, she is enchanted by everything she encounters. Her studious roommate Katy is a bit of a bore, but Lily didn't come to Argentina to hang out with other Americans. Five weeks later, Katy is found brutally murdered and Lily is the prime suspect. As the case takes shape--revealing deceptions, secrets, and suspicious DNA--Lily appears alternately sinister and guileless through the eyes of those around her."

**PSYCHOLOGICAL SUSPENSE STORIES; HAUNTING; REFLECTIVE
HA**

***Change of Heart* by Jodi Picolt**

Her life shattered by a devastating act of violence, June Nealon is forced to make a pivotal choice that involves her twelve-year-old daughter and a salvation-seeking criminal.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; INTRICATELY PLOTTED, HEARTWARMING
DE**

***A Change in Altitude* by Anita Shreve**

Struggling to maintain her sense of self while spending the first year of her marriage in Kenya, Geraldine participates in a climbing expedition to Mt. Kenya and is challenged to come to terms with a devastating accident.

**LITERARY FICTION; REFLECTIVE, LEISURELY PACED; REFLECTIVE
DE**

***The Chaperone* by Laura Moriarty**

A novel about the friendship between an adolescent, pre-movie-star Louise Brooks, and the 36-year-old woman who chaperones her to New York City for a summer, in 1922, and how it changes both their lives.

HISTORICAL FICTION; ENGAGING; BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL

RK

***The Children's Blizzard* by David Laskin**

Thousands of impoverished European immigrants were promised that the prairie offered "land, freedom, and hope." The blizzard of 1888 revealed that their free homestead was a hard, unforgiving place governed by natural forces they neither understood nor controlled, and America's heartland would never be the same.

NON-FICTION

HA

***China Dolls* by Lisa See**

A bold and bittersweet story, **China Dolls** reveals a rich portrait of female friendship, as three young women navigate the "Chop Suey Circuit"--America's extravagant all-Asian revues of the 1930s and '40s--and endure the attack on Pearl Harbor and the shadow of World War II.

HISTORICAL FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; DESCRIPTIVE

DE

***City of Thieves* by David Benioff**

When a dead German paratrooper lands in his street, Lev is caught looting the body and dragged to jail, fearing for his life. He shares his cell with the charismatic and grandiose Kolya, a young soldier arrested on desertion charges. Instead of the standard bullet in the back of the head, Lev and Kolya are given a shot at saving their own lives by complying with an outrageous directive: secure a dozen eggs. In a city cut off from all, Lev and Kolya embark on a hunt to find the impossible.

AMUSING; DRAMATIC; SUSPENSEFUL; HISTORICAL FICTION

DE

***Committed* by Elizabeth Gilbert**

At the end of her memoir *Eat, Pray, Love*, Elizabeth Gilbert fell in love with Felipe, a Brazilian living in Indonesia. The couple swore

eternal love, but also swore never to marry. However, the U.S. government gave them an ultimatum: get married, or Felipe could never enter America again. Told with Gilbert's trademark humor and intelligence, this fascinating meditation on compatibility and fidelity chronicles Gilbert's complex and sometimes frightening journey into second marriage.

MEMOIR; HUMOROUS

DE

***The Cookbook Collector* by Allegra Goodman**

This novel, following the story of two sisters and their romantic lives, weaves together the worlds of Silicon Valley and rare book collecting in a delicious novel about appetite, temptation, and fulfillment.

LITERARY FICTION; MOODY; WITTY

HA

***Come Home* by Lisa Scottoline**

Jill's life is turned upside down when her ex-stepdaughter, Abby, shows up on her doorstep late one night and delivers shocking news: Jill's ex-husband is dead. Abby insists that he was murdered and pleads with Jill to help find his killer. As Jill makes a few inquiries, her actions threaten to rip apart her new family, destroy their hard-earned happiness and even endanger her own life. Yet Jill can't turn her back on a child she loves and once called her own.

INTRICATELY PLOTTED; SUSPENSEFUL; DOMESTIC FICTION

DE

***Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese**

Marion and Shiva are twin brothers born of a secret union between an Indian nun and a British surgeon in Ethiopia. When their love for the same women drives them apart, Marion flees to America where his past eventually catches up with him.

FICTION; FAMILY SAGA; INTRICATELY PLOTTED

HA, RK

***Create Dangerously* by Edwidge Danticat**

In this deeply personal book, Haitian-American writer Edwidge Danticat reflects on art and exile, examining what it means to be an immigrant artist from a country in crisis.

NONFICTION ESSAYS; MOVING; INSPIRING

HA

***The Daughter of Time* by Josephine Tey**

A hospitalized 20th century policeman sees a picture of Richard III and reinvestigates the murder of the two Princes in the Tower using all available information about Richard's time.

MYSTERY; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; COMPELLING

HA

***Defending Jacob* by William Landay**

Andy Barber has been an assistant district attorney in his suburban Massachusetts county for more than 20 years. But when a shocking crime shatters their town, Andy is blindsided by what happens next: His 14 year-old son is charged with the murder of a fellow student.

LEGAL THRILLER; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; HAUNTING

HA*, RK

***The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson**

While the 1893 World's Fair ushered in a new epoch in American history, Henry H. Holmes marked the emergence of the serial killer, who thrived on the forces transforming the country.

NONFICTION; INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION; TRUE CRIME

HA, PP

***The Dinner* by Herman Koch**

Meeting at an Amsterdam restaurant for dinner, two couples move from small talk to the wrenching shared challenge of their teenage sons' act of violence that has triggered a police investigation and revealed the extent to which each family will go to protect those they love.

INTRICATELY PLOTTED; DARKLY HUMOROUS; COMPELLING

MA*

***The Doctor's Daughter* by Hilma Wolitzer**

Alice Brill struggles to come to terms with the hidden truths of her life--her unrealized aspirations as a writer, her lackadaisical marriage, her troubled younger son and her father, who is slipping into senility in a nursing home.

CHARACTER-DRIVEN; PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; REFLECTIVE

MA*

***The Double Bind* by Chris Bohjalian**

While working at a homeless shelter, Laurel Estabrook encounters Bobby Crocker, a man with a history of mental illness and a box of secret photos. When Bobby dies suddenly, Laurel embarks on an obsessive search for the truth behind the photos.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; MOODY; LYRICAL

HA*

***Down River* by John Hart**

Five years after fleeing to New York in the wake of a murder acquittal, Adam Chase returns to North Carolina, only to find himself trapped in the middle of a new case of murder as the people around him begin to die and he becomes the prime suspect in the crimes.

MYSTERY; MOODY; SUSPENSEFUL

DE

***The Dressmaker* by Kate Alcott**

A spirited young maid on board the Titanic captures the attentions of two men including a kindhearted sailor and an enigmatic Chicago millionaire and barely escapes with her life before witnessing media scorn targeting her famous designer mistress.

HISTORICAL FICTION

DE

***Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert**

This beautifully written, heartfelt memoir touched a nerve among both readers and reviewers. Elizabeth Gilbert tells how she made the difficult choice to leave behind all the trappings of modern American success (marriage, house in the country, career) and find, instead, what she truly wanted from life.

NON-FICTION

HA*

***Faith* by Jennifer Haigh**

Set in 2002 amid the sexual abuse crisis that has rocked the Catholic Church, Haigh's novel imagines the impact of allegations on one priest's family.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; FAST-PACED; MOVING

HA

***The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green**

Sixteen-year-old Hazel, a stage IV thyroid cancer patient, has accepted her terminal diagnosis until a chance meeting with a boy at cancer support group forces her to reexamine her perspective on love, loss, and life.

BITTERSWEET; EMOTIONALLY INTENSE; MELANCHOLY; REALISTIC
DE

***Fifty Shades of Grey* by E.L. James**

When Anastasia Steele, a young literature student, interviews wealthy young entrepreneur Christian Grey for her campus magazine, their initial meeting introduces Anastasia to an exciting new world that will change them both forever.

EROTIC FICTION; CONTEMPORARY ROMANCES
HA

***First Mothers: The Women Who Shaped the Presidents* by Bonnie Angelo**

Eleven biographical portraits reveal how the 20th Century presidents' beliefs and leadership styles were shaped by their relationships with their mothers.

NONFICTION; FAMILY; HISTORICAL
HA*

***Five Miles South of Peculiar* by Angela Hunt**

Sisters Darlene, pillar of the community, Carlene, former Broadway actress, and Magnolia, dog trainer and gardener, return to their family's estate to find their true paths in life.

CHRISTIAN FICTION; WOMEN'S RELATIONSHIPS
PP

***Five Quarters of the Orange* by Joanne Harris**

A sensual novel follows a woman as she returns to the French village where she lived as a girl during the German occupation.

LITERARY FICTION; DESCRIPTIVE; LUSH; ATMOSPHERIC
MA

***Fly Away Home* by Jennifer Weiner**

A politician's wife retreats with her grown daughters to a beach house after a painful betrayal, an escape marked by new beginnings and her younger daughter's pregnancy.

WOMEN'S LIVES AND RELATIONSHIPS; MOVING
RK*

***Freedom* by Jonathan Franzen**

The lives of civic-minded environmentalists Patty and Walter Berglund come into question when their son moves in with aggressive Republican neighbors, green lawyer Walter takes a job in the coal industry, and go-getter Patty becomes increasingly unstable.

**LITERARY FICTION; DARKLY HUMOROUS; INTRICATELY PLOTTED
HA, UP**

***Frog Music* by Emma Donoghue**

Burlesque dancer Blanche Beunon tries to discover who murdered her friend Jenny, who was shot through a window in a railroad saloon in 1876 San Francisco, amidst a record-breaking heat wave and smallpox epidemic.

**HISTORICAL MYSTERY STORIES; FAST-PACED; ATMOSPHERIC
HA***

***Garden Spells* by Sarah Addison Allen**

A successful caterer in Bascomb, North Carolina, Claire has always remained tied to the legacy of the Waverly family, until her peaceful life is transformed by Tyler Hughes, an art teacher and new next-door neighbor, and by the return of her prodigal sister, Sydney.

**LEISURELY; AMUSING; MYSTICAL; ROMANTIC; HEARTWARMING
DE**

***The Girls from Ames* by Jeffrey Zaslow**

Meet the Ames Girls: eleven childhood friends who formed a special bond growing up in Ames, Iowa. The girls, now in their forties, have a lifetime of memories in common, some evocative of their generation and some that will resonate with any woman who has ever had a friend.

**MEMOIR; WOMEN'S RELATIONSHIPS
MA***

***The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins**

Rachel is a washed-up thirty-something who creates a fantasy about the seemingly perfect couple she sees during her daily train ride into London. When the woman goes missing, Rachel manages to insert herself into the investigation of the woman's

disappearance. In the vein of *Gone Girl*, this dark psychological thriller is fast-paced and features some very unreliable narrators.
MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES; PSYCHOLOGICAL SUSPENSE STORIES; FAST-PACED; COMPELLING
HA

***The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls**

This memoir recounts the author's upbringing by destitute, dysfunctional parents and the resourceful means by which she and her siblings survived.
NONFICTION; BIOGRAPHY; BLEAK; FAMILY SAGAS
HA

***Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee**

Twenty years after the trial of Tom Robinson, Scout returns home to Maycomb to visit her father and struggles with personal and political issues as her small Alabama town adjusts to the turbulent events beginning to transform the United States in the mid-1950s.
LITERARY FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; BITTERSWEET; THOUGHT-PROVOKING; MOVING
HA*

***Gold* by Chris Cleave**

Kate and Zoe have been friends since they met training for track cycling at the age of nineteen. Now, at thirty-two, they are facing their last and biggest race. Kate is the more naturally gifted, but Zoe has a compulsive need to win at any cost, and her obsession may threaten her relationship with Kate.
CHARACTER-DRIVEN; MOVING
DE

***The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt**

Fans of *The Secret History* will rediscover the Tartt they loved back in 1992. Readers who love the novelist for her richly developed, dark, multi-layered characters and thoroughly researched topics will not be disappointed. Tartt pulls together many threads of a story across a long span of pages and into a complete masterpiece.
COMING-OF-AGE STORIES; LITERARY FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN MELANCHOLY
HA*

***Good Morning, Beautiful Business: The Unexpected Journey of an Activist Entrepreneur and Local-Economy Pioneer* by Judy Wicks**

Restaurateur and activist Wicks has been an inspiration and a model to her fellow Philadelphia businesses and to adherents to the sustainable-food movement for several decades. This charming memoir follows Wicks from her bucolic small-town childhood to her youthful disillusionment, short-lived marriage to her childhood sweetheart and working for VISTA in Alaska, where she was struck by the community-focused value systems and vowed to replicate them in her own life.

NON-FICTION
HA

***The Good Thief* by Hannah Tinti**

Growing up in a New England orphanage unaware of his family and of how he had lost his left hand as an infant, twelve-year-old Ren is terrified of the future until a young man shows up claiming to be his long-lost brother.

COMING-OF-AGE; HISTORICAL FICTION
DE

***Grandma Gatewood's Walk* by Ben Montgomery**

Emma Gatewood told her family she was going on a walk and left her small Ohio hometown with a change of clothes and less than two hundred dollars. The next anybody heard from her, this genteel, farm-reared, 67-year-old great-grandmother had walked 800 miles along the 2,050-mile Appalachian Trail. And in September 1955, having survived a rattlesnake strike, two hurricanes, and a run-in with gangsters from Harlem, she stood atop Maine's Mount Katahdin. There she proclaimed, "I said I'll do it, and I've done it."

BIOGRAPHY; INSPIRING
HA

***The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald**

In this commentary on the shallowness of 1920s America, Jay Gatsby is a self-made Long Island millionaire on a quest to reunite with a long-lost love, with tragic results.

CLASSIC FICTION; LYRICAL; ALLEGORICAL
HA*, MA*

***A Grown-Up Kind of Pretty* by Joshilyn Jackson**

A powerful saga of three generations of women, plagued by hardships and torn by a devastating secret, yet inextricably joined by the bonds of family. Fifteen-year-old Mosey Slocumb-spirited, sassy, and on the cusp of womanhood-is shaken when a small grave is unearthed in the backyard, and determined to figure out why it's there.

FAST PACED; BITTERSWEET; WOMEN'S RELATIONSHIPS

DE

***The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows**

Set in 1946, the novel portrays the Nazi occupation of the island of Guernsey through letters written by its inhabitants.

HISTORICAL FICTION; BITTERSWEET; INTRICATELY PLOTTED

HA*, RK*

***Handle With Care* by Jodi Picoult**

Struggling to care for their daughter Willow, who was born with brittle bone disease, Charlotte and Sean O'Keefe add additional strain to their overburdened family life when they file a lawsuit against Charlotte's obstetrician.

DOMESTIC FICTION; MAINSTREAM FICTION; MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES; BITTERSWEET; DISTURBING

HA

***Half Broke Horses* by Jeannette Walls**

A novel based on the life of the author's grandmother, Lily Casey Smith, who learned to break horses in childhood, journeyed 500 miles as a teen to become a teacher, and ran a vast ranch in Arizona with her husband while raising two children.

ENGAGING; SPARE; DRAMATIC; HEARTWARMING

DE

***The Happiness Project* by Gretchen Rubin**

In this compelling account, Rubin chronicles her adventures during the 12 months she spent test-driving the wisdom of the ages, current scientific research and lessons from popular culture about how to be happier. Among other things, she found that novelty and challenge are powerful sources of happiness; that money, spent wisely can help buy happiness

NONFICTION; MEMOIR; EXPERIMENTAL

RK

***The Haunting of Hill House* by Shirley Jackson**

An 80-year-old mansion harboring dark secrets comes to menacing life in this classic spine-tingling tale from Shirley Jackson. Eleanor begins to see and hear things that the other guests cannot. Is it all in her imagination, or is she the only one who can perceive the evil that lurks in Hill House?

CHARACTER-DRIVEN; ATMOSPHERIC; CREEPY; MENACING

PP

***Heff* by Liz Moore**

Arthur weighs 550 pounds and hasn't left his rambling Brooklyn home in a decade. Kel navigates life as a poor kid in a rich school. An unexpected connection transforms both their lives as they find sustenance and friendship in the most surprising places.

CHARACTER-DRIVEN; BITTERSWEET; MOVING; REFLECTIVE

MA*

***The Help* by Kathryn Stockett**

Limited and persecuted by racial divides in 1962 Jackson, Mississippi, three women, including an African-American maid, her sassy and chronically unemployed friend, and a recently graduated white woman, team up for a clandestine project.

HISTORICAL FICTION; FAST-PACED; MOVING; UPBEAT

HA*

***Her Husband: Hughes and Plath, a Marriage* by Diane Middlebrook**

Examining the marriage of writers Ted Hughes and Sylvia Plath, this book offers almost voyeuristic details gleaned from letters, diaries, interviews, and past biographies in an attempt to infuse the reading of Hughes and Plath's marriage with a reading of their poetry and prose.

NONFICTION; BIOGRAPHY; RELATIONSHIP-DRIVEN

HA

***The History of Love* by Nicole Krauss**

The manuscript for a novel travels from Nazi-era Poland to present-day New York and we learn about the lives of the people intertwined with it.

ROMANTIC FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; MOVING

HA

***Homer and Langley* by E.L. Doctorow**

Inspired by a true story finds the blind Homer Collyer closeted within a once-grand Fifth Avenue mansion with his damaged brother, remembering a life marked by colorful characters, political events and technological achievements.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL; STYLISTICALLY COMPLEX; LYRICAL
DE**

***Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford**

When artifacts from Japanese families sent to internment camps during World War II are uncovered during renovations at a Seattle hotel, Henry Lee embarks on a quest that leads to memories of growing up Chinese in a city rife with anti-Japanese sentiment

**CHARACTER DRIVEN; HISTORICAL FICTION; LOVE STORY
RK***

***A House in the Sky* by Amanda Lindhout**

The dramatic and redemptive memoir of a woman whose curiosity led her to the world's most beautiful and remote places, it's most imperiled and perilous countries, and then into fifteen months of harrowing captivity—an exquisitely written story of courage, resilience, and grace.

**NON-FICTION; MEMOIR
DE, HA***

***A Hundred Flowers* by Gail Tsukiyama**

A tale set during the Chinese Cultural Revolution follows the struggles of Kai Ying to safeguard her family when her teacher husband is arrested and sent to a "reeducation" labor camp for criticizing the Communist Party.

**HISTORICAL FICTION; MOVING; CHARACTER-DRIVEN
DE**

***The Hundred Secret Senses* by Amy Tan**

Two Chinese-American half-sisters meet for the first time after their father's death and forge a relationship despite their vastly different worldviews.

**LITERARY FICTION; FAMILY SAGA; LYRICAL
HA***

***The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins**

In a future North America, where the rulers of Panem maintain control through an annual televised survival competition pitting young people from each of the twelve districts against one another, sixteen-year-old Katniss's skills are put to the test when she voluntarily takes her younger sister's place.

DYSTOPIAN FICTION; ACTION-PACKED; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; SUSPENSEFUL; MENACING

HA*

***The Husband's Secret* by Liane Moriarty**

Discovering a tattered letter that says she is to open it only in the event of her husband's death, Cecelia is unable to resist reading the letter and discovers a secret that shatters her life and the lives of two other women.

CHARACTER DRIVEN; WITTY; MOVING; SUSPENSEFUL;

HA*

***I Capture the Castle* by Dodie Smith**

Set in 1930s England, an aspiring young writer lives with her family in an isolated castle, until a wealthy family moves into a nearby estate, bringing excitement into their lives.

COMING OF AGE FICTION; WITTY; ENGAGING

HA

***I Dare Me: How I Rebooted & Recharged My Life by Doing Something New Every Day* by Lu Ann Cahn**

One woman's quest to do one new thing every day of the year, what she learned, and what we all can gain from her journey. For 365 days Cahn made a point of doing something she had never done before, some as simple as performing an old task in a new way, some creative and extreme.

NON-FICTION; MEMOIR; SELF-HELP; WITTY

MA

***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot**

Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor Southerner, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge—became one of the most important tools in medicine. The first “immortal” human cells grown in culture, they are

still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years. HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer, viruses, and the atom bomb's effects; helped lead to important advances like in vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping; and have been bought and sold by the billions.

BIOGRAPHY; SCIENTIFIC; ASTOUNDING
DE, RK

***Inferno* by Dan Brown**

In the heart of Italy, Harvard professor of symbology, Robert Langdon, is drawn into a harrowing world centered on one of history's most enduring and mysterious literary masterpieces--Dante's *Inferno*. Against this backdrop, Langdon battles a chilling adversary and grapples with an ingenious riddle.

SUSPENSE STORY; FAST PACED
DE

***Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai**

In a crumbling house in the remote northeastern Himalayas, an embittered, elderly judge finds his peaceful retirement turned upside down by the arrival of his orphaned granddaughter, Sai.

LITERARY FICTION; MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES; POLITICAL FICTION;
FAST-PACED; REFLECTIVE
HA; MA

***The Intelligencer* by Leslie Silbert**

In 1593, English playwright Christopher Marlowe undertook his final spy mission, and was killed under suspicious circumstances. In present-day New York, Renaissance scholar-turned-P.I. Kate Morgan is called in to probe an \$11 million transaction between an Iranian agent and a mysterious art collector: is it black market antiquities or something more sinister?

MYSTERY STORIES; PARALLEL NARRATIVES; SPY FICTION
PP

***Ines of My Soul* by Isabel Allende**

A work of historical fiction chronicles the brave deeds and passionate loves of a spirited woman who journeyed to the New World and helped found a nation.

BIOGRAPHICAL FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; LYRICAL
DE

***The Interestings* by Meg Wolitzer**

Forging a powerful bond in the mid-1970s that lasts throughout subsequent decades, six individuals pursue respective challenges into their midlife years, including an aspiring actress who harbors jealousy toward friends who achieve successful creative careers.

MAINSTREAM FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; MOVING

RK*

***Into the Darkest Corner* by Elizabeth Haynes**

Catherine is a fun-loving party girl who meets an attractive, mysterious man, on a night out on the town. Their intense relationship quickly sours, and four years later “Cathy” suffers from severe OCD and paranoia and Lee is in prison.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; DARK; DISTURBING

HA

***The Irresistible Henry House* by Lisa Grunwald**

From a “practice baby” to his adult adventures in 1960s NYC, Disney’s Burbank studios, and the Beatles’ London, Henry remains handsome, charming, adored—and never entirely accessible to the women he encounters as he attempts to transcend his damaged childhood.

HISTORICAL FICTION; INTROSPECTIVE; EMOTIONAL

HA

***The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd**

Traces more than three decades in the lives of a wealthy Charleston debutante who longs to break free from the strictures of her household and pursue a meaningful life; and the urban slave, Handful, who is placed in her charge as a child before finding courage and a sense of self.

HISTORICAL FICTION; MOVING; STRONG SENSE OF PLACE

HA*

***Kabul Beauty School* by Deborah Rodriguez**

Rodriguez, a hairdresser from Michigan chronicles her efforts to help establish the country's first modern beauty school in Kabul while offering us a glimpse into life behind the veil.

NONFICTION; CULTURE CLASH; INSPIRING

HA*

***The Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom**

When a white servant girl violates the order of plantation society, she unleashes a tragedy that exposes the worst and best in the slaves she has come to call her family. When she is forced to make a choice, loyalties are brought into question, dangerous truths are laid bare and lives are put at risk.

**HISTORICAL FICTION; DRAMATIC; ATMOSPHERIC
MA***

***The Kommandant's Girl* by Pam Jenoff**

Becoming a spy for the resistance after the Nazi's invade Poland, Emma Bau, taking on a new identity as a gentile, becomes a high-ranking Nazi official's assistant and, leading a double life, compromises her marriage vows, her safety, and the lives of those she loves for the cause.

**HISTORICAL ROMANCE
MA***

***The Knitting Circle* by Ann Hood**

Grieving over the sudden loss of her only child, Mary Baxter joins a knitting circle in Providence, Rhode Island, whose members not only teach her a variety of knitting techniques but also valuable lessons about friendship, love, and redemption.

**FICTION; FRIENDSHIPS; OVERCOMING GRIEF; WOMEN'S LIVES AND RELATIONSHIPS
HA**

***The Lace Reader* by Brunonia Barry**

Having left her hometown of Salem, Ma, fifteen years ago under troubling circumstances, Towner Whitney reluctantly returns after her eighty-five-year-old great-aunt Eva suddenly disappears.

**MYSTERY; INTRICATELY PLOTTED; STRONG SENSE OF PLACE
DE**

***The Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh**

Eighteen and emancipated from the foster care system, Victoria has nowhere to go and sleeps in a park, where she plants a small garden of her own. Soon a local florist discovers her talents, and Victoria realizes she has a gift for helping others through the flowers she chooses for them.

**EMOTIONAL; RICHLY DETAILED
HA, RK**

***Lark and Termite* by Jayne Anne Phillips**

This poetic novel alternates between the last hours of Robert Leavitt, a corporal in the U.S. Army pinned down in a tunnel in South Korea in 1950, and the story of his disabled son, Termite, who, nine years later, is living with his half-sister, Lark, and their aunt in West Virginia.

SUSPENSEFUL FICTION; FAMILY SAGA

HA

***The Last Lecture* by Randy Pausch**

What wisdom would we impart to the world if we knew it was our last chance? When Randy Pausch, a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon, was asked to give a lecture, he didn't have to imagine it as his last, since he had recently been diagnosed with terminal cancer. But the lecture he gave--"Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams"--wasn't about dying. It was about the importance of overcoming obstacles, of enabling the dreams of others, of seizing every moment. It was a summation of everything Randy had come to believe. It was about living.

BIOGRAPHICAL; UP-LIFTING

DE

***The Last Runaway* by Tracy Chevalier**

Forced to leave England and struggling with illness in the wake of a family tragedy, Quaker Honor Bright is forced to rely on strangers in the harsh landscape of 1850 Ohio and is compelled to join the Underground Railroad network to help runaway slaves escape to freedom.

HISTORICAL FICTION, LYRICAL; STRONG SENSE OF PLACE

MA*

***Lean in: Women, Work and the Will to Lead* by Sheryl Sandberg**

Sheryl Sandberg examines why women's progress in achieving leadership roles has stalled, explains the root causes, and offers compelling, commonsense solutions that can empower women to achieve their full potential.

NON-FICTION

HA

***Letters from Home* by Kristina McMorris**

In 1944 Chicago, Liz Stephens reluctantly agrees to ghostwrite a letter to soldier Morgan McClain, who is stationed overseas, for her friend Betty and becomes torn by her feelings for a man who doesn't know her true identity.

**EPISTOLARY NOVEL; HISTORICAL FICTION; BITTERSWEET
MA***

***Life after Life* by Kate Atkinson**

Ursula Todd is born on a cold snowy night in 1910 -- twice. As she grows up during the first half of the twentieth century in Britain Ursula dies and is brought back to life again and again. With a seemingly infinite number of lives it appears as though Ursula has the ability to alter the history of the world, should she so choose

**COMPELLING; STYLISTICALLY COMPLEX; WITTY
MA**

***Light between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman**

After four years on the Western Front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock. To this isolated island Tom brings a young and loving wife, Isabel. After two miscarriages and one stillbirth, the grieving Isabel hears a baby's cries on the wind. A boat has washed up onshore carrying a dead man and a living baby. Tom, whose moral principles have withstood a horrific war, wants to report the man and infant immediately. But Isabel insists the baby is a "gift from God," and against Tom's judgment, they claim her as their own and name her Lucy. When she is two, Tom and Isabel return to the mainland and are reminded that there are other people in the world. Their choice has devastated one of them.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; HAUNTING; MELANCHOLY
DE, RK***

***Little Bee* by Chris Cleave**

The fates of a 16-year-old Nigerian orphan and a well-to-do British couple seeking to repair their strained marriage with a free holiday are joined when the couple decides to stray beyond the walls of their holiday resort on a Nigerian beach.

**MAINSTREAM FICTION; MOVING; CHARACTER DRIVEN
MA*, RK***

***Little Children* by Tom Perotta**

A group of young suburban parents, including a stay-at-home dad, a former feminist, and an over-structured mom, finds its sleepy existence shattered when a convicted child molester moves back into town and two of the parents have an affair.

DOMESTIC FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; MOVING

HA

***Little Heathens* by Mildred Armstrong Kalish**

Kalish's memoir of her Iowa childhood, set against the backdrop of the Depression, captures a vanished way of traditional living and a specific moment in American history.

NONFICTION; FARM-LIFE; FAMILY; TOUCHING; JOYFUL

HA*

***Longbourn* by Jo Baker**

The servants in the Bennet household live their lives in Regency England during the Napoleonic Wars. A retelling of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* from the servants' perspective.

HISTORICAL FICTION; ROMANTIC; CHARACTER DRIVEN

DE

***Look Me in the Eye* by John Elder Robison**

Robison gives a thoughtful and thoroughly memorable account of growing up with Asperger's syndrome in a time when it was an unknown disorder.

NONFICTION; FAMILY SAGA; DARKLY HUMOROUS

HA

***The Lost Painting* by Jonathan Harr**

A clue--a single entry in an old listing of family possessions uncovered by a young art student--leads to a residence in Ireland and the subsequent restoration of an Italian Baroque masterpiece.

NONFICTION; ART HISTORY; SUSPENSEFUL

HA

***Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan**

Horan's ambitious first novel is a fictionalization of the life of Mamah Borthwick Cheney, best known as the woman who wrecked Frank Lloyd Wright's first marriage.

HISTORICAL FICTION; BITTERSWEET; MOODY

HA

Luckiest Girl Alive by Jessica Knoll

Grooming herself for an ideal life involving a successful career and a happy marriage, a rising young journalist confronts a violent episode from her past that threatens to unravel everything she has worked to achieve.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SUSPENSE; COMPELLING; HAUNTING

HA

***Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson**

Major Ernest Pettigrew (retired) leads a quiet life in the village of St. Mary, England, until his brother's death sparks an unexpected friendship with Mrs. Jasmina Ali, the Pakistani shopkeeper from the village. Drawn together by their shared love of literature and the loss of their respective spouses, the Major and Mrs. Ali soon find their friendship blossoming into something more. But will their relationship survive in a society that considers Ali a foreigner?

DOMESTIC FICTION; AMUSING; ROMANTIC

RK*

***March* by Geraldine Brooks**

Brooks' luminous second novel imagines the Civil War experiences of Mr. March, the absent father in Louisa May Alcott's Little Women.

LITERARY FICTION; DRAMATIC; LYRICAL

HA, MA

***The Marriage of Opposites* by Alice Hoffman**

A forbidden love story set on the tropical island of St. Thomas about the extraordinary woman who gave birth to painter Camille Pissarro, the Father of Impressionism. This book is a beautiful love story of a man and woman and a mother and child intricately woven together to capture the author's true message: Love more, not less.

BIOGRAPHICAL FICTION; HISTORICAL FICTION; LITERARY FICTION; LOVE STORIES; MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES; MAGICAL REALISM

HA*

***The Martian* by Andy Weir**

Six days ago, astronaut Mark Watney became one of the first people to walk on Mars. Now, he's sure he'll be the first person to die there. After a dust storm nearly kills him and forces his crew to evacuate while thinking him dead, Mark finds himself stranded and completely alone with no way to even signal Earth that he's alive—and even if he could get word out, his supplies would be gone long before a rescue could arrive. But Mark isn't ready to give up yet. Drawing on his ingenuity, his engineering skills—and a relentless, dogged refusal to quit—he steadfastly confronts one seemingly insurmountable obstacle after the next. Will his resourcefulness be enough to overcome the impossible odds against him?

SCIENCE FICTION; SUSPENSFUL; FAST-PACED; SNARKY

RK

***Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War* by Nathaniel Philbrick**

Mayflower rethinks the events that gave rise to a national mythology about Pilgrims living harmoniously with their Indian neighbors, and instead tells a story of ethnic cleansing, bloody wars, environmental ruin, and the deterioration of English-Indian relations.

NONFICTION; LIVELY; NARRATIVE

HA

***Me before You* by JoJo Moyes**

Taking a job as an assistant to extreme sports enthusiast Will, who is wheelchair bound, Louisa struggles with her employer's acerbic moods and learns of his shocking plans before demonstrating to him that life is still worth living.

ADULT BOOKS FOR YOUNG ADULTS; MAINSTREAM FICTION

DE, RK

***The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards**

In a tale spanning twenty-five years, a doctor delivers his newborn twins during a snowstorm and, rashly deciding to protect his wife from their baby daughter's affliction with Down Syndrome, turns her over to a nurse, who secretly raises the child.

DOMESTIC FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; MOVING CHARACTER-DRIVEN; DRAMATIC; MELANCHOLY

HA*, PP

***Mennonite in a Little Black Dress* by Rhoda Janzen**

In this memoir, the author describes the implosion of her adult life and her subsequent decision to move back in with her Mennonite parents.

NONFICTION; HUMOROUS; QUIRKY

HA

***A Mercy* by Toni Morrison**

In exchange for a bad debt, an Anglo-Dutch trader takes on Florens, a young slave girl, who feels abandoned by her slave mother and who searches for love--first from an older servant woman at her master's new home, and then from a handsome free blacksmith, in a novel set in late seventeenth-century America.

HISTORICAL FICTION; STYLISTICALLY COMPLEX; HAUNTING

DE

***Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides**

Calliope's friendship with a classmate and her sense of identity are compromised by the adolescent discovery that she is a hermaphrodite, a situation with roots in her grandparent's desperate struggle for survival in the 1920s.

LITERARY FICTION; COMING-OF-AGE STORIES; GLBTQ FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; FUNNY; REFLECTIVE

HA*

***Midnight Rising* by Tony Horwitz**

Plotted in secret, launched in the dark, John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry was a pivotal moment in U.S. history. Few Americans know the true story of the men and women who launched a desperate strike at the slaveholding South. Now, *Midnight Rising* portrays Brown's uprising in vivid color, revealing a country on the brink of explosive conflict.

NONFICTION; ENGROSSING

HA*

***Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan**

The Great Recession has shuffled Clay Jannon out of his life as a San Francisco web-design drone and landed him a new gig working the night shift at Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore. There are only a few customers, but they come in repeatedly and nev-

er seem to actually buy anything. Soon he embarks on a complex analysis of the customers' behavior and ropes his friends into helping him figure out just what's going on.

LITERARY FICTION; OFFBEAT; THOUGHT-PROVOKING

HA*

***Mudbound* by Hillary Jordan**

In 1946 city-bred Laura McAllan is trying to raise her children on her husband's Mississippi Delta farm, a place she finds foreign and frightening. Laura's brother-in-law is everything her husband is not, charming, handsome and haunted by his memories of combat. Ronsel Jackson, son of the black sharecroppers who live on the McAllan farm, has come home as a war hero. But no matter his bravery in defense of his country, he is still considered less than a man in the Jim Crow South. It is the unlikely friendship of these brothers-in-arms that drives this novel to its inexorable conclusion

PLOT DRIVEN; HAUNTING; MOVING

MA

***The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri**

A second-generation immigrant, Gogol struggles to find his place in both American and Indian cultures.

LITERARY FICTION; STYLISTICALLY COMPLEX; LYRICAL

HA

***Necessary Lies* by Diane Chamberlain**

Caring for her family on their mid-twentieth-century tobacco farm after the loss of her parents, fifteen-year-old Ivy connects with Grace County social worker Jane Forrester, who strains her personal and professional relationships with her advocacy of Ivy's family.

DISTURBING; HAUNTING; HEART WRENCHING; ISSUE-ORIENTED

DE

***Neverland: J.M. Barrie, the Du Mauriers, and the Dark Side of Peter Pan* by Piers Dudgeon**

This biography of J.M. Barrie explores an unknown side of the author and the creation of his most famous character, Peter Pan.

NONFICTION; PAGE-TURNER; SINISTER; STIRRING

HA

***The Newlyweds* by Nell Freudenberger**

Amina has moved from Bangladesh to Rochester, NY to join a man she met online. George offers Amina the chance at a new life while Amina offers George a practical and serious mate. *The Newlyweds* paints a rich portrait of the exhilarations, complications and frustrations of love and marriage that spans generations, continents, and families.

LITERARY FICTION; CULTURAL DIFFERENCES; FAMILY SAGA

HA

***No Ordinary Time* by Doris Kearns Goodwin**

A compelling chronicle of a nation and its leaders during the period when modern America was created. Goodwin paints a comprehensive, intimate portrait that fills in a historical gap in the story of our nation under the Roosevelts.

NONFICTION; DETAIL-ORIENTED; NARRATIVE; HISTORICAL

HA

***The Ocean at the End of the Lane* by Neil Gaiman**

Presents a modern fantasy about fear, love, magic, and sacrifice in the story of a family at the mercy of dark forces, whose only defense is the three women who live on a farm at the end of the lane.

ADULT BOOKS FOR YOUNG ADULTS; FANTASY FICTION

DE

***The Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline**

Close to aging out of the foster care system, Molly Ayer takes a position helping an elderly woman named Vivian and discovers that they are more alike than different as she helps Vivian solve a mystery from her past.

MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES; PARALLEL NARRATIVES; ENGAGING

DE, MA, HA

***The Other Queen* by Phillipa Gregory**

Presents a tale inspired by the story of Mary, Queen of Scots, in a work that follows the doomed monarch's long imprisonment in the household of the Earl of Shrewsbury and his spying wife, Bess.

BIOGRAPHICAL FICTION; HISTORICAL FICTION; ROMANTIC

DE

***The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates* by Wes Moore**

Two kids with the same name were born blocks apart in the same decaying city within a few years of each other. One grew up to be a Rhodes Scholar, army officer, White House Fellow, and business leader. The other is serving a life sentence in prison. Here is the story of two boys and the journey of a generation.

BIOGRAPHY; SOCIAL CONDITIONS

HA

***Outliers: the Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell**

Aims to answer why some people lead successful and productive lives while others seem unable to meet their full potential.

NONFICTION; TRIVIA; PROVOCATIVE; ASTUTE

HA

***The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain**

Meeting through mutual friends in Chicago, Hadley is intrigued by brash "beautiful boy" Ernest Hemingway, and after a brief courtship and small wedding, they take off for Paris, where Hadley makes a convincing transformation from an overprotected child to a game and brave young woman who puts up with impoverished living conditions and shattering loneliness to prop up her husband's career.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL; HISTORICAL FICTION; ROMANTIC

DE, RK*

***Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger**

After being arrested for shooting two school bullies in self-defense, Davy breaks out of jail and is on the lam. While trying to find him in rural Minnesota, his family endures a journey that questions their faith and the nature of God.

RELIGIOUS FICTION; COMING OF AGE; MOVING

HA

***People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks**

Offered a coveted job to analyze and conserve a priceless Sarajevo Haggadah, Australian rare-book expert Hanna Heath discovers a series of tiny artifacts in the volume's ancient binding that reveal its historically significant origins.

HISTORICAL FICTION; INTRICATELY PLOTTED; BITTERSWEET

DE

Persepolis: the story of a childhood by Marjane Satrapi

The great-granddaughter of Iran's last emperor and the daughter of ardent Marxists describes growing up in Tehran in a country plagued by political upheaval and vast contradictions between public and private life.

MEMOIR; FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIPS; GRAPHIC NOVEL; REFLECTIVE; THOUGHT-PROVOKING

HA

Plain Truth by Jodi Picoult

Centering around the trial of an Amish teen for the murder of her newborn child, the contrast between the Amish and "English" cultures create a tension by which to explore our ideas of faith, duty, and honesty.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; ATMOSPHERIC; DISTURBING

HA

The Postmistress by Sarah Blake

The stories of a small Cape Cod postmistress and an American radio reporter stationed in London collide on the eve of the United States' entrance into World War II, a meeting that is shaped by a broken promise to deliver a letter.

HISTORICAL FICTION; ROMANTIC; THOUGHT-PROVOKING

DE, MA

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Human foibles and early nineteenth-century manners are satirized in this romantic tale of English country family life as Elizabeth Bennet and her four sisters are encouraged to marry well in order to keep the Bennet estate in their family.

CLASSIC FICTION; ATMOSPHERIC; ENGAGING

HA*

Primates of Park Avenue by Wednesday Martin

The author, a professional anthropologist, compares the behavior of the wealthy mothers of the Upper East Side in New York City that she lived among to primate social behavior, with its rules and rituals about dominance, display, hierarchy, mating practices, physical adornment, and anxiety.

BIOGRAPHY; INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS

HA

***Quiet: the Power of Introverts in a World that Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain**

At least one-third of the people we know are introverts. They are the ones who prefer listening to speaking; who innovate and create but dislike self-promotion; who favor working on their own over working in teams. Susan Cain argues that we dramatically undervalue introverts and shows how much we lose in doing so.

NONFICTION; OFFBEAT; THOUGHT-PROVOKING

HA

***The Reading Promise* by Alice Ozma**

Alice tells the story of how her father read to her for ten minutes each night from her 4th grade year until she left for college. In this delightful memoir, she reveals their unbreakable bond, the books they treasured and the life lessons learned along the way.

NONFICTION; LITERATURE IN LIFE; COMING OF AGE

HA

***Reconstructing Amelia* by Kimberly McCreight**

When her 15-year-old daughter Amelia supposedly commits suicide after she is caught cheating, litigation lawyer and single mother Kate Baron, leveled by grief, must reconstruct the pieces of Amelia's life to find the truth and vindicate the memory of the daughter whose life she could not save.

MYSTERY; DISTURBING; SUSPENSEFUL; INTRICATELY PLOTTED

MA

***The Reliable Wife* by Robert Goolrick**

Ralph Truitt, a wealthy businessman with a troubled past, has advertised for a reliable wife; his ad is answered by Catherine Land, a woman who makes every effort to hide her own dark secrets.

HISTORICAL FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL SUSPENSE STORY

DE

***Remarkable Creatures* by Tracy Chevalier**

Mary Anning discovers a fossilized skeleton near her 19th century home that triggers attacks on her character and upheavals throughout the religious, scientific and academic communities.

HISTORICAL FICTION; LITERARY FICTION; DRAMATIC

RK*

***The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright**

Survival for Ki Lim and Sang Ly is a daily battle at the largest municipal waste dump in all of Cambodia. Just when things seem worst, Sang Ly learns a secret about the bad-tempered rent collector who comes demanding money--a secret that sets in motion a tide that will change the life of everyone it sweeps past.

**LITERARY FICTION; MOVING; LYRICAL
HA**

***Room* by Emma Donoghue**

Five-year-old Jack has lived his entire life in an 11x11 room in which he and his mother are held captive by a man he refers to as Old Nick. Jack entertains himself with makeshift toys while Ma dreams of the outside world and freedom.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; SUSPENSEFUL; HAUNTING
HA***

***The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion**

Don Tillman a professor of genetics sets up a project designed to find the perfect wife. Then he meets Rosie, who is everything he's not looking for in a wife, but she ends up his friend as he helps her try and find her biological father.

**FUNNY; HEARTWARMING; REFLECTIVE; ENGAGING
DE, HA**

***The Round House* by Louise Erdrich**

When his mother, a tribal enrollment specialist living on a reservation in North Dakota, slips into an abyss of depression after being brutally attacked, fourteen-year-old Joe Coutz sets out with his three friends to find the person that destroyed his family.

**LITERARY FICTION; MOVING REFLECTIVE
HA***

***The Royal We* by Heather Cocks**

This delightful spin on the story of Prince William and Kate Middleton is the perfect beachy, weekend read for anyone who loves love stories with a healthy dose of humor. Here, Will and Kate are replaced by Nick and Bex--he's the heir to the British throne, she's the American who effortlessly steals his heart. Can they weather many obstacles to find their Happily Ever After? Part fairy tale, part cautionary tale, the novel is pure fun from start to finish.

**FIRST PERSON NARRATIVES; AMUSING; ENGAGING
HA**

***Saffron Kitchen* by Yasmin Crowther**

When her troubled past resurfaces with tragic consequences, Maryam departs for the remote Iranian village of her youth, followed by her daughter Sara, who finally learns the price her mother paid to secure her own freedom.

DOMESTIC FICTION; COMING-OF-AGE

MA*

***Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay**

In 2002, a journalist is working on a story about Vel'd'Hiv, a velodrome in which French Jews were held before being sent to concentration camps. Her research uncovers disturbing family secrets that lead her to the story of Sarah, a 10-year-old who was taken.

HISTORICAL FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL; MOVING

HA*, RK

***Saving CeeCee Honeycutt* by Beth Hoffman**

When 12 year-old CeeCee's mother is killed in an accident, she is sent to live with her long lost great aunt. This Southern novel sparkles with humor, heart, and feminine wisdom while exploring the indomitable strengths of females.

HISTORICAL FICTION; UPBEAT; LIGHT

HA

***The Secret Wisdom of the Earth* by Christopher Scotton**

Witnessing his younger brother's accidental death, teenaged Kevin spends the summer traumatized in his grandfather's Appalachia coal-mining community, which is fighting plans for a massive mountaintop-removal operation.

LITERARY FICTION; COMING-OF-AGE; CHARACTER-DRIVEN, MOVING;

HA

There is no friend as loyal as a book.

Ernest Hemingway

***Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen**

Spirited and impulsive, Marianne Dashwood is the complete opposite to her controlled and sensible sister, Elinor. It is through their

shared experiences of love that both sisters come to learn that the key to a successful match comes from finding the perfect mixture of rationality and feeling.

**PERIOD FICTION; ROMANTIC; WITTY
HA***

***The Sense of an Ending* by Julian Barnes**

Tony Webster first met Adrian Finn at school. Adrian was a little more serious, certainly more intelligent, but they swore to stay friends for life. Now Tony is in middle age with a career, a marriage and divorce. He's certainly never tried to hurt anybody. Memory, though, is imperfect. It can always throw up surprises, as a lawyer's letter is about to prove.

**LITERARY FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; BLEAK; HAUNTING
UP***

***Shanghai Girls* by Lisa See**

Forced to leave Shanghai when their father sells them to California suitors, sisters May and Pearl struggle to adapt to life in 1930s Los Angeles while still bound to old customs, as they face discrimination and confront a life-altering secret.

**HISTORICAL FICTION; MOVING; SOBERING; LYRICAL
HA***

***Shutter Island* by Dennis Lehane**

U.S. Marshal Teddy Daniels and his partner, Chuck Aule, come to Shutter Island's Ashcliffe Hospital in search of an escaped mental patient, but uncover true wickedness as Ashcliffe's mysterious patient treatments propel them to the brink of insanity.

**MYSTERY FICTION; GRITTY; SINISTER; PLOT TWISTS
HA**

***The Soldier's Wife* by Margaret Leroy**

As World War II draws closer and closer to Guernsey, Vivienne knows that sacrifices will be made. Not just for herself, but for her two young daughters and for her mother-in-law. However, she least expects that she will fall in love with one of the enigmatic German soldiers taking up residence next to her home.

**HISTORICAL FICTION
MA*, RK**

***The Soloist* by Steve Lopez**

L.A. Times columnist Steve Lopez has a chance meeting with Nathaniel Ayers, a schizophrenic homeless man playing violin on the street one day. Compelled by the beauty of Ayers' playing, Lopez is moved to help and comes to understand the complex face of homelessness.

NONFICTION; INSPIRING; BITTERSWEET

HA

***The Space Between Us* by Thrity Umrigar**

The delicate balance of class and gender in contemporary India is described through the lives of two women--Sera Dubash, an upper middle-class housewife, and Bhima, an illiterate domestic with a life of loss and despair.

LITERARY FICTION; CULTURE/CLASS CLASHES; POIGNANT

HA*

***State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett**

A researcher at a pharmaceutical company, Marina Singh journeys into the heart of the Amazonian delta to check on a field team that has been silent for two years--a dangerous assignment that forces Marina to confront the ghosts of her past.

PSYCHOLOGICAL; MOVING; FAST-PACED

DE

***Stella Bain* by Anita Shreve**

Suffering from shell shock and memory loss from her time spent as a nurse's aide on a French battlefield during World War I, American Stella Bain is taken in by London surgeon August Bridge and his wife.

HISTORICAL FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; ENGAGING

DE

***Still Alice* by Lisa Genova**

Feeling at the top of her game when she is suddenly diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's disease, Harvard psychologist Alice Howland struggles to find meaning and purpose in her life as her concept of self gradually slips away.

MAINSTREAM FICTION; MOVING; REFLECTIVE; SOBERING

HA*

***Still Life with Bread Crumbs* by Anna Quindlen**

A detailed exploration of creativity and the need for connection. Rebecca Winter is a 60-year-old photographer, once revered as a feminist icon, whose work isn't selling as briskly as it used to. She needs a fresh start. She rents a cabin in the country while subletting her beloved New York City apartment, needing both the money and the space in which to find her creative spark again. Rebecca also finds new objects to photograph in the series of homemade wooden crosses she discovers during hikes in the surrounding woods. A quiet, powerful novel, showing the charged emotions that teem beneath the surface of daily life.

ROMANTIC; PASTORAL NOVEL; MOVING; SPARE

HA*

***Story of Beautiful Girl* by Rachel Simon**

In 1968, Linnie, a white woman with a disability and Homan, a deaf African-American man, are languishing in a mental institution. After Linnie becomes pregnant, she and Homan escape. They are taken in by Martha, a widow. When authorities find them, Homan escapes and Linnie is caught, while Martha hides Linnie's baby. Over the next 40 years, Linnie, Homan, Martha, and the baby lead divided lives.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; LOVE STORY

DE

***Stuffed* by Patricia Volk**

Patricia Volk's memoir lets us into her big, crazy, loving, cheerful, infuriating and wonderful family, where you're never just hungry—you're starving to death, and you're never just full—you're stuffed. Volk's family fed New York from 1888 when her great-grandfather introduced pastrami to America until 1988, when her father closed his garment center restaurant. Writing with great freshness and humor, Patricia Volk will leave you hungering to sit down to dinner with her robust family.—both for the spectacle and for the food.

NONFICTION; MEMOIR

PP

***Suite Francaise* by Irene Nemirovsky**

A story of life in France under the Nazi occupation includes two parts—"Storm in June," set amid the chaotic 1940 exodus from Par-

is, and "Dolce," set in a German-occupied village rife with resentment, resistance, and collaboration.

CLASSIC FICTION; CRITICAL; POLITICAL; GRIPPING
MA*

***Summerland* by Elin Hilderbrand**

Follows the lives of four high school students, their friends, and families after a fatal car accident on graduation night on Nantucket has lasting repercussions for everyone involved.

MAINSTREAM FICTION; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; MOVING
HA*

***The Supremes at Earl's All-You-Can-Eat* by Edward Kelsey Moore**

Forging a friendship at the height of the Civil Rights Movement, Odette, Clarice and Barbara Jean meet regularly at the first diner owned by black proprietors in their Indiana city and are watched throughout the years by a big-hearted man who observes their struggles with school, marriage, parenthood and beyond.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN FICTION; WOMEN'S RELATIONSHIPS
HA*

***Tea Time for the Traditionally Built* by Alexander McCall Smith**

Precious Ramotswa tries to recover her trusty white van after her husband sells it and replaces it with a characterless modern vehicle, while The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency tries to discover if a local football team's games are fixed.

COZY; HEARTWARMING; LEISURELY PACED
DE

***Tender at the Bone* by Ruth Reichl**

New York Times restaurant critic Ruth Reichl writes this memoir about the chefs, waiters, and gourmands who taught her to love food and its preparation.

NONFICTION; FOOD; HUMOROUS; PASSIONATE; WITTY
HA*

***Testimony* by Anita Shreve**

A New England boarding school is rocked in the by a sex scandal in which participants were caught on videotape, a situation that

derails the innocence and best intentions of students, parents, and others in life-shattering ways.

LITERARY FICTION; DRAMATIC; COMPELLING

HA*

***Thinking in Pictures* by Temple Grandin**

An accomplished animal scientist, Grandin writes about how she experiences the world with autism.

NONFICTION; FASCINATING; FIRST-PERSON PERSPECTIVE

HA

***Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin**

This book depicts Mortenson's one-man mission to counteract extremism by building schools, especially for girls, throughout the breeding ground of the Taliban in Pakistan.

NON-FICTION; HUMANITARIANISM; UPLIFTING

HA

***The Tiger's Wife* by Tea' Obreht**

Struggling to understand why her beloved grandfather left his family to die alone in a field hospital far from home, a young doctor in a war-torn Balkan country takes over her grandfather's search for a mythical ageless vagabond while referring to a worn copy of Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*.

MYSTICAL; LITERARY FICTION; PARALLEL NARRATIVES

RK*

***The Time Keeper* by Mitch Ablom**

Given one last chance at redemption, Father Time, the inventor of the world's first clock, must teach two earthly people the true meaning of time.

INSPIRATIONAL; MOVING; SPARE

DE

***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith**

Encouraged by her idealistic, if luckless, father, a bright and imaginative young woman comes of age in a Brooklyn tenement during the early 1900s.

CLASSIC FICTION; COMING OF AGE; FAMILY SAGAS

HA*

***The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* by Ayana Mathis**

Ayana Mathis tells the story of the children of the Great Migration through the trials of one unforgettable family.

**FAMILY SAGA; HISTORICAL FICTION, CHARACTER DRIVEN
DE**

***Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience,
and Redemption* by Laura Hillenbrand**

On a May afternoon in 1943, an Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, the young lieutenant, the plane's bombardier appeared. So began one of the most extraordinary odysseys of the Second World War.

**NONFICTION; INSPIRING; HISTORICAL; REMARKABLE
DE, HA***

***Under the Wide and Starry Sky* by Nancy Horan**

This novel imagines the unconventional love affair of Scottish literary giant Robert Louis Stevenson and American divorcée Fanny Van de Griff Osbourne, who after meeting in rural France take refuge from their unhappy lives and embark on two shared decades of international turbulence.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOVELS; HISTORICAL FICTION; LOVE STORIES
HA**

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***The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce**

Harold Fry is convinced that he must deliver a letter to an old love in order to save her, meeting various characters along the way and reminiscing about the events of his past and people he has known, as he tries to find peace and acceptance.

**HUMOROUS; MAINSTREAM FICTION; CHARACTER DRIVEN
DE**

***A Visit from the Goon Squad* by Jennifer Egan**

Working side-by-side for a record label, former punk rocker Bennie Salazar and the passionate Sasha hide illicit secrets from one another while interacting with a motley assortment of equally troubled people from 1970s San Francisco to the post-war future.

LITERARY FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; EXPERIMENTAL

MA*, UP*

***Waiting for Snow in Havana* by Carlos Eire**

A touching memoir about Eire's experience as a child during Operation Pedro Pan, the airlift that separated 14,000 Cuban children from their families after the Cuban Revolution.

NONFICTION; MOVIE; LYRICAL

HA

***The Wandering Falcon* by Jamil Ahmad**

A debut novel set in the Federally Administered Tribal lands at the intersection of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan follows the story of banished refugees' son Tor Baz, who travels throughout the region while considering his prestigious lineage and witnessing the effects of extreme culture and geography on the lives of those he encounters.

LITERARY FICTION; BLEAK; NOSTALGIC; WORLDLY

HA*

***The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson**

In this beautifully written masterwork, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.

NONFICTION: DETAIL-ORIENTED, IN DEPTH

HA

***Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen**

Ninety-something-year-old Jacob Jankowski remembers his time in the circus as a young man during the Great Depression, and his friendship with Marlena, the star of the equestrian act, and Rosie, the elephant, who gave them hope.

LITERARY FICTION; MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES; CHARACTER-DRIVEN; BITTERSWEET; REFLECTIVE; ROMANTIC

HA*

***We Need to Talk About Kevin* by Lionel Schriver**

The mother of a teenage boy who killed seven fellow students and two adults in a high-school shooting writes a series of letters to her estranged husband on their son's upbringing and questions what she fears may be her own part in the tragedy.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; DARK; CHARACTER-DRIVEN

HA

***Weird Sisters* by Eleanor Brown**

Unwillingly brought together to care for their ailing mother, three sisters who were named after famous Shakespearean characters discover that everything they have been avoiding may prove more worthwhile than expected.

DOMESTIC FICTION; CHARACTER DRIVEN; AMUSING; UPBEAT

DE

***What is the What?* by Dave Eggers**

Based closely on actual experiences, a young boy is separated from his family and becomes a refugee in war-ravaged southern Sudan. His travels bring him in contact with enemy soldiers, liberation rebels, hyenas and lions, disease and starvation.

LITERARY FICTION; INSPIRING; WITTY; AFFECTING

HA

***When She Woke* by Hillary Jordan**

In the middle of the 21st century, a young woman in Texas awakens to a nightmarish new life: her skin has been genetically altered, turned bright red as punishment for the crime of having an abortion. Stigmatized and in a hostile and frightening world, Hannah Payne must make a perilous journey northward to safety.

LITERARY FICTION; THOUGHT-PROVOKING; COMPELLING

MA*

***Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* by Maria Semple**

When her hilarious, volatile, talented, troubled and agoraphobic mother goes missing, teenage Bee begins a trip that takes her to the ends of the earth to find her.

HUMOROUS FICTION; FUNNY; ENGAGING

HA

***While My Sister Sleeps* by Barbara Delinsky**

Two sisters are in the prime of their lives, when Robin suffers a massive heart attack and may never regain consciousness. It's up to Molly to make the tough decisions, and she soon makes discoveries that threaten to shatter her relationship with her sister.

GENERAL FICTION; MOODY; MOVING

HA*

***Wicked: the life and times of the wicked witch of the West* by Gregory Maguire**

Set in an Oz where a Wizard battles suicidal thoughts, the story of the green-skinned Elphaba, otherwise known as the Wicked Witch of the West, profiles her as an animal rights activist striving to avenge her dear sister's death.

FANTASY; DARKLY HUMOROUS; DRAMATIC; WHIMSICAL; COMPELLING; LYRICAL; RICHLY-DETAILED

HA

***The Widow's War* by Sally Gunning**

When Lyddie Berry's husband is lost in a whaling disaster, she becomes the dependent of her ruthless son-in-law, who tries to take everything for which she and her husband had worked.

HISTORICAL FICTION, LOVE STORY, PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION

MA*

***Wife 22* by Melanie Gideon**

Baring her soul in an anonymous survey for a marital happiness study, Alice catalogues her stale marriage, unsatisfying job and unfavorable prospects and begins to question virtually every aspect of her life.

REFLECTIVE; SARCASTIC; FAST-PACED; SUSPENSEFUL

HA

***The Wife, the Maid and the Mistress* by Ariel Lawhon**

A steamy reimagining of the scandal-marked 1930 disappearance of Justice Joseph Crater explores events decades later from the perspectives of the three women who knew him best--his Chanel-draped wife, his showgirl mistress, and his dutiful housemaid.

HISTORICAL MYSTERY; ATMOSPHERIC; MILDLY SENSUOUS

DE

***Wild: From Lost and Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed**

Following the death of her mother and her divorce Cheryl Strayed decided to hike the Pacific Crest Trail. Wild tracks Strayed's personal journey on the PCT through California and Oregon, as she comes to terms with devastating loss and her reactions to it.

NONFICTION

RK

***Winter Garden* by Kristin Hannah**

Suddenly reunited sisters Meredith and Nina find themselves under the shadow of their disapproving mother, whose painful history is hidden behind her rendition of a Russian fairy tale told to the sisters in childhood.

DOMESTIC FICTION; WOMEN'S LIVES AND RELATIONSHIPS

RK*

***The Winter People* by Jennifer McMahon**

Coming of age in an old farmhouse, 19-year-old Ruthie begins a search for her agoraphobic mother and discovers the century-old diary of the farmhouse's long-ago resident, a grieving mother who died under mysterious circumstances.

INTRICATELY PLOTTED; ATMOSPHERIC

DE

***The Wright Brothers* by David McCullough**

On December 17, 1903 at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, Wilbur and Orville Wright's Wright Flyer became the first powered, heavier-than-air machine to achieve controlled, sustained flight with a pilot aboard. The Age of Flight had begun. How did they do it? And why? McCullough tells the extraordinary and truly American story of the two brothers who changed the world. This book offers the dramatic story-behind-the-story about the courageous brothers who taught the world how to fly.

BIOGRAPHY; CONVERSATIONAL; REFLECTIVE; THOUGHT-PROVOKING

HA

***The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion**

Just after they return from the hospital where their only child is lying in a coma, Didion's husband dies of a heart attack. This mem-

oir is Didion's effort to make sense of a time when nothing made sense.

NONFICTION; LYRICAL; HEARTRENDING
HA

***A Year of Wonders* by Geraldine Brooks**

Based on an actual event, a village in rural 17th century England that experiences a sudden outbreak of plague. The citizens quarantine themselves to avoid spreading the disease to neighboring villages and give themselves up to God's mercy.

LITERARY FICTION; DRAMATIC; RICHLY DETAILED; GRIPPING
HA

***Yellow Birds* by Kevin Powers**

In the midst of a bloody battle in the Iraq War, two soldiers, bound together since basic training, do everything to protect each other from both outside enemies and the internal struggles that come from constant danger

LITERARY FICTION; LYRICAL; BLEAK; REFLECTIVE
DE

***Yiddish Policemen's Union* by Michael Chabon**

Meyer Landsman is a drunken rogue cop who wakes in a flop-house to find that one of his neighbors murdered. With his half-Tlingit, half-Jewish partner and his boss, who is also his ex-wife, he investigates a fascinating world of Orthodox black-hat gangs and crime-lord rabbis.

MYSTERY FICTION; DARKLY HUMOROUS; HARDBOILED
HA*

***Z: the novel of Zelda Fitzgerald* by Therese Fowler**

A tale inspired by the marriage of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald follows their union in defiance of her father's opposition and her scandalous transformation a Jazz Age celebrity in the literary party scenes of New York, Paris, and the French Riviera.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL; HISTORICAL FICTION
HA*

***Zookeeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman**

This book tells the remarkable WWII story of Jan Zabinski, the director of the Warsaw Zoo, and his wife, Antonina, who, with cour-

age and ingenuity, sheltered 300 Jews as well as Polish resisters in their villa and in animal cages and sheds.

**NONFICTION; INSPIRING; SUSPENSEFUL
DE, HA***

Have you considered??

***The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain
ADVENTURE STORIES; HUMOROUS STORIES
UP**

***Bee Season* by Myla Goldberg
COMING-OF-AGE STORIES; BOOKS TO MOVIES
PP**

***Beloved* by Toni Morrison
AFRICAN-AMERICAN & HISTORICAL FICTION
CR**

***Bloodroot* by Amy Greene
DOMESTIC FICTION; HAUNTING; MYSTICAL
MA**

***Cane River* by Lalita Tademy
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FICTION; FAMILY SAGAS
CR**

***Coldest Winter Ever* by Sister Souljah
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FICTION; URBAN FICTION; GRITTY
CR**

***The Confessions of Max Tivoli* by Andrew Sean Greer
FANTASY; PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION
PP**

***The Devil Wears Prada* by Laura Weisberger
FUNNY; ENGAGING; CHARACTER DRIVEN; FAST-PACED
PP**

***Flags of Our Fathers* by James Bradley
HISTORICAL; BIOGRAPHY
PP**

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
CLASSICS; COMING-OF-AGE STORIES; LITERARY FICTION
UP

Intuition by Allegra Goodman
PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; MOODY; THOUGHT-PROVOKING
MA

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini
CHARACTER-DRIVEN; DRAMATIC; HAUNTING BLEAK
PP

The Known World by Edward P. Jones
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FICTION; HISTORICAL FICTION
MA*

Maman's Homesick Pie by Donia Bijan
NONFICTION; MEMOIR; HEARTWARMING
PP

Murder at the Vicarage by Agatha Christie
MYSTERY; INTRICATELY PLOTTED; SUSPENSEFUL
PP

Mystic River by Dennis Lehane
NOIR FICTION; PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION; SUSPENSE STORIES
PP

Peony in Love by Lisa See
HISTORICAL FICTION; INTRICATELY PLOTTED; DESCRIPTIVE
DE

Please Look after Mom by Kyong-suk Sin
CHARACTER DRIVEN; LEISURELY PACED; COMPELLING
RK*

The Piano Lesson by August Wilson
NON-FICTION
CR

Pope Joan by Dona Woolfolk Cross
BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL; HISTORICAL FICTION

PP

The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio by Terry Ryan
NONFICTION; MEMOIR; INSPIRATIONAL
PP

River of No Return by Bee Ridgway
CHARACTER-DRIVEN; INTRICATELY PLOTTED; LEISURELY PACED
UP

Salvage the Bones by Jesmyn Ward
ADULT BOOKS FOR YOUNG ADULTS; PSYCHOLOGICAL
UP*

Someone, not Really her Mother by Harriet Scott Chessman
DOMESTIC FICTION; FAMILY SAGAS; JEWISH FICTION
MA*

The Summer Guest by Justin Cronin
DOMESTIC FICTION; BITTERSWEET MOVING
MA

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FICTION; MODERN CLASSICS; PSYCHOLOGICAL
UP

The Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger
LITERARY FICTION; INTRICATELY PLOTTED; MOVING
PP

The View from Garden City by Carolyn Baugh
ADULT BOOKS FOR YOUNG ADULTS; DOMESTIC FICTION
UP

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Library Abbreviations

- HA Haverford Township Free Library**
- MA Marple Public Library**
- PP Prospect Park Free Library**
- RK Rachel Kohl Community Library**
- DE DCLS Administrative Headquarters**
- UP Upper Darby Library – Primos Branch**
- CR J. Lewis Crozer Library**

No need to call these libraries directly, your local library can help you!



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