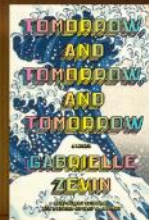
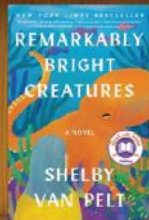
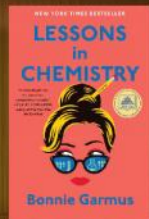
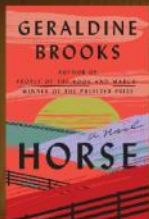
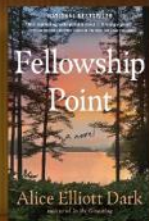


Our Favorite Fiction of 2022



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Abdullah, Chelsea

The Stardust Thief (Young Adult Fantasy)

A hunter and seller of illegal magic, Loulie al-Nazar is blackmailed into finding an ancient lamp after saving the life of a cowardly prince. She is flung into a world where nothing is what it seems and where she must decide who she will become in this new reality.

—*Recommended by Andrea*



Adams, Erin E.

Jackal (Thriller)

A Black woman returning to her Rust Belt hometown for a wedding uncovers a sinister pattern of black girls going missing from the area when her friends' daughter disappears from the reception, leaving behind only a bloody piece of fabric.

—*Recommended by Mark*

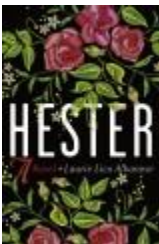


Ahmad, Aamina

The Return of Faraz Ali (Thriller)

When his powerful father installs him as head of the Mohalia police station, charging him with covering up the violent death of a child prostitute, Faraz defies orders for the first time in his career as he chases down the truth in Lahore's notorious red-light district.

—*Recommended by Erica*

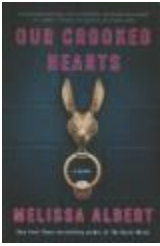


Albanese, Laurie Lico

Hester (Historical Fiction)

Arriving in Salem from Scotland in the early 1800s, Isobel, left penniless and alone by her husband in a strange country, is instantly drawn to Nathaniel Hawthorne, and as they grow closer and closer, they are a muse and a dark storyteller, the enchanter and the enchanted.

—*Recommended by Ellen J.*

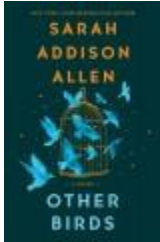


Albert, Melissa

Our Crooked Hearts (Young Adult Fantasy)

Told in alternating voices, years after it began, 17-year-old Ivy and her mom Dana's shared story comes down to a reckoning among a daughter, a mother, and the dark forces they never should have messed with.

—*Recommended by Mark*

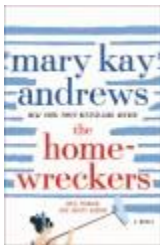


Allen, Sarah Addison

Other Birds (Magical Realism)

Arriving on Mallow Island, right off the coast of South Carolina, to claim her late mother's apartment, Zoey meets her eccentric and secretive neighbors, including a girl on the run, a lonely chef, a legendary writer and three ghosts.

—*Recommended by Jo, Marianne, Erica and Natalie*



Andrews, Mary Kay

The Homewreckers (Romantic Suspense)

While starring on a beach house renovation reality show called "The Homewreckers," Hattie Kavanaugh is drawn into a mystery and an unexpected romantic triangle when, during the demolition, evidence is unearthed about a long-ago crime.

—*Recommended by Karen*



Atkinson, Kate

Shrines of Gaiety (Historical Fiction)

In London after the Great War, Nellie Carter, the notorious and ruthless queen of a dazzling, seductive and corrupt new world in the clubs of Soho, finds her success breeding enemies as she faces threats from without and within, revealing the dark underbelly beneath Soho's gaiety.

—*Recommended by Jo and Jenn*

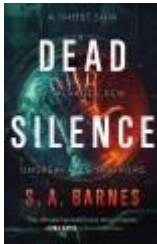


Baldree, Travis

Legends & Lattes: A Novel of High Fantasy and Low Stakes (Fantasy)

After a lifetime of bounties and bloodshed, Viv is hanging up her sword for the last time. The battle-weary orc aims to start fresh, opening the first ever coffee shop in the city of Thune. But old and new rivals stand in the way of success.

—Recommended by Jo, Joe and Erica



Barnes, S. A.

Dead Silence (Science Fiction)

Investigating a strange distress signal, Claire Kovalik and her crew discover a luxury space-liner that vanished 20 years prior and board the vessel to find words scrawled in blood, strange movements and whispers in the dark.

—Recommended by Marianne, Erica and Mark



Brandes, Nadine

The Wishdress (Young Adult Fantasy)

Myrthe was born with the ability to turn her tears into wishes. When a granted wish goes wrong, a curse is placed on her, so that the next tear she sheds will kill her. She needs to journey to the well and break the curse before it claims her life, and before the king's men track her down.

—Recommended by Donna A.

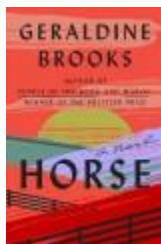


Burian, Nataalka

The Night Shift (Science Fiction)

Introduced to the shortcuts, secret passageways throughout NYC allowing you to jump through time and space to emerge in different parts of the city, Jean, intrigued but having a hard time dealing with the side effects, must discover their origins to save a friend.

—Recommended by Erica



Brooks, Geraldine

Horse (Literary Fiction)

A scientist from Australia and a Nigerian-American art historian become connected by their shared interest in a 19th-century race horse, one studying its remains, the other uncovering the history of the Black horsemen who were critical to its success.

—Recommended by Jo, Marianne and Becky



Brooks, Karen

The Good Wife of Bath (Historical Fiction)

In 1364 England, one of literature's most unforgettable characters, Chaucer's Wife of Bath, tells her story in her own words as she rises through society from a cast-off farm girl to a woman of fortune fighting to control her own life.

—Recommended by Ellen J.

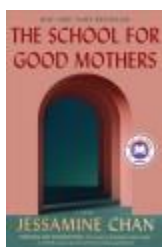


Caña, Natalie

A Proposal They Can't Refuse (Romance)

Kamilah, a Puerto Rican chef and Liam, an Irish American whiskey distiller, are blackmailed by their grandfathers, best friends since boyhood, into getting married or risk losing the building that houses both their businesses.

—Recommended by Marianne and Erica



Chan, Jessamine

The School for Good Mothers (Dystopian Fiction)

After one moment of poor judgment involving her daughter Harriet, Frida Liu falls victim to a host of government officials who will determine if she is a candidate for a Big Brother-like institution that measures the success or failure of a mother's devotion.

—Recommended by Jenn, Jean and Becky



Chang, Samantha Lan

The Family Chao (Mystery)

When Big Leo, the owner of Fine Chao restaurant, is found dead and presumed murdered, his three sons are reunited and fall under suspicion of the town and police. They must reckon with the legacy of their father's outsized appetites and their own future survival.

—*Recommended by Andrea and Jo*



Clark, Julie

The Lies I Tell (Thriller)

Determined to expose con artist Meg Williams, the woman who upended her life 10 years earlier, Kat Roberts begins to question her long-held assumptions as the two women grow close, leading her to wonder who Meg's real target is.

—*Recommended by Becky and Jean*



Cleveland, Karen

The New Neighbor (Spy Fiction)

When Madeline Sterling moves into her old house, CIA analyst Beth Bradford becomes obsessed with this woman, believing that she is somehow tied to Iranian intelligence in a cul-de-sac where everyone is keeping secrets.

—*Recommended by Becky*

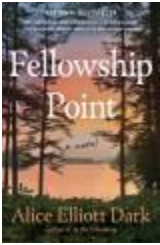


Crouch, Blake

Upgrade (Science Fiction Thriller)

When his DNA is rewritten with a genetic-engineering breakthrough beyond anything the world has seen, Logan Ramsey finds his transformation threatening everything around him as he is forced to take sides in a fight to save humankind.

—*Recommended by Jean and Ellen J.*

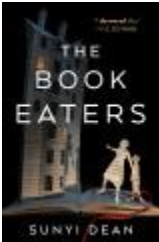


Dark, Alice Elliot

Fellowship Point (Relationship Fiction)

A retiring children's book author looking to secure her legacy tries to get the beautiful Maine coast where her novels are set donated to a trust, but must first convince the shareholders, one of whom is her best friend.

—Recommended by Andrea, Jo, Jenn and Becky



Dean, Sunyi

The Book Eaters (Magical Realism)

Devon, who is part of a secret line of people who eat books for food, discovers that real life doesn't always come with happy endings when her son is born with an insatiable hunger for human minds.

—Recommended by Jo and Marianne



Deb, Sopan

Keya Das's Second Act (Relationship Fiction)

When he makes a discovery that could change everything in his life, Bengali American Shantanu Das finds a way to atone for his daughter Keya's death by turning her unfinished manuscript into a play with the blessing of Keya's girlfriend.

—Recommended by Marianne

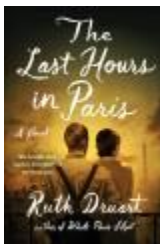


Diaz, Hernan

Trust (Literary Fiction)

Told from the perspective of one woman bent on disentangling fact from fiction, this novel about money, power, intimacy and perception is centered around the mystery of how the Rask family acquired their immense fortune in 1920s-1930's New York City.

—Recommended by Sonia

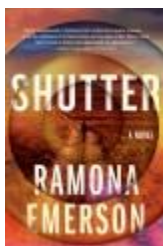


Druart, Ruth

The Last Hours in Paris (Historical Fiction)

In 1963 Brittany, 18-year-old Josephine Chevalier uncovers a shocking secret about her mother that leads her to Paris. There she learns the story of a forbidden love as a city fought for its freedom, and of a betrayal so deep, it changed two young lives forever.

—*Recommended by Violeta*



Emerson, Ramona

Shutter (Thriller)

A forensic photographer working for the Albuquerque police force, Rita Todacheene, who sees the ghosts of crime victims who point her toward the clues the other investigators overlook, is caught in the crosshairs of one of the city's most dangerous cartels when a furious ghost sets her on a path of vengeance.

—*Recommended by Becky*

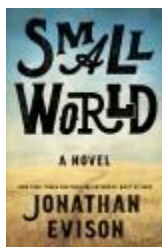


Erlick, Nikki

The Measure (Magical Realism)

When every person, all over the globe, receives a small wooden box bearing the same inscription and a single piece of string inside, the world is thrown into a collective frenzy, in this novel told through multiple perspectives that introduces an unforgettable cast of characters.

—*Recommended by Hope, Andrea and Erica*



Evison, Jonathan

Small World (Historical Fiction)

In this epic set in multiple time periods, present-day travelers on a train and their ancestors more than a century before are brought together by the history they share against such iconic backdrops as the California gold rush and the development of the Continental Railroad.

—*Recommended by Jo*



Faulkner, Katherine

Greenwich Park (Thriller)

Helen innocently befriends Rachel at a prenatal class despite the woman's unbecoming behavior and has no idea her new friend has ulterior motives and is on a vindictive mission to ruin the lives of her extended family.

—*Recommended by Becky and Jean*



Fay, Kim

Love & Saffron (Historical Fiction)

When 27-year-old Joan Bergstrom sends a fan letter and a gift of saffron to 59-year-old food writer Imogen Fortier, so begins an enduring friendship that sustains them through the Cuban Missile Crisis, the assassination of President Kennedy and the unexpected in their own lives.

—*Recommended by Karen*

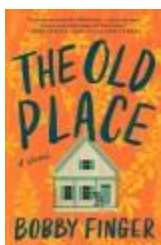


Fell, Blair

The Sign for Home (Romance)

Arlo Dilly, deaf, blind, a Jehovah's Witness and under the strict guardianship of his controlling uncle, sets out with his gay interpreter and his wildly inappropriate Belgian best friend, to find the love of his life, who he thought he lost forever.

—*Recommended by Erica*



Finger, Bobby

The Old Place (Relationship Fiction)

Retired teacher Mary Alice Roth, while working her way back to a comfortable friendship with her neighbor, finds the careful shell she's built around her life threatened by her sister, who delivers a staggering piece of news that could send shockwaves through her small Texas town.

—*Recommended by Jo*



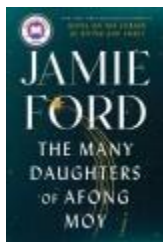
Ernshaw, Shea

Long Live the Pumpkin Queen

(Young Adult Fantasy)

Saddled with queenly duties after marrying her one true love, Sally Skellington wonders if she traded one captivity for another until she finds a long-hidden doorway to an ancient realm putting everything into perspective.

—*Recommended by Cheryl*



Ford, Jamie

The Many Daughters of Afong Moy (Family Saga)

Through epigenetic therapy — an experimental treatment designed to mitigate inherited trauma — Dorothy Moy intimately connects with the six past generations of women in her family.

—*Recommended by Jo*

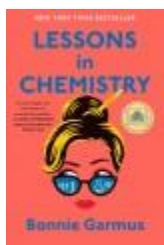


Fowler, Karen Joy

Booth (Historical Fiction)

This epic novel examines the fascinating, famous Shakespearean acting family and their scandals, triumphs and disasters behind one of the most infamous figures in American history: John Wilkes Booth.

—*Recommended by Jo and Ellen J.*



Garmus, Bonnie

Lessons in Chemistry (Historical Fiction)

In the early 1960s, chemist and single mother Elizabeth Zott, the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show due to her revolutionary skills in the kitchen, uses this opportunity to dare women to change the status quo.

—*Recommended by Jo, Jenny B., Marianne, Jean and Ellen J.*



Gentill, Sulari

The Woman in the Library (Mystery)

In the Boston Public Library, on lockdown after a threat is identified, four strangers sitting at the same table pass the time in conversation, and it just so happens that one of them is a murderer, but which one?

—Recommended by Sonia and Ellen J.



Glass, Eva

Alias Emma (Spy Fiction)

A new secret agent, Emma Makepeace, is tasked with having only 12 hours to bring the son of Russian dissidents into protective custody while avoiding the assassins looking for him in one of the world's most-surveilled cities.

—Recommended by Andrea and Marianne

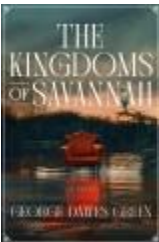


Gonzalez, Xochitl

Olga Dies Dreaming (Relationship Fiction)

In the wake of Hurricane Maria, Olga, the tony wedding planner for Manhattan's power brokers, must confront the effects of long-held family secrets when she falls in love with Matteo, while other family members must weather their own storms.

—Recommended by Andrea, Marianne, Becky, Brooke, Jean and Jo



Green, George Dawes

The Kingdoms of Savannah (Mystery)

Savannah may appear to be "some town out of a fable," with its vine flowers, turreted mansions, and ghost tours that romanticize the city's history. But look deeper and you'll uncover secrets, past and present, that tell a more sinister tale.

—Recommended by Erica and Jo



Greer, Andrew Sean

Less is Lost (Literary Fiction)

After the death of an old lover and a sudden financial crisis, Arthur Less sets out on a literary adventure across the United States, during which he must finally face his personal demons.

—*Recommended by Nate*



Gunty, Tess

Rabbit Hutch (Relationship Fiction)

Set in the post-industrial Midwest, this story of loneliness and community, entrapment and freedom, follows Blandine, who lives with three other teens in a run-down apartment building known as the Rabbit Hutch.

—*Recommended by Becky*



Gutierrez, Katie

More Than You'll Ever Know (Thriller)

Told through alternating timelines, this gripping mystery and wrenching family drama follows struggling crime writer Cassie Brown as she becomes obsessed with a 1985 murder case involving a woman whose double life led to murder and vows to tell the real story.

—*Recommended by Becky and Andrea*

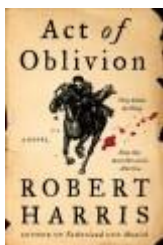


Hamid, Mohsin

The Last White Man (Magical Realism)

As people across the land awaken in new incarnations, Anders, whose skin turns dark, confides only in Oona, an old friend turned new lover, deciding to use this chance at a kind of rebirth. A novel of transcendence over bigotry, fear and anger.

—*Recommended by Becky, Natalie, Marianne and Jo*



Harris, Robert

Act of Oblivion (Historical Thriller)

The author imagines one of the greatest manhunts in history: the search for two Englishmen involved in the killing of King Charles I and the implacable foe on their trail — an epic journey into the wilds of 17th-century New England, and a chase like no other.

—*Recommended by Ellen J.*

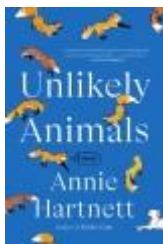


Hart, Rob

The Paradox Hotel (Mystery)

In the Paradox Hotel, where ultra-wealthy guests can take “flights” to the past, head of security January Cole finds her job getting harder when a handful of trillionaires arrive to bid on time-travel technology and there’s a murderer on the loose.

—*Recommended by Erica*

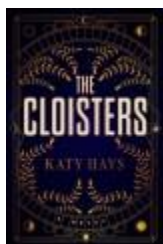


Hartnett, Annie

Unlikely Animals (Literary Fiction)

Emma Starling, a natural-born healer who lost her way, and her father, who is dying from a mysterious brain injury, team up to find Emma’s former best friend from high school who has gone missing, setting in motion a miracle the town needs.

—*Recommended by Erica, Melissa and Jenn*



Hays, Katy

The Cloisters (Gothic Thriller)

A sinister, atmospheric novel follows a circle of researchers as they uncover a mysterious deck of tarot cards and shocking secrets in New York’s famed Met Cloisters.

—*Recommended by Andrea*

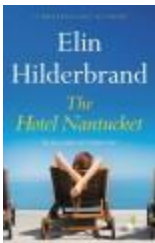


Henry, Emily

Book Lovers (Romance)

Agreeing to a holiday escape to the country, literary agent Nora keeps running into a bookish, hardheaded, arrogant editor she knows from Manhattan, and wishes she didn't, even as she discovers they have more in common than previously thought.

—Recommended by Jean, Karen, Andrea, Marianne and Jo

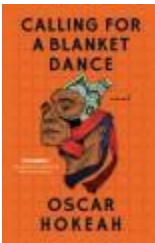


Hilderbrand, Elin

The Hotel Nantucket (Relationship Fiction)

Attempting to win the favor of the Hotel Nantucket's new London billionaire owner, general manager Lizbet Keaton has her work cut out for her with drama behind closed doors, staff and guests with complicated pasts, a ghost roaming the halls and her own romantic uncertainty,

—Recommended by Jo

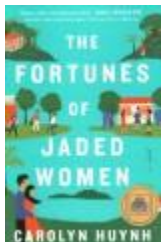


Hokeah, Oscar

Calling for a Blanket Dance (Literary Fiction)

This novel follows the life of Ever Geimausaddle, a young Native American, through the multigenerational perspectives of his family as they face policy corruption, threats of job loss, constant resettlement and the pent up rage of centuries of injustice.

—Recommended by Jo



Huynh, Andrea

The Fortunes of Jaded Women

(Relationship Fiction)

Mai Nguyen, at a crossroads in her life, seeks guidance from her trusted psychic in Hawaii whose unexpected prophecy brings together her entire estranged family, for better or for worse.

—Recommended by Andrea



Ijeoma, Omolola

Jollof Rice and Other Revolutions: A Novel in Interlocking Stories (Short Stories)

Four Nigerian friends who met at an all-girls boarding school grapple with the unexpected possibilities and limitations of adulthood and the uncertainties of the world within and outside of Nigeria as they are caught between tradition and modernity.

—*Recommended by Natalie*



Jurczyk, Eva

The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections (Suspense)

Working in a university's rare books department, Liesl Weiss discovers that a priceless book has gone missing as well as the librarian, and learns a shocking truth that shakes the very foundation on which she has built her life.

—*Recommended by Marianne, Erica, Andrea and Jo*



Katsu, Alma

The Fervor (Paranormal Historical Fiction)

In 1944, Meiko Briggs and her daughter, Aiko, held in an internment camp in the Midwest, discover a mysterious disease spreading among the interned is linked to a demon from the stories of Meiko's childhood, hell-bent on infiltrating their already strange world.

—*Recommended by Mark*

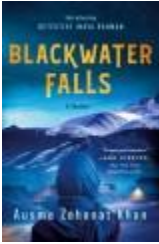


Katsu, Alma

Red Widow (Spy Fiction)

Recruited by the CIA's Chief of the Russian Division amid rumors of a department mole, former Moscow Field Station handler Lyndsey Duncan teams up with a murdered director's widow to expose a life-threatening web of secrets.

—*Recommended by Erica*



Khan, Ausma Zehanat

Blackwater Falls (Mystery, Detective Rahman #1)

Recruited to solve the murder of a star student and Syrian refugee, Detective Inaya Rahman and Lieutenant Waqas Seif discover a link to other missing and murdered girls, but when Seif obstructs the investigation, Inaya turns to her female colleagues for help in exposing police corruption and violence.

—*Recommended by Andrea and Erica*



Kilcoyne, Elizabeth

Wake the Bones (Young Adult Horror)

After dropping out of college, 19-year-old Laurel Early returns to her uncle's tobacco farm, where she encounters a monster as well as her mother's ghost, and soon Laurel realizes that she must tap into her own innate magic to save everyone she loves.

—*Recommended by Mark*



King, Stephen

Fairy Tale (Fantasy)

A 17-year-old boy inherits the keys to a parallel world where good and evil are at war, and the stakes could not be higher — for their world or ours.

—*Recommended by Sonia*



Kingsolver, Barbara

Demon Copperhead (Literary Fiction)

In this retelling of Charles Dickens' *David Copperfield*, the son of an Appalachian teenager uses his good looks, wit and instincts to survive foster care, child labor, addiction, disastrous loves and crushing losses.

—*Recommended by Ellen J., Andrea and Marianne*



Korelitz, Jean Hanff

The Latecomer (Relationship Fiction)

When her triplets, who have no strong familial bond and cannot wait to go their separate ways, leave for college, Johanna, faced with being alone for the first time, decides to have a fourth child and wonders what role the “latecomer” will play in her already fractured family.

—*Recommended by Becky and Jean*



Ku, Pyöng-mo

The Old Woman with the Knife (Thriller)

At 65, Hornclaw, an assassin who kills with ruthless efficiency, is ready to cash out on her share of the company, but when a slip-up results in an unexpected connection, Hornclaw's final chapter in her career may also mark a bloody end to her life.

—*Recommended by Erica*



Kuang, R.F.

Babel: Or the Necessity of Violence: An Arcane History of the Oxford Translators' Revolution (Fantasy)

A Chinese boy orphaned by cholera and raised in Britain is trained to work at Oxford's prestigious Royal Institute of Translation, the world's center for translation and magic through silver-working, where he must choose between competing loyalties.

—*Recommended by Andrea*



Labatut, Benjamin

When We Cease to Understand the World (Short Stories)

A fictional examination of the lives of real-life scientists and thinkers whose discoveries resulted in moral consequences beyond their imagining.

—*Recommended by Sarah*



Lafferty, Mur

Station Eternity (Science Fiction)

A suspect and social pariah due to her talent for solving murders on Earth, Mallory Viridian takes refuge on a sentient station where her life is markedly devoid of homicide, until humans guests arrive and the killings begin again, putting her in the middle of an extraterrestrial whodunit.

—*Recommended by Erica*



Lamb, Sacha

When the Angels Left the Old Country

(Young Adult Fantasy)

When a young emigrant from their tiny village goes missing while heading to America, angel Uriel and demon Little Ash set off to find her and encounter many humans in need of their help as they face obstacles ahead of them as difficult as what they've left behind.

—*Recommended by Hope*



Lauren, Christina

Something Wilder (Romance)

When the man who broke her heart is in her tourist group, Lily Wilder, the daughter of a notorious treasure hunter, must decide whether she'll risk her life and heart on the adventure of a lifetime.

—*Recommended by Erica*

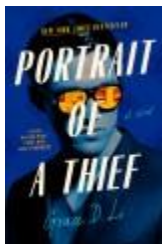


Lewis, Britney

The Undead Truth of Us (Young Adult Horror)

After her mother's sudden death, 16-year-old dancer Zharie Young begins seeing zombies, and when she meets an undead boy, he helps her understand how love can change someone—for good or for dead.

—*Recommended by Mark*



Li, Grace D.

***Portrait of a Thief* (Suspense)**

A Chinese American art history major at Harvard, Will Chen is offered a (very illegal) chance to reclaim five priceless treasures China lost centuries ago and assembles a team of fellow students, chosen for their skills and loyalty, to help him on his mission and make history.

—*Recommended by Marianne and Erica*



Li, Yiyun

***The Book of Goose* (Literary Fiction)**

When her friend Fabienne passes away, Agnès is free to tell her story of a long-ago childhood in a war-ravaged, backwater town in the French countryside where Fabienne hatched a plan that changed everything, sending Agnès on an epic journey through fame, fortune and terrible loss.

—*Recommended by Sarah*

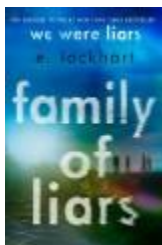


Lloyd, Josie

***The Bright Side Running Club* (Relationship Fiction)**

Determined not to be defined by the C-word, Keira, after receiving a breast cancer diagnosis, joins a running group with three other women undergoing treatment who unexpectedly give her the hope she so desperately needs.

—*Recommended by Sonia*



Lockhart, E.

***Family of Liars* (Young Adult Suspense)**

This prequel to *We Were Liars* takes readers back to the story of another summer, another generation, where a fiery, addicted heiress and an irresistible, unpredictable boy are plunged into a world of unforgivable betrayal, shocking secrets and terrible mistakes.

—*Recommended by Mark*



Mafi, Tahereh

This Woven Kingdom (Young Adult Fantasy)

The long-lost heir to an ancient Jinn kingdom forced to hide in plain sight, servant girl Alizeh waits in the shadows to uproot the kingdom of the crown prince—and the world.

—*Recommended by Jean*

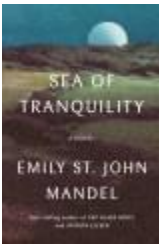


Mandanna, Sangu

The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches (Paranormal Fiction)

Breaking all the rules, Mika Moon travels to the mysterious Nowhere House to teach three young witches how to control their magic and, as she gets close to the House's residents, must decide whether to risk everything to protect a found family she didn't know she was looking for.

—*Recommended by Jo, Jenn and Erica*



Mandel, Emily St. John

Sea of Tranquility (Literary Fiction)

This novel of art, time, love, and plague takes the reader from an island off Vancouver in 1912 to a dark colony of the moon 300 years later, unfurling a story of humanity across centuries and planets.

—*Recommended by Jo, Jenn and Jean*



Martin, Madeline

The Librarian Spy: A Novel of World War II (Historical Fiction)

Posing as a librarian in Lisbon while working undercover as a spy gathering intelligence during WWII, Ava connects with a woman who runs a printing press in occupied France through coded messages that bring hope in the face of war.

—*Recommended by Sonia*

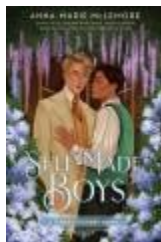


McCracken, Elizabeth

The Hero of This Book (Literary Fiction)

After her mother's death, the narrator, a writer, recalls all that made her complicated mother extraordinary and even though she wants to respect her mother's nearly pathological sense of privacy, must decide whether chronicling this remarkable life is an act of love or betrayal.

—*Recommended by Jo*



McLemore, Anna-Marie

Self-Made Boys: A Great Gatsby Remix

(Young Adult Historical Fiction)

Three teens chase their own versions of the American Dream during the Roaring 20s in this reimagining of *The Great Gatsby*.

—*Recommended by Hope*



McWilliams, Kelly

Mirror Girls (Young Adult Historical Fiction)

Reunited with her twin sister, who passes for white in the racially divided town of Eureka, Georgia, Charlie needs her help to put the hauntings of the past to rest and break their family's dangerous curse.

—*Recommended by Karen*



McTiernan, Dervla

The Murder Rule (Thriller)

A young woman posing as an idealistic law student tricks everyone into believing she is working to save an innocent man on death row, when she is really there to bury him.

—*Recommended by Becky*

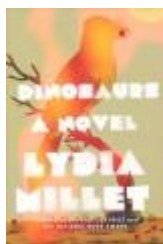


McMahon, Jennifer

The Children on the Hill (Horror)

When Lizzy Shelley, the host of the popular podcast *Monsters Among Us*, arrives in Vermont, where a kidnapping and monster sighting has sent the town into a frenzy, she is determined to hunt it down because it could be her very own sister.

—*Recommended by Mark*

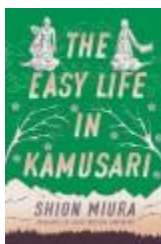


Millet, Linda

Dinosaurs (Literary Fiction)

After walking from New York to Arizona to recover from a failed relationship, Gil discovers new neighbors in the glass-walled house next door and finds his life meshing with theirs.

—*Recommended by Jo*



Miura, Shion

The Easy Life in Kamusari

(Coming of Age, Forest Series #1)

Yuki Hirano is just out of high school when his parents enroll him, against his will, in a forestry training program in the remote mountain village of Kamusari. No phone, no internet, no shopping. Just a small, inviting community where the most common expression is “take it easy.”

—*Recommended by Erica*

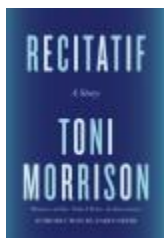


Moreno-Garcia, Silvia

The Daughter of Doctor Moreau (Horror)

When the arrival of Eduardo Lizalde sets in motion a dangerous chain of events, Carlota Moreau finds her carefully constructed world falling down around her as passion is ignited in the sweltering heat of the jungle where a motley group of monstrosities awaits.

—*Recommended by Marianne and Mark*



Morrison, Toni *Recitatif* (Novella)

In this 1983 story about race and the relationships that shape us through life, Twyla and Roberta, friends since childhood who are seemingly at opposite ends of every problem as they grow older, cannot deny the deep bond their shared experience has forged between them.

—*Recommended by Marianne and Jo*

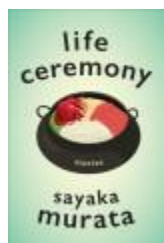


Mottley, Leila

Nightcrawling (Literary Fiction)

When a drunken altercation turns into a job she desperately needs, Kiara, who supports her brother and an abandoned 9-year-old boy, starts nightcrawling until her name surfaces in an investigation exposing her as a key witness in a scandal within the Oakland Police Department.

—*Recommended by Ellen J.*

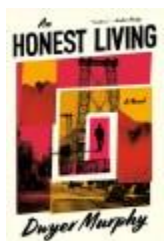


Murata, Sayaka

Life Ceremony (Short Stories)

Blending together humor and horror, this stellar short-story collection by the author of the cult sensation *Convenience Store Woman*, translated into English for the first time, portrays weird love, heartfelt friendships and the unsettling nature of human existence.

—*Recommended by Sarah*



Murphy, Dwyer

An Honest Living (Mystery)

A former attorney agrees to help a reclusive literary star find her missing bookseller husband but finds drawn into spiraling mysteries and feeling out of his depth when the person who hired him turns out to be an imposter.

—*Recommended by Erica*

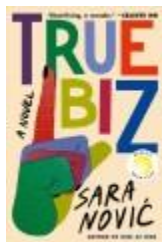


Ng, Celeste

Our Missing Hearts (Dystopian Fiction)

In a society consumed by fear, 12-year-old Bird Gardner, after receiving a mysterious letter, sets out on a quest to find his mother, a Chinese-American poet who left when he was 9 years old, leading him to NYC where a new act of defiance may be the beginning of much-needed change.

—*Recommended by Sonia and Joe*



Novic, Sara

True Biz (Literary Fiction)

Taking readers into a residential school for the deaf, this coming-of-age novel follows three people — a rebellious transfer student, the school's golden boy and the headmistress — as they each deal with personal and political crises and find their lives inextricable from one another.

—*Recommended by Andrea, Erica and Becky*

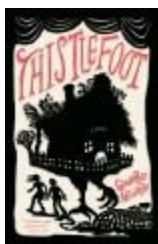


Natsukawa, Sosuke

The Cat Who Saved Books (Magical Realism)

When a talking cat named Tiger demands that high school student Rintaro help save books with him, they embark on an amazing journey, liberating books from their neglectful owners and meeting a colorful cast of characters along the way.

—*Recommended by Marianne and Erica*



Nethercott, GennaRose

Thistlefoot (Fantasy)

Reunited when they receive a strange inheritance, a sentient house on chicken legs called Thistlefoot, the Yaga siblings find themselves being hunted by the Longshadow Man, who bears with him violent secrets from the past: fiery memories that have hidden in their blood for generations.

—*Recommended by Jo*

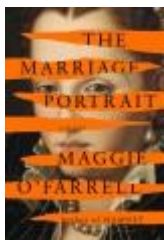


Obuobi, Shirley

On Rotation (Contemporary Fiction)

When her life crashes down around her, Ghanaian-American med student Angie Appiah, who has spent her life being the Perfect Immigrant Daughter, questions everything — her career, her friendships, and her taste in men — until she meets someone who changes her perspective.

—*Recommended by Andrea*



O'Farrell, Maggie

The Marriage Portrait (Historical Fiction)

In Florence during the 1550s, captivating young duchess Lucrezia de' Medici, having barely left girlhood behind, marries the ruler of Ferrara, Modena and Reggio. Now, in an unfamiliar court where she has one duty — to provide an heir — she fights for her very survival.

—*Recommended by Jean and Marianne*



Onyebuchi, Tochi

Goliath (Science Fiction)

After those with the means to do so leave Earth in a mass exodus to the space colonies in the 2050s, those left behind salvage what they can from the collapsing infrastructure and try to find purpose.

—*Recommended by Joe*



Otsuka, Julie

The Swimmers (Literary Fiction)

When a crack appears in the pool, a fellowship of swimmers who take comfort in their laps are cast out, including Alice, who, slowly losing her memory, is reunited too late with her estranged daughter. An intimate story of mothers and daughters, and the sorrows of implacable loss.

—*Recommended by Becky*



Pandian, Gigi

Under Lock & Skeleton Key (Mystery)

Tempest Raj, while visiting her dad's latest renovation project, discovers the body of her former stage double and wonders if she was the original target, and as she dives into this impossible mystery, she wonders if the Raj family curse has finally come for her.

—Recommended by *Andrea, Erica and Marianne*



Pataki, Allison

The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post (Biographical Fiction)

The extraordinary story of Marjorie Merriweather Post, the American heiress who lived and loved on a grand scale, reveals the heartbreak she endured as a wife four times over in vastly different, dramatic marriages.

—Recommended by *Violeta*

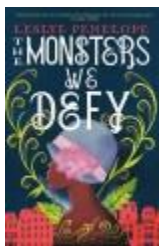


Pavone, Chris

Two Nights in Lisbon (Thriller)

A woman's husband is kidnapped and held for ransom while they are visiting Portugal on a business trip, leaving her no choice but to reach out to the one person she fears most.

—Recommended by *Andrea and Erica*



Penelope, Leslie

The Monsters We Defy (Historical Fantasy)

In 1925 Washington, D.C., Clara Johnson, in debt to the spirit world, must steal a magical ring from the wealthiest woman in the District, and to pull off this daring heist, assembles an unlikely team to do the impossible to save their community — and their lives.

—Recommended by *Erica*

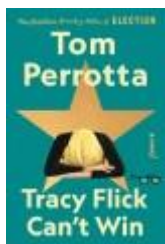


Perkins-Valdez, Dolen

Take My Hand (Historical Fiction)

In 1973 Montgomery, Alabama, Civil Townsend, a young black nurse working for the Montgomery Family Planning Clinic, grapples with her role when she takes two young girls into her heart and the unthinkable happens, and nothing will ever be the same for any of them.

—*Recommended by Andrea, Natalie and Jo*



Perrotta, Tom

Tracy Flick Can't Win (Contemporary Fiction)

Tracy Flick, the iconic protagonist of *Election*, is back in full force as the hardworking assistant principal at a public high school in suburban New Jersey where she, energized by the prospect of a long-overdue promotion, sets out to prove her worth and get what she deserves.

—*Recommended by Dorota and Natalie*



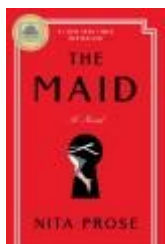
Pooley, Clare

Iona Iverson's Rules for Commuting

(Relationship Fiction)

An eclectic group of train commuters traveling from Hampton Court to Waterloo Station discovers that talking to strangers can help them learn more about themselves.

—*Recommended by Andrea, Marianne and Tina*



Prose, Nita

The Maid (Suspense)

When she discovers the dead body of the infamous and wealthy Charles Black in his suite, hotel maid Molly Gray finds her orderly life upended as she becomes the prime suspect in the case and is caught in a web of deception that she has no idea how to unravel.

—*Recommended by Becky, Jean, Dorota, Erica and Marianne*

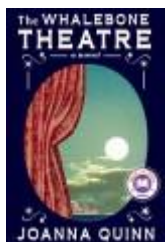


Quick, Matthew

We Are the Light (Literary Fiction)

After the death of his wife, whom he insists visits him every night in the form of an angel, Lucas Goodgame forms an unlikely alliance with a young man, ostracized by their community, who begins camping out in his backyard, bringing with him hope and the power to heal.

—*Recommended by Ellen J.*



Quinn, Joanna

The Whalebone Theatre (Historical Fiction)

In 1928, 12-year-old orphan Cristabel Seagrave and the rest of her household build a theatre from a whale's skeletal rib cage, where imagination comes to life and where her acting comes into play years later as she becomes a British secret agent on a dangerous mission in Nazi-occupied France.

—*Recommended by Andrea and Jenn*

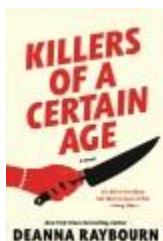


Ramisetty, Kirthana

Dava Shastri's Last Day (Relationship Fiction)

After receiving a brain cancer diagnosis at 70, one of the world's richest women tells her children that she wants to announce her death early so that she can read her obituaries, which ultimately reveal devastating secrets.

—*Recommended by Erica*



Raybourn, Deanna

Killers of a Certain Age (Thriller)

Sent on an all-expense paid vacation to mark their retirement, four assassins discover they've been marked for death, forcing them to turn against their own organization and teach them what it really means to be a woman, and a killer, of a certain age.

—*Recommended by Erica, Jo, Jenn and Becky*



Redgate, Riley

Alone Out Here (Young Adult Science Fiction)

When the president's daughter, 18-year-old Leigh Chen, ends up on the only ship escaping a dying Earth, she and a group of teenagers must grapple with the challenges of what it will take to survive as the last remnants of humanity.

—*Recommended by Mark*



Reid, Taylor Jenkins

Carrie Soto Is Back (Contemporary Fiction)

A retired tennis champion comes out of retirement at age 37 after watching a young phenom beat her long-standing record at the 1994 US Open.

—*Recommended by Jo*



Rekulak, Jason

Hidden Pictures (Horror)

Hired as nanny in an affluent New Jersey suburb, Mallory enjoys the stability of the job and bonds with Teddy, a sweet, 5-year-old boy who is never without his sketchbook until his drawings become increasingly sinister.

—*Recommended by Karen*

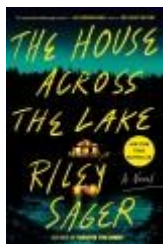


Roorbach, Bill

Lucky Turtle (Relationship Fiction)

While at a reform camp in Montana, 16-year-old privileged white girl Cindra Zoeller escapes with her lover into the wilderness, where they must both suffer the consequences of their naïve fantasy of a future together and circumstances shaped by skin color.

—*Recommended by Becky*

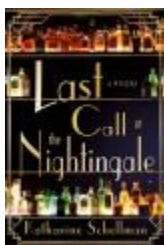


Sager, Riley

The House Across the Lake (Thriller)

Widowed actress Casey Fletcher retreats to her family's lake house in Vermont where she passes the time watching the glamorous couple across the lake until the wife disappears and she discovers that the most shocking of secrets can lurk beneath the most placid of surfaces.

—*Recommended by Mark*



Schellman, Katharine

Last Call at the Nightingale (Historical Mystery)

In 1824 New York, Vivian, whose days are filled with drudgery, escapes to the Nightingale, a secret dance club, until a dead body and police raid traps her between the city's wealthy and New York's underground where lives of the poor are considered disposable, including Vivian's own.

—*Recommended by Erica*



Scrivenor, Hayley

Dirt Creek (Mystery)

Detective Sergeant Sarah Michaels investigates the disappearance of a 12-year-old girl from a small town in rural Australia, who was last seen with a strange man by a schoolfriend who refuses to speak to the police.

—*Recommended by Andrea*



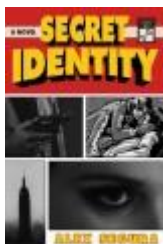
Sebastian, Cat

The Perfect Crimes of Marian Hayes

(Historical Romance)

Fleeing to the countryside after shooting her evil, murderous husband, the Duchess of Clare turns to a charismatic blackmailer, highwayman and con artist for help, and together they discover true joy and peace, until their pasts intervene.

—*Recommended by Erica*



Segura, Alex

Secret Identity (Thriller)

In 1975, when the comic book industry is struggling, Carmen Valdes, an assistant at Triumph Comics, finds things taking a strange turn when she helps create a new female character. The project leads to murder and plunges her into a dangerous world of secrets and resentments.

—*Recommended by Erica*

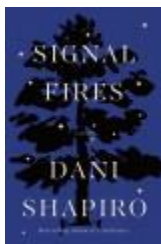


Shammas, Nadia and Alfageeh, Sara

Squire (Young Adult Fantasy Graphic Novel)

Hiding her status as a girl from conquered lands while training as a Squire on her quest to become a Knight, the only path to true citizenship, Aiza navigates friendships and rivalries until she discovers the military's endgame.

—*Recommended by Joe*

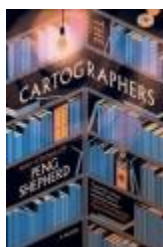


Shapiro, Dani

Signal Fires (Relationship Fiction)

When the Shenkman's arrive on Division Street, their brilliant, lonely son Waldo, who has a native ability to find connections in everything, befriends Dr. Wilf, who is harboring a dark secret, setting in motion a chain of events that causes the past to come back with a vengeance.

—*Recommended by Jean*



Shepard, Peng

The Cartographers (Magical Realism)

When her estranged father is found dead with a seemingly worthless map hidden in his desk, cartographer Nell Young soon discovers the map is extremely valuable—and that a mysterious collector will stop at nothing to destroy it and anyone who gets in the way.

—*Recommended by Erica, Andrea and Ellen J.*



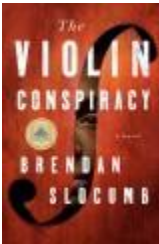
Simon, Christine

The Patron Saint of Second Chances

(Relationship Fiction)

To fix his Italian town's pipes, vacuum repairman and self-appointed mayor Signor Speranza must come up with 70,000 euros, and, to boost revenue, spreads a harmless rumor about a famous actor who will be filming his new movie nearby, which spins wildly out of control.

—*Recommended by Andrea*

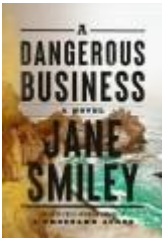


Slocum, Brendan

The Violin Conspiracy (Thriller)

Right before the cutthroat Tchaikovsky Competition, the Olympics of classical music, Ray McMillian's priceless Stradivarius is stolen, with a ransom note for \$5 million in its place. He must piece together the clues to reclaim the violin before it's too late.

—*Recommended by Andrea*

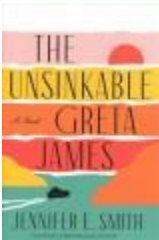


Smiley, Jane

A Dangerous Business (Historical Suspense)

A 1851 Monterey widow working at a brothel investigates when the dead bodies of young women start appearing on the outskirts of town.

—*Recommended by Jo*



Smith, Jennifer

The Unsinkable Greta James (Relationship Fiction)

After the death of her beloved mother, failed indie singer-songwriter Greta James joins her father on a week-long Alaskan cruise, which becomes a journey of discovery for them both as they work to heal old wounds, giving her confidence she needs to move forward.

—*Recommended by Marianne, Andrea and Jo*



Solomon, Rachel Lynn

Weather Girl (Romance)

In the aftermath of a disastrous holiday party, TV meteorologist Ari Abrams and sports reporter Russell Barringer team up to solve their bosses' relationship issues, but their well-meaning meddling backfires when real chemistry builds between them.

—*Recommended by Erica*



Spencer, Kate

In a New York Minute (Romance)

Becoming media sensations after a meet-cute moment in lower Manhattan, Franny Doyle and Hayes Montgomery III are the most disastrous match until repeated chance meetings lead to unexpected love.

—*Recommended by Marianne*

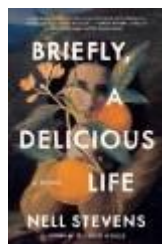


St. James, Simone

The Book of Cold Cases (Thriller)

When Shea Collins, who runs a true-crime website, the Book of Cold Cases, gets a chance to interview Beth Greer, an infamous woman acquitted of two cold-case slayings, she senses something isn't right and wonders if she is in the presence of a manipulative murderer.

—*Recommended by Becky*



Stevens, Nell

Briefly, A Delicious Life (Historical Fiction)

Four hundred years after she died in a monastery in Mallorca, a perpetually 14-year-old ghost, Blanca, becomes completely in love and obsessed with George Sand, a 19th-century writer living an unconventional life.

—*Recommended by Natalie*



Straub, Emma

This Time Tomorrow (Relationship Fiction)

When Alice wakes up on her 40th birthday somehow back in 1996 as her 16-year-old self, she finds the biggest surprise is seeing her younger father. Armed with a new perspective on life, she wonders what she would change, given the chance.

—*Recommended by Jo, Jean, Marianne and Ellen J.*



Stringfellow, Tara

Memphis (Family Saga)

Told over the course of 70 years, this spellbinding debut novel traces three generations of a Southern Black family and one daughter, who, channeling her rage into art, discovers with the power of her paint brush, she can change her family's legacy.

—*Recommended by Jo, Marianne and Becky*



Stuart, Douglas

Young Mungo (Literary Fiction)

In Glasgow, Mungo and James, who should be enemies due to their religious beliefs, fall in love, dreaming of finding somewhere they belong, while Mungo works hard to hide his true self from all those around him to protect them both from the danger their relationship brings.

—*Recommended by Jo*



Tahir, Sabaa

All My Rage (Young Adult Fiction)

When his attempts to save his family's motel spiral out of control, Salahudin and his best friend Noor, two outcasts in their town, must decide what their friendship is worth and how they can defeat the monsters of their past and in their midst.

—*Recommended by Jean*

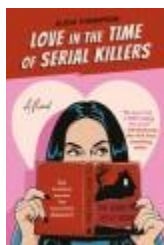


Tan, Sue Lynn

Daughter of the Moon Goddess (Fantasy)

Forced to flee her home on the moon after her magic flares up, Xingyin embarks on a perilous quest to save her mother, in a new fantasy novel inspired by the legend of the Chinese moon goddess.

—Recommended by Andrea

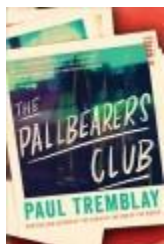


Thompson, Alicia

Love in the Time of Serial Killers (Romance)

Obsessed with true crime, Phoebe Walsh is convinced her new neighbor is a serial killer, but it's not long before she realizes he could be something scarier — a genuinely nice guy who can break down the walls around her heart.

—Recommended by Erica

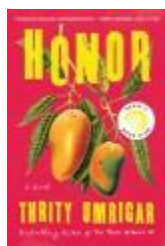


Tremblay, Paul

The Pallbearers Club (Horror)

A volunteer pallbearer for poorly attended funerals, Art Barbara, a 17-year-old loner in the 1980s, meets a cool girl who has an obsessive knowledge of strange, terrifying things that he tries to make sense of years later while writing a book that she begins making cuts to.

—Recommended by Mark

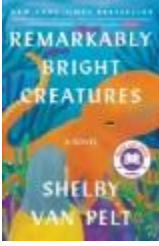


Umrigar, Thrity N.

Honor (Historical Fiction)

An Indian American journalist returns home to cover the story of a Hindi woman attacked by her own family for marrying a Muslim and deals with a society that places more weight on tradition than one's heart.

—Recommended by Sonia and Jean



Van Pelt, Shelby

Remarkably Bright Creatures (Relationship Fiction)

After her husband dies, widow Tova Sullivan starts working at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, where she forms a special bond with a giant Pacific octopus who holds the key solving the mysterious disappearance to her 18-year-old son, Erik, over thirty years ago on the Puget Sound.

—Recommended by Jean, Jo, Becky, Jenn and Sonia



Wang, Weike

Joan Is Okay (Literary Fiction)

An ICU physician at a busy NYC hospital, 30-something Joan, a workaholic with little interest in having friends, let alone lovers, is required to take mandatory leave until the day she must return to the city to face a crisis larger than anything she's encountered before.

—Recommended by Jean



Ward, Catriona

Sundial (Horror)

Rob is forced to make one last trip out to Sundial, her parent's property in the wild Mojave desert where dark secrets are buried, when a frightening accident in her home reveals a disturbing discovery in her oldest daughter's bedroom.

—Recommended by Mark



Wells, Christine

One Woman's War: A Novel of the Real Miss Moneypenny (Historical Fiction)

World War II British Naval Intelligence officer Victoire Bennett's mission to deceive the Germans about Allied invasion plans is jeopardized by a beautiful Austrian double agent.

—Recommended by Sheila



Whelan, Julia

Thank You for Listening (Romance)

An audiobook narrator, former actress Sewanee Chester, after having a one-night stand with a handsome stranger in Las Vegas, returns home to narrate a romance novel and forms a connection with the anonymous author, but when his identity is finally revealed, she must risk everything for desire.

—*Recommended by Jenn*

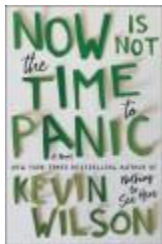


Wilkerson, Charmaine

Black Cake (Family Saga)

Two estranged siblings try to reclaim the closeness they once shared while trying to piece together their late mother's life story and fulfill her last request of sharing a traditional Caribbean black cake "when the time is right."

—*Recommended by Jo, Becky, Dorota and Marianne*

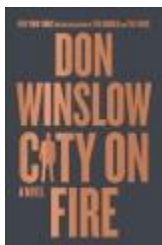


Wilson, Kevin

Now Is Not the Time to Panic (Relationship Fiction)

Twenty years after secretly causing panic in her hometown through the written word and artwork, famous author, mom, and wife Frances Eleanor Budge gets a call that brings her past rushing back, threatening to upend everything.

—*Recommended by Jo, Erica and Jean*



Winslow, Don

City on Fire (Thriller, #1, City on Fire Trilogy)

A mid-1980s longshoreman who does occasional stints for the Irish crime syndicate becomes embroiled in a conflict between rival factions.

—*Recommended by Andrea*

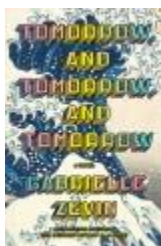


Wurth, Erika T.

White Horse (Horror)

When an old family bracelet inadvertently calls up both her mother's ghost and a monstrous entity, an urban indigenous woman searches for what happened to her mother all those years ago, forcing her to confront a long-denied truth and the one thing she's always wanted but could never have.

—*Recommended by Mark*



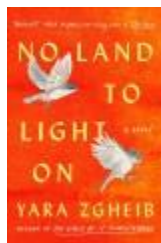
Zevin, Gabrielle

Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow

(Literary Fiction)

Sam, raised by grandparents in LA's Koreatown, and Sadie, from the wealthy Jewish enclave of Beverly Hills, create video games together, finding an intimacy in digital worlds that eludes them in their real lives.

—*Recommended by Jo, Joe, Ellen J., Erica, Jenn and Marianne*



Zgheib, Yara

No Land to Light On (Contemporary Fiction)

A young Syrian couple awaiting the birth of their son, Hadi and Sama dream of their life together until Hadi's father dies suddenly in Jordan, and Hadi, after attending the funeral, is detained for questioning and becomes trapped in a timeless, nightmarish limbo.

—*Recommended by Brooke*

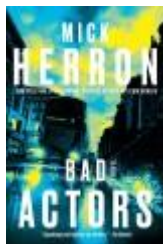
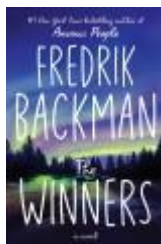


Zhang, Jenny

Four Treasures of the Sky (Historical Fiction)

A Chinese girl struggles to find her place in the 1880s American West after being kidnapped and smuggled, working at a calligraphy school and a San Francisco brothel as anti-Chinese sentiment sweeps across the country.

—*Recommended by Jo*



Series We Continue to Love . . .

Backman, Fredrik

The Winners (Contemporary, Beartown #3)

—Recommended by Jane A.

Bailey, Tessa

Hook, Line, and Sinker (Romance, Bellinger Sisters #2)

—Recommended by Erica

Dade, Olivia

All the Feels (Romance, Spoiler Alert #2)

—Recommended by Erica

Chambers, Becky

A Prayer for the Crown-Shy (Science Fiction, Monk & Robot #2)

—Recommended by Erica and Hope

Cosimano, Elle

Finlay Donovan Knocks 'Em Dead (Mystery, Finlay Donovan #2)

—Recommended by Marianne

Guillory, Jasmine

By The Book (Romance, Meant to Be #2)

—Recommended by Karen

Hallinan, Timothy

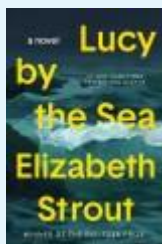
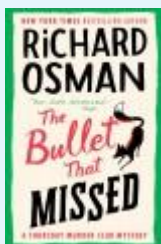
Rock of Ages (Mystery, Junior Bender #8)

—Recommended by Jo

Herron, Mick

Bad Actors (Mystery/Espionage, Slough House #8)

—Recommended by Andrea



Series We Continue to Love . . .

Holton, India

The League of Gentlewomen Witches (Historical Fantasy, Dangerous Damsels #2)

—Recommended by Jo and Erica

Miura, Shion

Kamusari's Tales Told at Night (Coming of Age, Forest Series #2)

—Recommended by Erica

Nicieza, Fabian

The Self-Made Widow (Mystery, Suburban Dicks #2)

—Recommended by Erica

Novik, Naomi

The Golden Enclaves (Fantasy, Scholomance trilogy #3)

—Recommended by Marianne and Andrea

Osman, Richard

The Bullet that Missed (Mystery, Thursday Murder Club #3)

—Recommended by Lori C., Jo, Jenn and Erica

Spotswood, Stephen

Secrets Typed in Blood (Mystery, Pentecost & Parker #3)

—Recommended by Andrea

Strout, Elizabeth

Lucy by the Sea (Literary, Lucy Barton #4)

—Recommended by Jo

Winspear, Jacqueline

A Sunlit Weapon (Mystery, Maisie Dobbs #17)

—Recommended by Sonia