



BC Library Federations' Book Club Sets **2014 Collection**



Brought to you by librarians from across British Columbia in the Kootenay, North Coast, North East, and IslandLink library federations.

For more information about these book club sets, or to ask that specific titles be included in next year's collection, please ask at your local library, or visit klf.bclibrary.ca/federations-book-club-sets.

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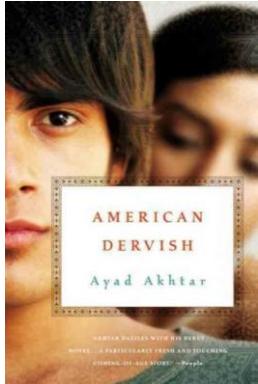
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Happy reading!

Fiction

American Dervish

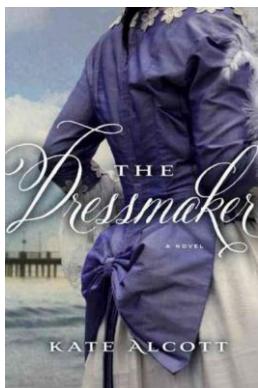
By Ayad Akhtar



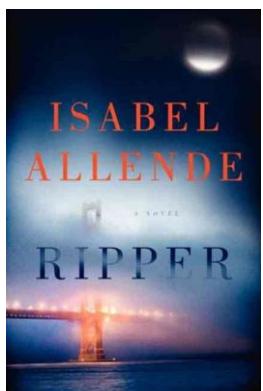
Hayat Shah is a young American in love for the first time. His normal life of school, baseball, and video games had previously been distinguished only by his Pakistani heritage and by the frequent chill between his parents, who fight over things he is too young to understand. Then Mina arrives, and everything changes. This woman is Hayat's mother's oldest friend from Pakistan. She is independent, beautiful, and intelligent, and arrives on the Shah's doorstep when her disastrous marriage in Pakistan disintegrates. Even Hayat's skeptical father can't deny the liveliness and happiness that accompanies Mina into their home. When Mina meets and begins dating a man, Hayat is confused by his feelings of betrayal. Just as Mina finds happiness, Hayat is compelled to act -- with devastating consequences for all those he loves most.

The Dressmaker

By Kate Alcott



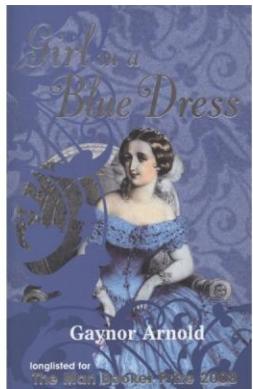
Tess, an aspiring seamstress, thinks she's had an incredibly lucky break when she is hired by famous designer Lady Lucile Duff Gordon to be a personal maid on the Titanic's doomed voyage. Once on board, Tess thinks she's got it made when she catches the eye of not one, but two men: one a roughly-hewn (but kind) sailor, and the other an enigmatic Chicago millionaire. But on the fourth night, disaster strikes and Tess is one of the last people allowed on a lifeboat. Tess's sailor suitor also manages to survive unharmed, witness to Lady Duff Gordon's questionable actions during the tragedy. Others are not so lucky. Once on dry land, rumors about the survivors begin to circulate, and Lady Duff Gordon finds herself the focus of some very unwanted attention.



Ripper

By Isabel Allende

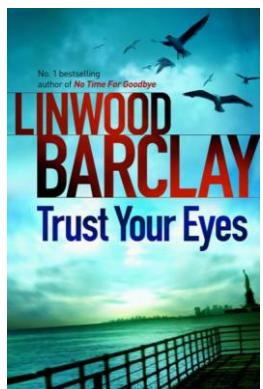
The Jackson women, Indiana and Amanda, have always had each other. Yet, while their bond is strong, mother and daughter are as different as night and day: Indiana is a beautiful holistic healer, while her daughter, Amanda is fascinated by the dark side of human nature. Brilliant and introverted, the MIT-bound high school senior is a natural-born sleuth addicted to crime novels and Ripper, the online mystery game she plays. When a string of strange murders occurs across the city, Amanda plunges into her own investigation, discovering, before the police do, that the deaths may be connected. But the case becomes all too personal when Indiana suddenly vanishes.



Girl in a Blue Dress

By Gaynor Arnold

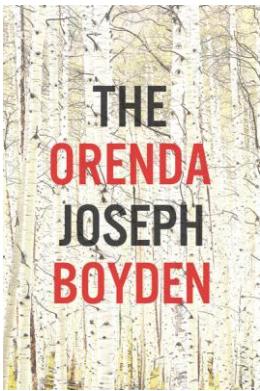
Alfred Gibson's funeral has taken place at Westminster Abbey, and his wife of twenty years, Dorothea, has not been invited. Her younger daughter Kitty comforts her, until an invitation for a private audience with Queen Victoria arrives, and she begins to examine her own life more closely. Uncovering the true deviousness and hypnotic power of her celebrity author husband, she'll now need to face her grown-up children – and worse – her redoubtable younger sister, Sissy and the charming actress, Miss Ricketts.



Trust Your Eyes

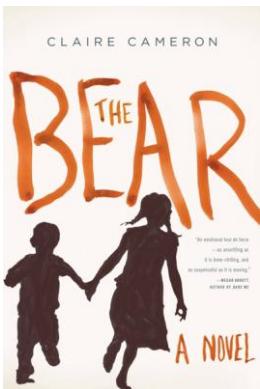
By Linwood Barclay

Thomas Kilbride is a map-obsessed schizophrenic so affected that he rarely leaves the self-imposed bastion of his bedroom. His brother, Ray, takes care of him, cooking for him, dealing with the outside world on his behalf, and listening to his intricate and increasingly paranoid theories. Thomas, from his bedroom, travels the world with Whirl360.com, poring over maps and memorizing street names. He examines the addresses and people who are frozen in time on his computer screen. Then he sees something that anyone else might have – but had not – stumbled upon: a photograph of a woman who might be in the process of being murdered. When Thomas tells his brother Ray what he has seen, Ray humors him with a half-hearted investigation but soon realizes he and his brother have stumbled onto a deadly conspiracy.



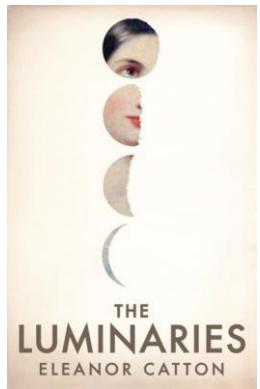
The Orenda
By Joseph Boyden

Christophe, as educated as any Frenchman could be about the “sauvages” of the New World whose souls he has sworn to save, begins his true enlightenment shortly after he sets out when his native guides—terrified by even a scent of the Iroquois—abandon him to save themselves. But a Huron warrior and elder named Bird soon takes him prisoner, along with a young Iroquois girl, Snow Falls, whose family he has just killed. The Huron-Iroquois rivalry, now growing vicious, courses through this novel, and these three are its principal characters.



The Bear
By Claire Cameron

While camping with her family on a remote island, five-year-old Anna awakes in the night to the sound of her mother screaming. A rogue black bear, three hundred pounds of fury, is attacking the family's campsite -- and pouncing on her parents as prey. At her dying mother's faint urging, Anna manages to get her brother into the family's canoe and paddle away. Lost and completely alone, they find that their only hope resides in Anna's heartbreakingly love for her family, and her struggle to be brave when nothing in her world seems safe anymore.

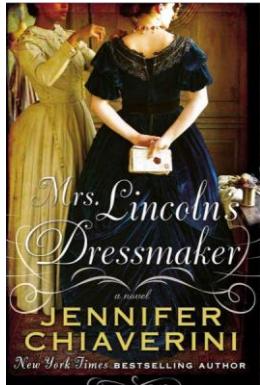


The Luminaries
By Eleanor Catton

It is 1866, and Walter Moody has come to stake his claim in New Zealand's booming gold rush. On the stormy night of his arrival, he stumbles across a tense gathering of 12 local men who have met in secret to discuss a series of unexplained events: a wealthy man has vanished, a prostitute has tried to end her life, and an enormous cache of gold has been discovered in the home of a luckless drunk. Moody is soon drawn into a network of fates and fortunes that is as complex and exquisitely ornate as the night sky.

Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker

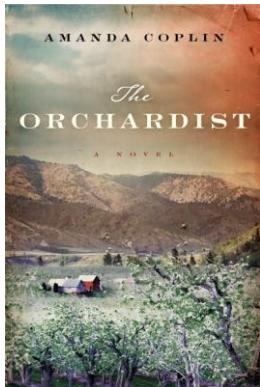
By Jennifer Chiaverini



In March 1861, Mrs. Lincoln chose Keckley from among a number of applicants to be her personal "modiste," responsible not only for creating the First Lady's gowns, but also for dressing Mrs. Lincoln in the beautiful attire Keckley had fashioned. The relationship between the two women quickly evolved, as Keckley was drawn into the intimate life of the Lincoln family, supporting Mary Todd Lincoln in the loss of first her son and then her husband. Saving fabric scraps from dozens of gowns, Keckley eventually pieced together a tribute known as the Mary Todd Lincoln Quilt. She also saved memories, which she published in a book, *Behind the Scenes: Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House*.

The Orchardist

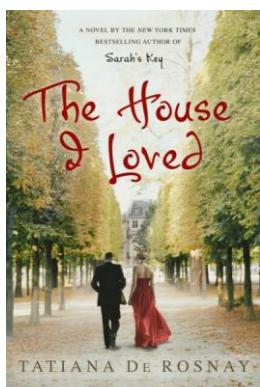
By Amanda Coplin



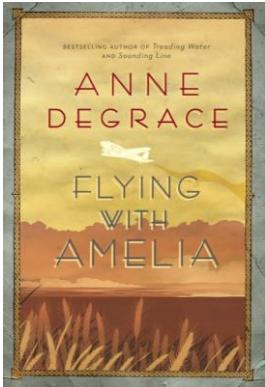
At the turn of the twentieth century, in a rural stretch of the Pacific Northwest, an orchardist named Talmadge carefully tends the grove of apple, apricot, and plum trees he has cultivated for nearly half a century. One day, the market, two girls, barefoot and dirty, steal some apples from him. Later, they appear on his homestead, cautious yet curious about the man who gave them no chase. Feral, scared, and very pregnant, Jane and her sister Della take up on Talmadge's land and indulge in his deep reservoir of compassion. Yet just as the girls begin to trust him, brutal men with guns arrive in the orchard, and the shattering tragedy that follows sets Talmadge on an irrevocable course not only to save and protect them, putting himself between the girls and the world, but to reconcile the ghosts of his own troubled past.

The House I Loved

By Tatiana de Rosnay



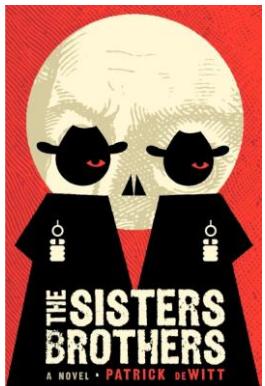
Paris, France in the 1860's. By order of Emperor Napoleon III, Baron Haussman has set into motion a series of large-scale renovations that will permanently alter the face of old Paris, moulding it into a "modern city." The reforms will erase generations of history. In the midst of the tumult, Rose Bazelet stands determined to fight against the destruction of her family home. While others flee, she stakes her claim in the basement of the old house on Childebert road, ignoring the sounds of change that come closer and closer each day. Attempting to overcome the loneliness of her daily life, she begins to write letters to Armand, her beloved late husband. And as she delves into the ritual of remembering, Rose is forced to come to terms with a secret that has been buried deep in her heart for thirty years.



Flying with Amelia

By Anne DeGrace

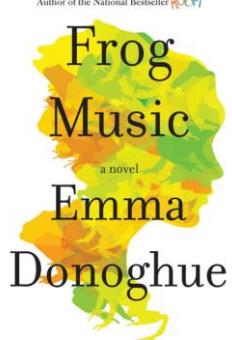
In 1847 a famine ship arrives in Canada from Ireland. A St. John's boy learns the finer points of communication while his employer receives the first transatlantic wireless signal. A British Home Child finds sorrow and solace on an Ontario farmstead. In 1920s Montreal, a one-armed veteran gambles everything for a future with a beautiful, intelligent, political young woman. In northern Manitoba, German prisoners of war find creative ways to quell boredom. RCMP officers snatch Doukhobor children in British Columbia, while a decade later U.S. draft dodgers find refuge in Canada. And so on. These linked short stories bring history to life.



The Sisters Brothers

By Patrick DeWitt

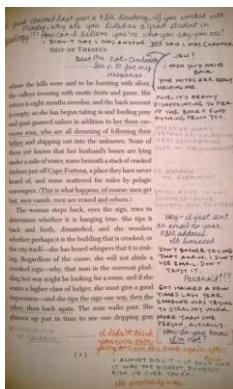
Hermann Kermit Warm is going to die: Eli and Charlie Sisters can be counted on for that. Though Eli has never shared his brother's penchant for whiskey and killing, he's never known anything else. On the road to Warm's gold-mining claim outside San Francisco – and from the back of his long-suffering one-eyed horse – Eli struggles to make sense of his life without abandoning the job he's sworn to do.



Frog Music

By Emma Donoghue

Summer of 1876: San Francisco is in the fierce grip of a record-breaking heat wave and a smallpox epidemic. A young woman named Jenny Bonnet is shot dead. The survivor, her friend Blanche Beunon, is a French burlesque dancer. Over the next three days, she will risk everything to bring Jenny's murderer to justice. The story Blanche struggles to piece together is one of free-love bohemians, desperate paupers, and arrogant millionaires; of jealous men, icy women, and damaged children. It's the secret life of Jenny herself, a notorious character who breaks the law every morning by getting dressed: a charmer as slippery as the frogs she hunts.



S. By Doug & JJ Abrams Dorst

A young woman picks up a book left behind by a stranger. Inside it are his margin notes, which reveal a reader entranced by the story and by its mysterious author. She responds with notes of her own, leaving the book for the stranger, and so begins an unlikely conversation that plunges them both into the unknown.



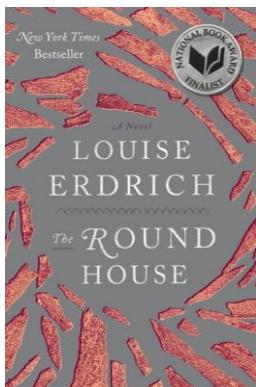
Half Blood Blues By Esi Edugyan

Berlin in 1939. A young, brilliant trumpet-player, Hieronymus, is arrested in a Paris café and is never heard from again. Fifty years later, Sidney Griffiths, the only witness to the events of that day, still refuses to speak about what he saw. When Chip Jones, his friend and fellow band member, comes to visit, recounting the discovery of a strange letter, Sid begins a slow journey towards redemption. Half-Blood Blues is an electric, heart-breaking story about music, race, love and loyalty, and the sacrifices we ask of ourselves, and demand of others, in the name of art.



A Visit from the Goon Squad By Jennifer Egan

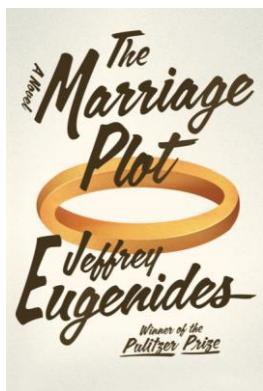
Bennie is an aging former punk rocker and record executive. Sasha is the passionate, troubled young woman he employs. Here Jennifer Egan brilliantly reveals their pasts, along with the inner lives of a host of other characters whose paths intersect with theirs. With music pulsing on every page, this book is a startling, exhilarating novel of self-destruction and redemption.



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, 14-year-old Joe Coutz sets out with his three friends to find the person who destroyed his family.



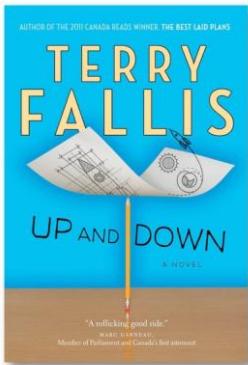
The Marriage Plot

By Jeffrey Eugenides

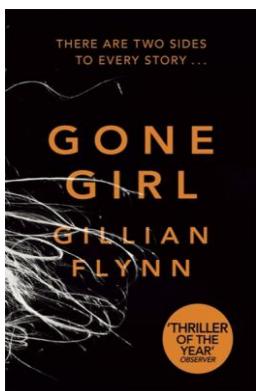
It's the early 1980s--America is in a deep recession and life after college is harder than ever. In the cafés on the cobble-streets of College Hill, the wised up kids are inhaling Derrida and listening to Talking Heads. But Madeleine Hanna, dutiful English major, is writing her senior thesis on Jane Austen and George Eliot, purveyors of the marriage plot that lies at the heart of the greatest English novels. As she prepares to graduate and tries to understand why her college love life has not lived up to expectations, she finds herself unexpectedly in a love triangle with two very different men.

Up and Down

By Terry Fallis



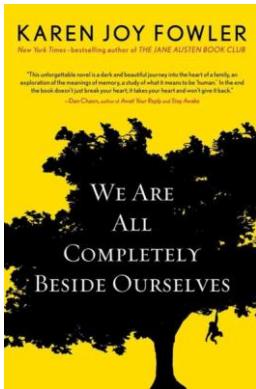
On his first day at Turner King, David Stewart quickly realizes that the world of international PR (affectionately, perhaps ironically, known as "the dark side") is a far cry from his previous job on Parliament Hill. For one, he missed the office memo on the all-black dress code; for another, there are enough acronyms and jargon to make his head spin. Before he even has time to find the washroom, David is assigned a major project: devise a campaign to revitalize North America's interest in the space program, maybe even show NASA's pollsters that watching a shuttle launch is more appealing than going out for lunch with friends. The pressure is on, and before long, David finds himself suggesting the most out-of-this-world idea imaginable: a Citizen Astronaut lottery that would send one Canadian and one American to the International Space Station.



Gone Girl

By Gillian Flynn

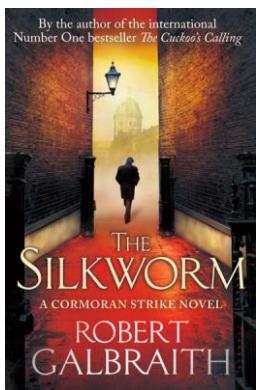
When a woman goes missing on her fifth wedding anniversary, her diary reveals hidden turmoil in her marriage, while her husband, desperate to clear himself of suspicion, realizes that something more disturbing than murder may have occurred.



We Are Completely Beside Ourselves

By Karen Joy Fowler

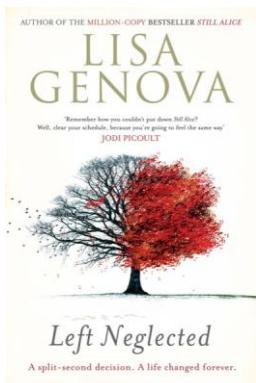
Meet the Cooke family: Mother and Dad, brother Lowell, sister Fern, and Rosemary, who begins her story in the middle. She has her reasons. "I was raised with a chimpanzee," she explains. "I tell you Fern was a chimp and already you aren't thinking of her as my sister. But until Fern's expulsion ... she was my twin, my funhouse mirror, my whirlwind other half and I loved her as a sister." As a child, Rosemary never stopped talking. Then, something happened, and Rosemary wrapped herself in silence.



The Silkworm

By Robert Galbraith

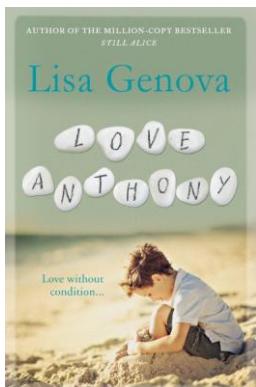
When novelist Owen Quine goes missing, his wife calls in private detective Cormoran Strike. At first, Mrs. Quine just thinks her husband has gone off by himself for a few days -- as he has done before -- and she wants Strike to find him and bring him home. But as Strike investigates, it becomes clear that there is more to Quine's disappearance than his wife realizes. The novelist has just completed a manuscript featuring poisonous pen-portraits of almost everyone he knows. If the novel were to be published, it would ruin lives, meaning that there are a lot of people who might want him silenced.



Left Neglected

By Lisa Genova

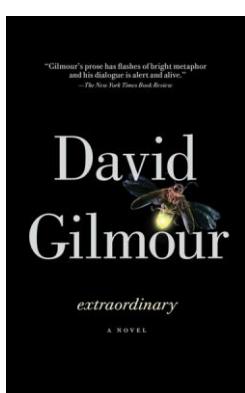
Sarah Nickerson, like any other working mom, is busy trying to have it all. One morning while racing to work and distracted by her cell phone, she looks away from the road for one second too long. In that blink of an eye, all the rapidly moving parts of her over-scheduled life come to a screeching halt. After a brain injury steals her awareness of everything on her left side, Sarah must retrain her mind to perceive the world as a whole. In so doing, she also learns how to pay attention to the people and parts of her life that matter most.



Love Anthony

By Lisa Genova

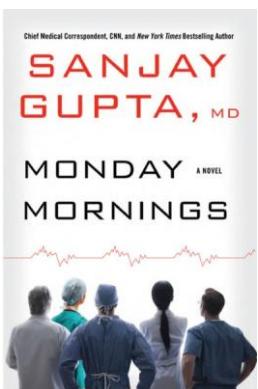
Two women meet by accident on a Nantucket beach and are drawn into a friendship. Olivia is a young mother whose eight-year-old severely autistic son has recently died. She comes to the island in a trial separation to try and make sense of the tragedy of her son's short life. Beth, a stay-at-home mother of three, is also recently separated after discovering her husband's long-term infidelity.



Extraordinary

By David Gilmour

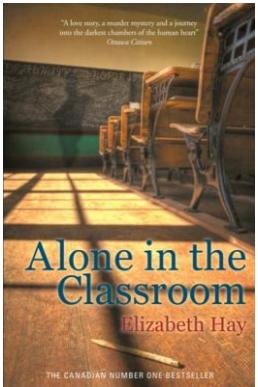
Over the course of one Saturday night, a man and his half-sister meet at her request to spend the evening preparing for her assisted death. They drink and reminisce fondly, sadly, amusingly about their lives and especially her children, both of whom have led dramatic and profoundly different lives. Extraordinary is a gentle consideration of assisted suicide, but it is also a story about siblings—about how brothers and sisters turn out so differently; about how little, in fact, turns out the way we expect.



Monday Mornings

By Sanjay Gupta

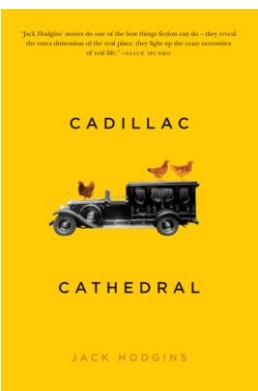
Every time surgeons operate, they're betting their skills are better than the brain tumor, the faulty heart valve, the fractured femur. Sometimes, they're wrong. At Chelsea General, surgeons answer for bad outcomes at the Morbidity and Mortality conference, known as M & M. The story follows the lives of five surgeons as they push the limits of their abilities and confront their personal and professional failings, often in front of their peers at M & M. Monday mornings provide a unique look at the real method by which surgeons (and all of us) learn: through their mistakes.



Alone in the Classroom

By Elizabeth Hay

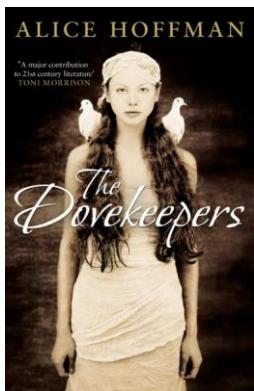
In a small prairie school in 1929, Connie Flood helps a "backward" student, Michael Graves, learn how to read. Watching them too closely is the principal, Parley Burns, whose strange behaviour culminates in an attack so disturbing its repercussions ripple through generations. Connie's niece, Anne, unravels the enigma of Parley Burns and the mysterious (and unrelated) deaths of two young girls. As the novel deepens, the triangle of principal, teacher, and student opens out into other emotional triangles – aunt, niece, lover; mother, daughter, granddaughter – until a sudden, capsizing love thrusts Anne herself into a newly independent life.



Cadillac Cathedral

By Jack Hodgins

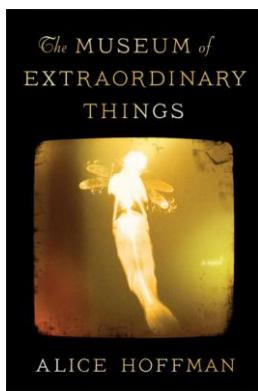
Arvo has worked in logging camps all his life and who now spends his retirement fixing old cars, often ones that he finds discarded in the bush. When news arrives that one of their oldest friends has died, Arvo and his friends decide to go pick up the body. A road trip ensues, but this is not just any road trip: it takes place in a remarkable hearse built by Cadillac -- this one discovered in the hills where it had been used as a skidder for pulling logs. This novel grew out of a song narrative that Hodgins wrote for Chor Leoni to perform in January 2014.



The Dovekeepers

By Alice Hoffman

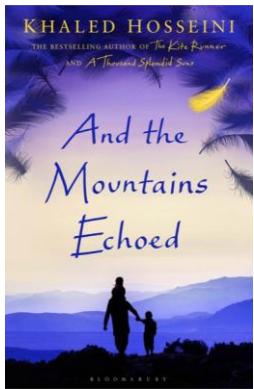
In 70 CE, nine hundred Jews held out for months against armies of Romans on a mountain in the Judean desert, Masada. According to the ancient historian Josephus, two women and five children survived. Based on this tragic historical event, Hoffman weaves a spellbinding tale of four extraordinary, bold, resourceful, and sensuous women, each of whom has come to Masada by a different path. The lives of these four complex and fiercely independent women intersect in the desperate days of the siege, as the Romans draw near. All are dovekeepers, and all are also keeping secrets—about who they are, where they come from, who fathered them, and whom they love.



The Museum of Extraordinary Things

By Alice Hoffman

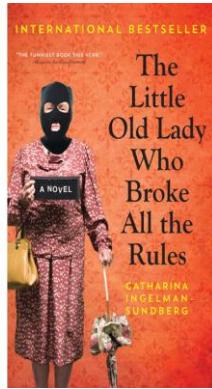
Coralie Sardie is the daughter of the sinister impresario behind The Museum of Extraordinary Things, a Coney Island boardwalk freak show that thrills the masses. An exceptional swimmer, Coralie appears as the Mermaid in her father's "museum," alongside performers like the Wolfman, the Butterfly Girl, and a one-hundred-year-old turtle. One night Coralie stumbles upon a striking young man taking pictures of moonlit trees in the woods off the Hudson River. The dashing photographer is Eddie Cohen, a Russian immigrant who has run away from his father's Lower East Side Orthodox community and his job as a tailor's apprentice. When Eddie photographs the devastation on the streets of New York following the infamous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, he becomes embroiled in the suspicious mystery behind a young woman's disappearance and ignites the heart of Coralie.



And the Mountains Echoed

By Khaled Hosseini

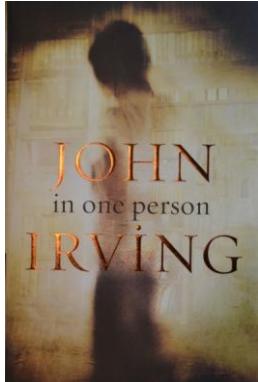
Afghanistan, 1952. Abdullah and his sister Pari live with their father and step-mother in the small village of Shadbagh. Their father, Saboor, is constantly in search of work and they struggle together through poverty and brutal winters. To Adbullah, Pari -- as beautiful and sweet-natured as the fairy for which she was named -- is everything.



The Little Old Lady Who Broke All the Rules

By Catharina Ingelman-Sundberg

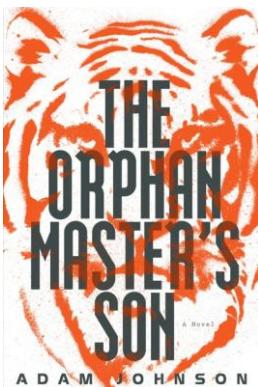
New owners have taken over the Diamond Retirement Home, making cost-cutting changes that have transformed the happy home into a dull and dreary place. The residents wonder if they wouldn't be better off in prison! Martha gets an idea: she and her four friends shall commit a crime that will ensure conviction—some type of financial crime, a small coup of some sort. They will give whatever they get to the poor and elderly. If Robin Hood could do it, so can they!



In One Person

By John Irving

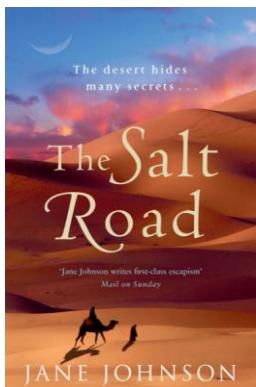
(short stories) Billy, the bisexual narrator and main character, tells the tragicomic story (lasting more than half a century) of his life as a "sexual suspect". John Irving creates a theatrical cast of characters who defy category and convention. Not least, In One Person is an intimate and unforgettable portrait of the solitariness of a bisexual man who is dedicated to making himself "worthwhile."



The Orphan Master's Son

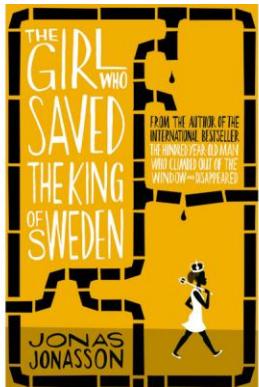
By Adam Johnson

The son of an influential father who runs an orphan work camp, Pak Jun Do rises to prominence using instinctive talents and eventually becomes a professional kidnapper and romantic rival to Kim Jong Il.



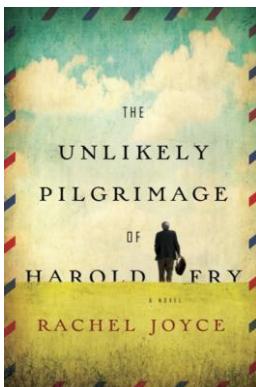
The Salt Road
By Jane Johnson

From Tafraout's magnificent mountainside, Isobel absorbs the heat and romance of the Moroccan vista before her, with mosque and homes scattered far below. But a mere slip sees her tumbling uncontrollably into the arms of handsome rescuer Taïb, who notices her unusual silver amulet, out of which falls a tiny, hidden scroll. Entranced by the intricate and illegible script, they set out for the Sahara in search of a Tuareg elder to unlock the riddles of its past. Little does Isobel realize that the desert holds the key to more mysteries than the amulet's.



The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden
By Jonas Jonasson

On June 14th, 2007, the King and Prime Minister of Sweden disappeared mysteriously from a gala banquet. But the real story begins in 1961 with the birth of Nombeko Mayeki in a shack in Soweto. Fated to grow up fast and die early in her poverty-stricken township, she finds a different path and becomes an advisor for one of the world's most secret projects. In the 1980's, South Africa developed six nuclear missiles which they dismantled in 1994. This is a story about the seventh missile . . . the one that was never supposed to have existed.



The Unlikely Pilgrimage Of Harold Fry
By Rachel Joyce

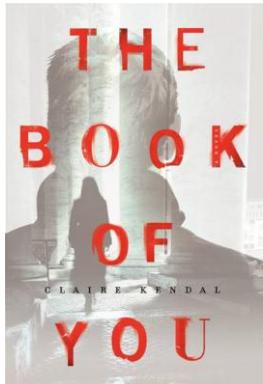
Recently retired, sweet, emotionally numb Harold Fry is jolted out of his passivity by a letter from Queenie Hennessy, an old friend, who he hasn't heard from in twenty years. She has written to say she is in hospice and wants to say goodbye. Leaving his tense, bitter wife Maureen to her chores, Harold intends a quick walk to the corner mailbox to post his reply but instead, inspired by a chance encounter, he becomes convinced he must deliver his message in person to Queenie – but she happens to live 600 miles away.



Perfect

By Rachel Joyce

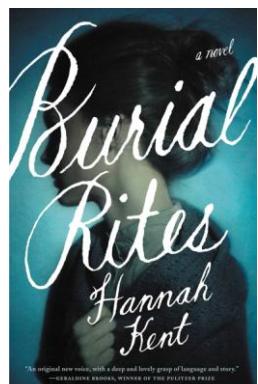
Byron Hemmings wakes to a morning that looks like any other: his school uniform draped over his wooden desk chair, his sister arguing over the breakfast cereal, the click of his mother's heels as she crosses the kitchen. But when the three of them leave home, driving into a dense summer fog, the morning takes an unmistakable turn. In one terrible moment, something happens, something completely unexpected and at odds with life as Byron understands it. While his mother seems not to have noticed, eleven-year-old Byron understands that from now on nothing can be the same.



The Book of You

By Claire Kendal

His name is Rafe, and he is everywhere Clarissa turns. At the university where she works. The train station. Outside her apartment. His messages choke her voice mail; his gifts litter her mailbox. Since that one regrettable night, his obsession with her has grown, becoming more terrifying with each passing day. Clarissa's only escape from this harrowing nightmare is inside a courtroom—where she is a juror on a trial involving a victim whose experiences eerily parallel her own. But as a disturbingly violent crime unfolds in the courtroom, Clarissa realizes that to survive she must expose Rafe herself.



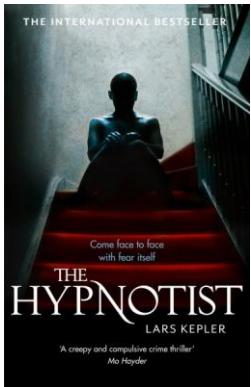
Burial Rites

By Hannah Kent

Set against Iceland's stark landscape, Hannah Kent brings to vivid life the story of Agnes, who, charged with the brutal murder of her former master, is sent to an isolated farm to await execution. Horrified at the prospect of housing a convicted murderer, the family at first avoids Agnes. Only Tóti, a priest Agnes has mysteriously chosen to be her spiritual guardian, seeks to understand her. But as Agnes's death looms, the farmer's wife and their daughters learn there is another side to the sensational story they've heard.

The Hypnotist

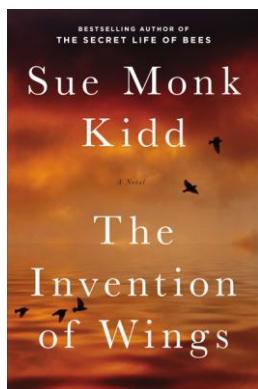
By Lars Kepler



In the frigid clime of Tumba, Sweden, a gruesome triple homicide attracts the interest of Detective Inspector Joona Linna, who demands to investigate the murders. The killer is still at large, and there's only one surviving witness—the boy whose family was killed before his eyes. Whoever committed the crimes wanted this boy to die: he's suffered more than one hundred knife wounds and lapsed into a state of shock. Desperate for information, Linna sees only one option: hypnotism. He enlists Dr. Erik Maria Bark to mesmerize the boy, hoping to discover the killer through his eyes. It's the sort of work that Bark has sworn he would never do again—ethically dubious and psychically scarring. When he breaks his promise and hypnotizes the victim, a long and terrifying chain of events begins to unfurl.

The Invention of Wings

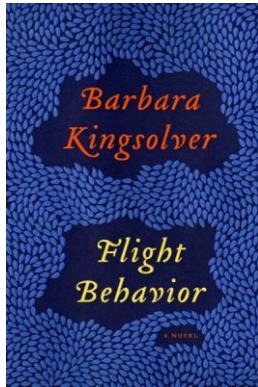
By Sue Monk Kidd



Hetty "Handful" Grimke, an urban slave in early nineteenth century Charleston, yearns for life beyond the suffocating walls that enclose her within the Grimke household. The Grimke's daughter, Sarah, has known from an early age she is meant to do something large in the world, but she is hemmed in by the limits imposed on women. On Sarah's eleventh birthday, she is given ownership of ten year old Handful. Over next thirty five years, both strive for a life of their own, dramatically shaping each other's destinies and forming a complex relationship marked by guilt, defiance, estrangement and the uneasy ways of love.

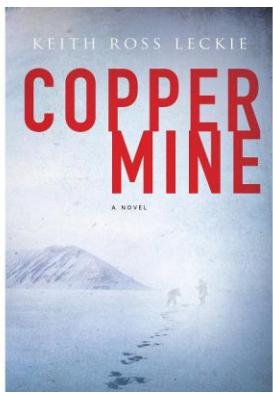
Flight Behaviour

By Barbara Kingsolver



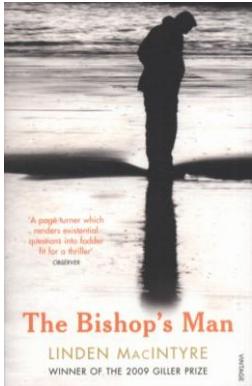
A suspenseful new novel exploring the complexities that lead us to believe in our chosen truths. Set in the present day in the rural community of Feathertown, Tennessee, this novel tells the story of Dellarobia Turnbow, a petite, razor-sharp 29-year-old who nurtured worldly ambitions before becoming pregnant and marrying at 17. Dellarobia is headed for a secluded mountain cabin to meet this man and initiate what she expects will be a self-destructive affair.

Coppermine
By Keith Leckie



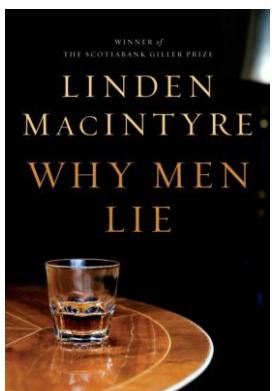
The story begins when two missionaries disappear in the remote Arctic region known as the Coppermine. North West Mounted Police officer Jack Creed and Angituk, a young Copper Inuit interpreter, are sent on a year-long odyssey to investigate the fate of the lost priests. On the shores of the Arctic Ocean near the mouth of the Coppermine River, they discover their dismembered remains. Two Inuit hunters are tracked and apprehended, and the four begin an arduous journey to Edmonton, to bring the accused to justice. The hunters become celebrities. As secrets of Jack Creed's past in the trenches of Europe are revealed, Jack tries to save his two friends, and himself.

Bishop's Man
By Linden MacIntyre



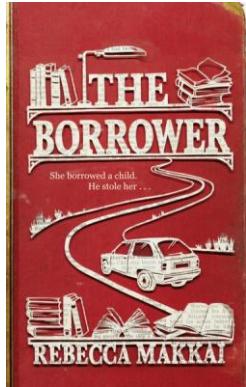
Duncan has a talent for coolly reassigning deviant priests while ensuring minimal fuss from victims and their families. All this changes when lawyers and a policeman snoop too close for the bishop's comfort. Duncan is assigned a parish in the remote Cape Breton community of Creignish and told to wait it out. This is not the first time Duncan has been sent away for knowing too much. It was on one of these occasions that Duncan first tasted forbidden love, with the beautiful Jacinta, but now, drink becomes his only solace. Duncan takes an interest in troubled young Danny. When tragedy strikes, he knows that he must act. But will his actions be those of a good priest, or an all too flawed man?

Why Men Lie
By Linden MacIntyre



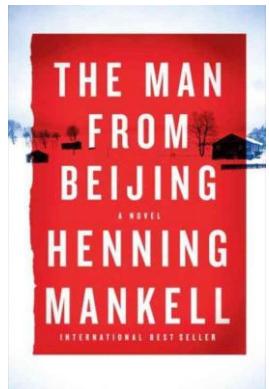
Effie MacAskill Gillis, a self-sufficient woman of her time, is confident she knows why men lie. She learned the hard way: from a war-damaged father and a troubled brother who became a priest, through failed marriages and doomed relationships with weak and needy men. Men lie to satisfy the needs they never can articulate: for sex, for love, and for reassurance. Now in middle age, Effie feels immune to the damage men can do and she enjoys her hard-won independence. But then a chance encounter with a man on a subway platform changes everything—an old friend looks like he, like her, has evolved into an assured and confident maturity. That he seems to have outgrown the need for telling lies is irresistible, and Effie gambles her emotional resources as she never has before.

The Borrower
By Rebecca Makkai



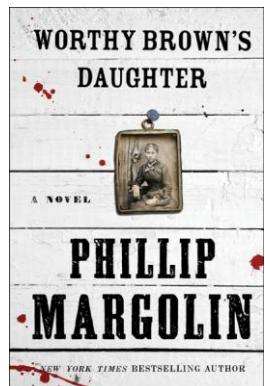
Lucy Hull, a young children's librarian in Hannibal, Missouri, finds herself both a kidnapper and kidnapped when her favorite patron, ten-year-old Ian Drake, runs away from home. The precocious Ian is addicted to reading, but needs Lucy's help to smuggle books past his overbearing mother, who has enrolled Ian in weekly anti-gay classes with celebrity Pastor Bob. Lucy stumbles into a moral dilemma when she finds Ian camped out in the library after hours with a knapsack of provisions and an escape plan. Desperate to save him from Pastor Bob and the Drakes, the odd pair embarks on a crazy road trip from Missouri to Vermont, with ferrets, an inconvenient boyfriend, and upsetting family history thrown in their path.

Man from Beijing
By Henning Mankell

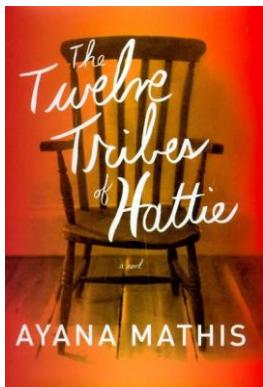


In the Swedish hamlet of Hesjövallen, nineteen people have been massacred. The only clue to why is a red ribbon found at the scene. Judge Birgitta Roslin has particular reason to be shocked: her grandparents, the Andréns, are among the victims. Birgitta soon learns that an Andrén family in Nevada has also been murdered. When she comes across the nineteenth-century diary of an Andrén ancestor she learns about the brutal treatment of Chinese workers who worked on the American transcontinental railway. While the police insist that only a lunatic could have committed the Hesjövallen murders, Birgitta is determined to uncover what she now suspects is a more complicated truth.

Worthy Brown's Daughter
By Phillip Margolin



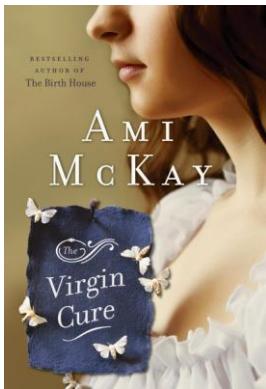
One of a handful of lawyers in the new state of Oregon, recently widowed Matthew Penny agrees to help Worthy Brown, a newly freed slave, rescue his fifteen year old daughter, Roxanne, from their former master, a powerful Portland lawyer. Worthy's lawsuit sets in motion events that lead to Worthy's arrest for murder and create an agonizing moral dilemma that could send either Worthy or Matthew to the hangman.



The Twelve Tribes of Hattie

By Ayana Mathis

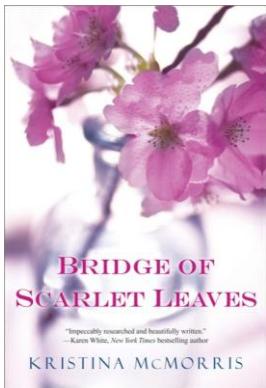
How do you prepare your children for a world you know is cruel? From the revivalist tents of Alabama to Vietnam, to the black middle-class enclave in the heart of the city, to a filthy bar in the ghetto, this is a novel about the guilt, sacrifice, responsibility and heartbreak that are an intrinsic part of ferocious love.



The Virgin Cure

By Ami McKay

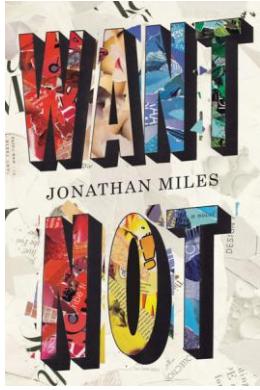
At twelve years old, a girl called Moth enters the wild, murky world of the Bowery, filled with house-thieves, pickpockets, beggars, sideshow freaks and prostitutes. In that world Moth meets Miss Everett, the owner of a brothel simply known as an "infant school." Miss Everett caters to high-class gentlemen who pay dearly for companions who are "willing and clean," and the most desirable of them all are young virgins like Moth. In a time and place where mysterious illnesses ravage those who haven't been cautious, diseased men yearn for a "virgin cure" - thinking that deflowering a "fresh maid" can heal the incurable and tainted. Through the friendship of Dr. Sadie, a female physician who works to help young women like her, Moth learns to ask questions that no girl from Chrystie Street should ever dare to ask...



Bridge of Scarlet Leaves

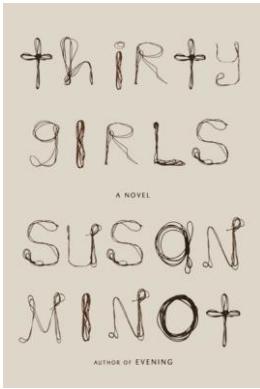
By Kristina McMorris

Maddie Kern elopes with her brother's best friend, Lane, a Japanese American, the day before the Pearl Harbor bombing, and now her family considers Lane not just an outsider, but an enemy. Maddie sacrifices her Juilliard education to follow Lane to a war relocation camp, and as she strives for the acceptance of her new family, Lane risks everything to prove his allegiance to America.



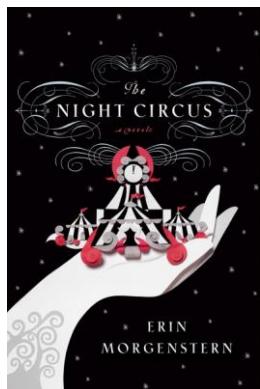
Want Not
By Jonathan Miles

A highly inventive and corrosively funny story of our times, *Want Not* exposes three different worlds in various states of disrepair—a young freegan couple living off the grid in New York City; a once-prominent linguist, sacked at midlife by the dissolution of his marriage and his father's losing battle with Alzheimer's; and a self-made debt-collecting magnate, whose brute talent for squeezing money out of unlikely places has yielded him a royal existence, trophy wife included.



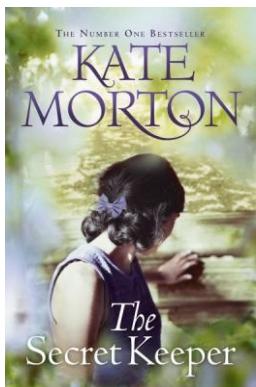
Thirty Girls
By Susan Minot

Esther is a Ugandan teenager abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army and forced to witness and commit unspeakable atrocities, who is struggling to survive, to escape, and to find a way to live with what she has seen and done. Jane is an American journalist who has traveled to Africa, hoping to give a voice to children like Esther and to find her center after a series of failed relationships. In unflinching prose, Minot interweaves their stories, giving us razor-sharp portraits of two extraordinary young women confronting displacement, heartbreak, and the struggle to wrest meaning from events that test them both in unimaginable ways.



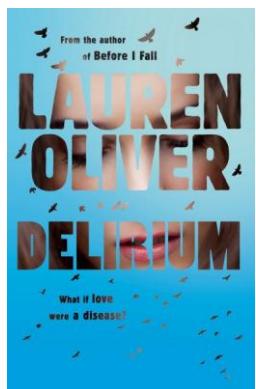
The Night Circus
By Erin Morgenstern

The circus arrives without warning. No announcements precede it. It is simply there, when yesterday it was not. Within the black-and-white striped canvas tents is an utterly unique experience full of breathtaking amazements. It is called "Le Cirque des Rêves", and it is only open at night. But behind the scenes, a fierce competition is underway—a duel between two young magicians, Celia and Marco, who have been trained since childhood expressly for this purpose by their mercurial instructors. Unbeknownst to them, this is a game in which only one can be left standing, and the circus is but the stage for a remarkable battle of imagination and will. Despite themselves, Celia and Marco tumble headfirst into love, a deep, magical love that makes the lights flicker and the room grow warm whenever they so much as brush hands.



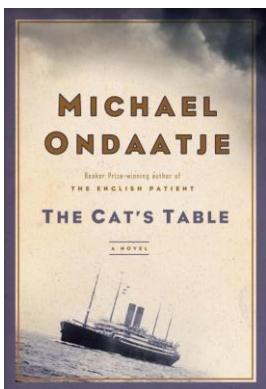
The Secret Keeper
By Kate Morton

Withdrawing from a family party to the solitude of her tree house, sixteen-year-old Laurel Nicolson witnesses a shocking murder that throughout a subsequent half century shapes her beliefs, her acting career, and the lives of three strangers from vastly different cultures.



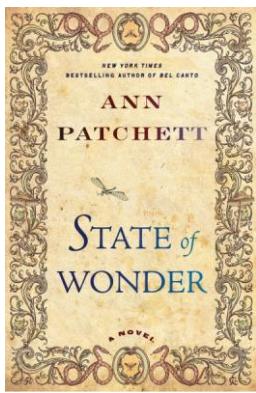
Delirium
By Lauren Oliver

Before scientists found the cure, people thought love was a good thing. They didn't understand that once love -- the delerium -- blooms in your blood, there is no escaping its hold. Things are different now. Scientists are able to eradicate love, and the government demands that all citizens receive the cure upon turning eighteen. Lena Holoway has always looked forward to the day when she'll be cured. A life without love is a life without pain: safe, measured, predictable, and happy. But with ninety-five days left until her treatment, Lena does the unthinkable. She falls in love.



The Cat's Table
By Michael Ondaatje

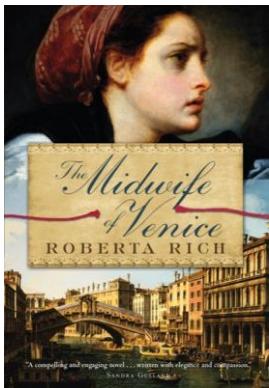
In the early 1950s, an eleven-year-old boy in Colombo boards a ship bound for England. At mealtimes he is seated at the "cat's table"—as far from the Captain's Table as can be—with a ragtag group of "insignificant" adults and two other boys, Cassius and Ramadhin. As the ship crosses the Indian Ocean, the boys tumble from one adventure to another. But there are other diversions as well: they are first exposed to the magical worlds of jazz, women, and literature by their eccentric fellow travelers, and together they spy on a shackled prisoner, his crime and fate a galvanizing mystery that will haunt them forever.



State of Wonder

By Ann Patchett

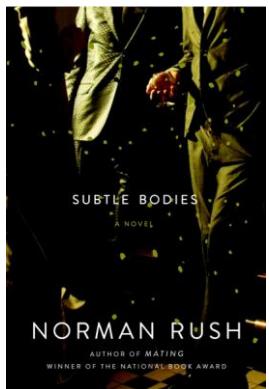
As Dr. Marina Singh embarks upon an uncertain odyssey into the insect-infested Amazon, she will be forced to surrender herself to the lush but forbidding world that awaits within the jungle. Charged with finding her former mentor Dr. Annick Swenson, a researcher who has disappeared while working on a valuable new drug, she will have to confront her own memories of tragedy and sacrifice as she journeys into the unforgiving heart of darkness. Stirring and luminous, *State of Wonder* is a world unto itself, where unlikely beauty stands beside unimaginable loss beneath the rain forest's jeweled canopy.



Midwife of Venice, the

By Roberta Rich

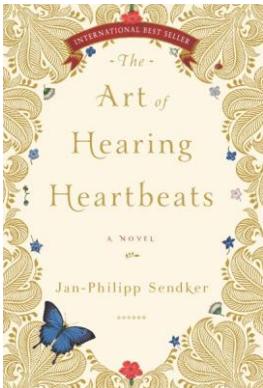
A Christian count appears at Hannah door in the Jewish ghetto and begs her to attend to his wife who is in the midst of labour. Hannah is forced to make a dangerous decision: not only is it illegal for Jews to give medical treatment to Christians, it's also punishable by torture and death. If the mother or child die, the entire ghetto population will be in peril. But Hannah can't say no to the woman, nor to the fee she'd receive (one which would enable her to free her husband, Isaac, from slavery). Meanwhile Isaac has been traded to the brutish lout Joseph, who has a reputation for working his slaves to death. Isaac soon learns that Joseph is heartsick over a local beauty, and Isaac makes himself indispensable by using his gifts of literacy and poetic imagination to pen love letters for his captor and a paying, illiterate public.



Subtle Bodies

By Norman Rush

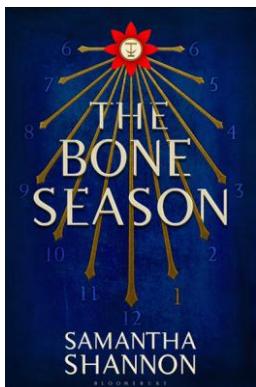
After the sudden death of Douglas, once the ringleader of a clique of self-styled wits, his four best friends are summoned to his Catskills estate to mourn his passing. Responding to a mysterious sense of emergency in the call, Ned flies in from San Francisco with his wife Nina in furious pursuit; they're at a critical point in their attempts to conceive and she won't let a funeral get in the way. It is Nina who gives us a pointed, irreverent commentary as the men reconvene, while Ned tries to understand what it was that made this clutch of souls his friends to begin with—before time, sex, work, and the brutal quirks of history reshaped them.



The Art of Hearing Heartbeats

By Jan-Philipp Sendker

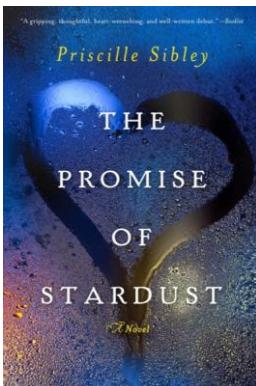
A poignant and inspirational love story set in Burma beginning in the 1950's. When a successful New York lawyer suddenly disappears without a trace, neither his wife nor his daughter Julia has any idea where he might be...until they find a love letter he wrote many years ago to a Burmese woman they have never heard of. Intent on solving the mystery and coming to terms with her father's past, Julia decides to travel to the village where the woman lived. There she uncovers a tale of unimaginable hardship, resilience, and passion that will reaffirm the reader's belief in the power of love to move mountains.



The Bone Season

By Samantha Shannon

Enter the world of Paige Mahoney, a gifted clairvoyant, a "dreamwalker," in the year 2059. Her natural talents are considered treasonous under the current regime. Snatched away to a secret prison, she encounters another race, the Rephaim, creatures who wish to control the powers of Paige and those like her. One in particular will be assigned as her keeper, her trainer. But his motives are mysterious. To regain her freedom, Paige must learn to trust, in the prison where she is meant to die.



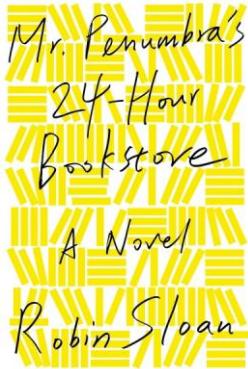
Promise of Stardust

By Priscille Sibley

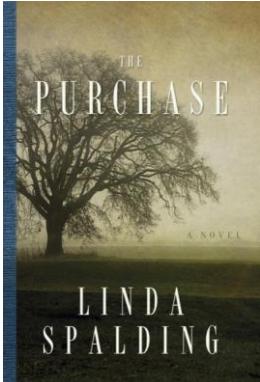
Matt Beaulieu has loved Elle McClure since he was two years old. Now married and expecting their first child, Elle suffers a fatal accident. To keep the baby alive, Matt goes against his wife's wishes and keeps his wife on life support. But Matt's mother thinks that Elle should be euthanized, and she's ready to fight for what she believes is the right thing.

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 serendipity, sheer curiosity and the ability to climb a ladder like a monkey have landed him a new gig working the night shift at Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore. But after just a few days on the job, Clay begins to realize that this store is even more curious than the name suggests. There are only a few customers, but they come in repeatedly and never seem to actually buy anything. The store must be a front for something larger, Clay concludes, and soon he has embarked on a complex analysis of the customers' behaviour and roped his friends into helping him figure out just what's going on. But once they bring their findings to Mr. Penumbra, they discover the secrets extend far beyond the walls of the bookstore.



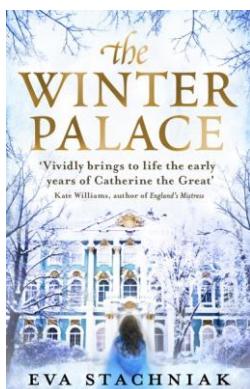
The Purchase

By Linda Spalding

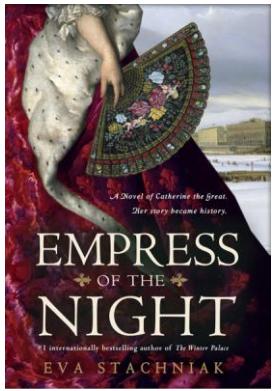
In 1798, Daniel Dickinson, a young Quaker father and widower, leaves his home in Pennsylvania to establish a new life. When Daniel suddenly trades a horse for a young slave, Onesimus, it begins a struggle in his conscience that will taint his life forever and sets in motion a chain of events that leads to two murders and the family's strange relationship with a runaway slave named Bett. Linda Spalding is Michael Ondaatje's partner.

The Winter Palace

By Eva Stachniak



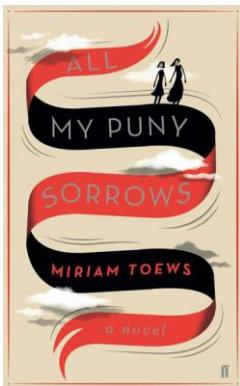
Her name is Barbara—in Russian, Varvara. Nimble-witted and attentive, she's allowed into the employ of the Empress Elizabeth, amid the glitter and cruelty of the world's most eminent court. Under the tutelage of Count Bestuzhev, Chancellor and spymaster, Varvara will be learning above all else to listen and to wait for opportunity. That opportunity arrives in a slender young princess from Zerbst named Sophie, a playful teenager destined to become the indomitable Catherine the Great. Sophie's destiny at court is to marry the Empress's nephew, but she has other, loftier, more dangerous ambitions, and she proves to be more guileful than she first appears. What Sophie needs is an insider at court, a loyal pair of eyes and ears who knows the traps, the conspiracies, and the treacheries that surround her. Varvara will become Sophie's confidante—and together the two young women will rise to the pinnacle of absolute power.



Empress of the Night

By Eva Stachniak

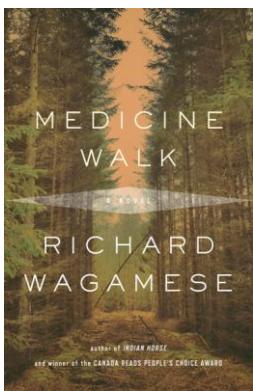
The charismatic monarch is in her final hours. From the fevered depths of her mind, Catherine recalls the fateful trajectory of her turbulent life: her precarious apprenticeship as Russia's Grand Duchess, the usurpers who seek to deprive her of a crown, the friends who beg more of her than she was willing to give, and her struggle to know whom to trust and whom to deceive to ensure her survival. "We quarrel about power, not about love," Catherine would write to the great love of her life, Grigory Potemkin, but her days were balanced on the razor's edge of choosing her head over her heart.



All My Puny Sorrows

By Miriam Toews

Elf and Yoli are sisters. While on the surface Elfrieda's life is enviable (she's a world-renowned pianist, glamorous, wealthy, and happily married) and Yolandi's a mess (she's divorced and broke, with two teenagers growing up too quickly), they are fiercely close — raised in a Mennonite household and sharing the hardship of Elf's desire to end her life. After Elf's latest attempt, Yoli must quickly determine how to keep her family from falling apart, how to keep her own heart from breaking, and what it means to love someone who wants to die.



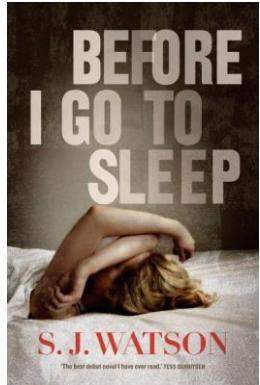
Medicine Walk

By Richard Wagamese

Franklin Starlight is called to visit his father, Eldon. He's sixteen years old and has had the most fleeting of relationships with the man. The rare moments they've shared haunt and trouble Frank, but he answers the call, a son's duty to a father. He finds Eldon decimated after years of drinking, dying of liver failure in a small town flophouse. Eldon asks his son to take him into the mountains, so he may be buried in the traditional Ojibway manner. What ensues is a journey through the rugged and beautiful backcountry, and a journey into the past, as the two men push forward to Eldon's end.

Before I Go to Sleep

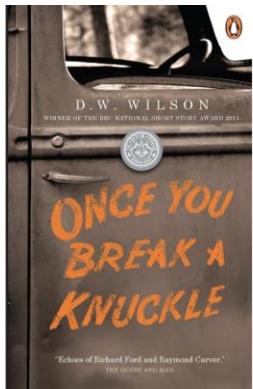
By S.J. Watson



Christine wakes up every morning with an unfamiliar man and every morning, that man has to explain that he is Ben, her husband, and he explains that a terrible accident two decades earlier decimated her ability to form new memories. A phone call from Dr. Nash, a neurologist who claims to be working with Christine without her husband's knowledge, sends Christine her to her journal, hidden in the back of her closet. It turns out that Christine has been recording her daily activities and rereading past entries, learning and relearning the facts of her life as retold by the husband upon whom she has become completely dependent. As the entries accumulate, so do the inconsistencies in Ben's story: what was life like before the accident? Do they have a child? And what exactly was the horrific accident that caused such a profound loss of memory?

Once You Break a Knuckle

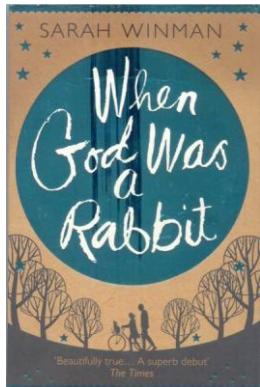
By D.W. Wilson



Set in the remote Kootenay Valley in western Canada, this book is full of short stories about good people doing bad things. Two bullied adolescents sabotage a rope swing, resulting in another boy's death. A heartbroken young man refuses to warn his best friend about an approaching car. Sons challenge fathers and break taboos. Crackling with tension and propelled by jagged, cutting dialogue, the stories interconnect and reveal to us how our best intentions are doomed to fail or injure, how our loves can fall short or mislead us, how even friendship – especially friendship – can be something dangerously temporary.

When God was a rabbit

By Sarah Winman



In a remarkably honest and confident voice, Sarah Winman has written the story of a memorable young heroine, Elly, and her loss of innocence. From Essex and Cornwall to the streets of New York, from 1968 to the events of 9/11, When God Was a Rabbit follows the evolving bond of love and secrets between Elly and her brother Joe, and her increasing concern for an unusual best friend, Jenny Penny, who has secrets of her own. With its wit and humor, engaging characters whose eccentricities are adroitly and sometimes darkly drawn, and its themes of memory and identity, this novel is a love letter to true friendship and fraternal love.

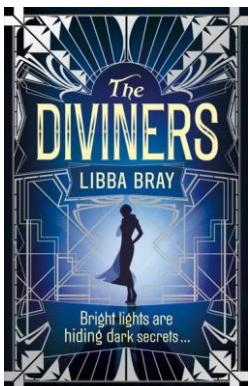
An Available Man

By Hilma Wolitzer



When Edward Schuyler is widowed, he finds himself ambushed by female attention. There are plenty of unattached women around, but a healthy, handsome, available man is a rare and desirable creature. Edward receives phone calls from widows seeking love, or at least lunch, while well-meaning friends try to set him up at dinner parties. The problem is that Edward doesn't feel available. But then his stepchildren surprise him by placing a personal ad in *The New York Review of Books* on his behalf. Soon the letters flood in, and Edward is torn between his loyalty to his late wife's memory and his growing longing for connection. Gradually, reluctantly, he begins dating and his encounters are variously startling, comical, and sad. Just when Edward thinks he has the game figured out, a chance meeting proves that love always arrives when it's least expected.

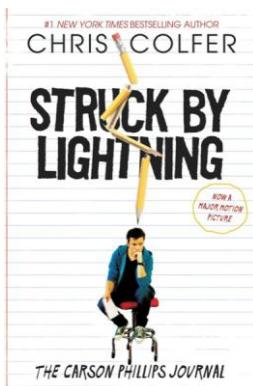
Young Adult Novels



The Diviners

By Libba Bray

Seventeen-year-old Evie O'Neill is thrilled when she is exiled from small-town Ohio to New York City in 1926. She's still excited when a rash of occult-based murders thrusts her and her uncle, curator of The Museum of American Folklore, Superstition, and the Occult, into the thick of the investigation.



Struck by Lighting

By Chris Colfer

Carson Phillips is at the bottom of the food chain. He's going to high school filled with people he hates and he's stuck, at least for now, living with his depressed single mother in a small-minded town at the corner of nothing and nowhere. Carson has just one goal: escape to university and build himself a career as a hard-hitting journalist. To get there, his guidance counselor suggests he bolster his application by creating a literary magazine. And that means Carson needs submissions. He resorts to the only sure-fire method he can think of to get his fellow students to write for him: blackmail.



Dead to You

By Lisa McMann

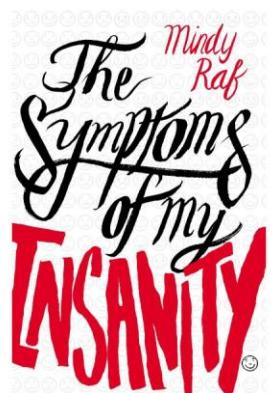
Having been abducted at age seven, then abandoned, and then a foster child, and then homeless, Ethan, now sixteen, is happy to be home. That is, until his brother's suspicion and his own inability to remember something unspeakable from his early childhood begin to tear the family apart.



Ashfall

By Mike Mullin

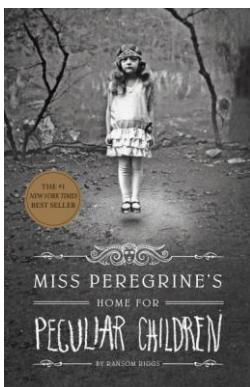
After the eruption of the Yellowstone super-volcano destroys his city and its surroundings, fifteen-year-old Alex must journey from Cedar Falls, Iowa, to Illinois to find his parents and sister, trying to survive in a transformed landscape and a new society in which all the old rules of living have vanished.



The Symptoms of My Insanity

By Mindy Raf

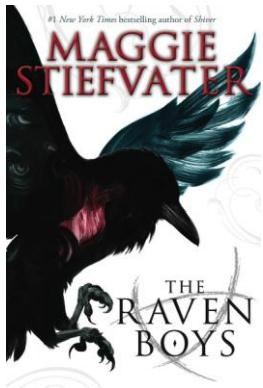
Izzy is a hypochondriac with enormous boobs that won't stop growing, a mother with a rare disease who's hiding something, a best friend who appears to have undergone a personality transplant, and a date with an out-of-her-league athlete who just spilled Gatorade all over her. Yes, Izzy Skymen has a hectic life. But what Izzy doesn't realize is that these are only minor symptoms of life's insanity. When she discovers that the people she trusts most are withholding from her the biggest secrets, things are about to get epic -- or is it epidemic?



Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children

By Ransom Riggs

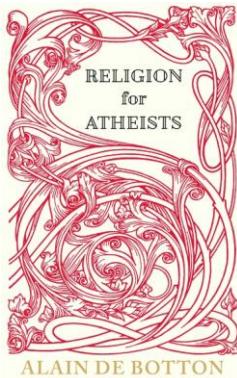
As our story opens, a horrific family tragedy sets sixteen-year-old Jacob journeying to a remote island off the coast of Wales, where he discovers the crumbling ruins of Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children. As Jacob explores its abandoned bedrooms and hallways, it becomes clear that the children were more than just peculiar. They may have been dangerous. They may have been quarantined on a deserted island for good reason. And somehow—impossible though it seems—they may still be alive.



The Raven Boys
By Maggie Stiefvater

Blue Sargent, the daughter of the town psychic in Henrietta, Virginia, has been told for as long as she can remember that if she ever kisses her true love, he will die. But she is too practical to believe in things like true love. Her policy is to stay away from the rich boys at the prestigious Aglionby Academy. The boys there, known as Raven Boys, can only mean trouble.

Non-Fiction



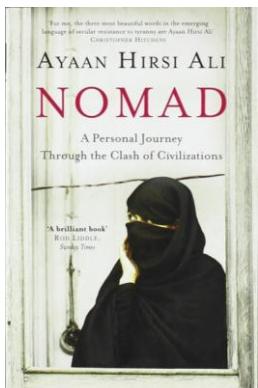
Religion for Atheists

By Alain de Botton

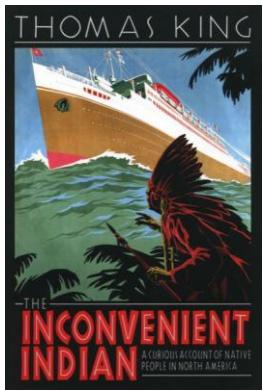
Religion for Atheists suggests that rather than mocking religions, agnostics and atheists should instead learn from them. Why? Because they're packed with good ideas about how we might live and arrange our societies. Blending deep respect with total impiety, Alain (a non-believer himself) proposes that we should look to religions for insights into ways we can build community, make our relationships last, overcome envy and inadequacy, travel, get more out of art, and find new ways to address our emotional needs. For too long non-believers have faced a stark choice between either swallowing lots of peculiar doctrines or doing away with a range of consoling and beautiful rituals and ideas; de Botton has fashioned a far more interesting and truly helpful alternative.

Nomad: from Islam to America

By Ayaan Hirsi Ali



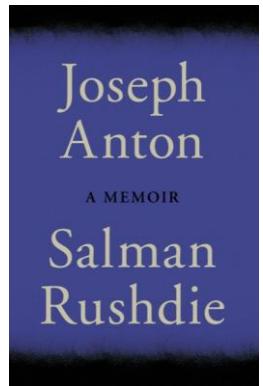
Ayaan Hirsi Ali captured the world's attention with Infidel, her compelling coming-of-age memoir, which spent thirty-one weeks on the New York Times bestseller list. Now, in Nomad, Hirsi Ali tells of coming to America to build a new life, an ocean away from the death threats made to her by European Islamists, the strife she witnessed, and the inner conflict she suffered. She recounts the many turns her life took after she broke with her family, and how she struggled to throw off restrictive superstitions and misconceptions that initially hobbled her ability to assimilate into Western society. She writes movingly of her reconciliation, on his deathbed, with her devout father, who had disowned her when she renounced Islam after 9/11, as well as with her mother and cousins in Somalia and in Europe.



The Inconvenient Indian

By Thomas King

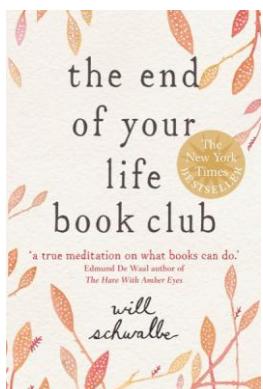
Thomas King offers a deeply knowing, darkly funny, unabashedly opinionated, and utterly unconventional account of Indian-White relations in North America since initial contact. Ranging freely across the centuries and the Canada-U.S. border, King debunks fabricated stories of Indian savagery and White heroism, takes an oblique look at Indians (and cowboys) in film and popular culture, wrestles with the history of Native American resistance and his own experiences as a Native rights activist, and articulates a profound, revolutionary understanding of the cumulative effects of ever-shifting laws and treaties on Native peoples and lands.



Joseph Anton

By Salman Rushdie

On February 14, 1989, Salman Rushdie was telephoned by a BBC journalist and told that he had been "sentenced to death" by the Ayatollah Khomeini. For the first time he heard the word fatwa. His crime? To have written a novel called *The Satanic Verses*. So begins the extraordinary story of how a writer was forced underground, moving from house to house, with the constant presence of an armed police protection team. Asked by the police for an alias, he thought of writers he loved: Conrad and Chekhov—Joseph Anton. How do a writer and his family live with the threat of murder for more than nine years? How does he go on working? How does he fall in and out of love? How does despair shape his thoughts and actions, how and why does he stumble, how does he learn to fight back?



The End of Your Life Book Club

By Will Schwalbe

Mary Anne Schwalbe is waiting for her chemotherapy treatments when Will casually asks her what she's reading. The conversation they have grows into tradition: soon they are reading the same books so they can have something to talk about in the hospital waiting room. Their choices range from classic (*Howard's End*) to popular (*The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*), from fantastic (*The Hobbit*) to spiritual (*Jon Kabat-Zinn*), with many in between. We hear their passion for reading and their love for each other in their intimate and searching discussions. A profoundly moving testament to the power of love between a child and parent, and the power of reading in our lives.