

**Instant Book Club—Just Add Readers**  
**An Annotated List**  
**For reservations, please call the Fiction Desk at 205-444-7820**

***The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out a Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson**

On his 100th birthday, reluctant centenarian Allan Karlsson climbs out the window of his nursing home and embarks on a hilarious and entirely unexpected journey. **DVD included.** (pbk 430 pages, 11 books in kit & 1 DVD, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton**

This 1921 Pulitzer Prize-winning novel chronicles Newland Archer's confused emotions as he prepares to marry docile May Welland, while harboring a secret passion for the mysterious Countess Ellen Olenska. **DVD included.** (pbk 248 pages, 13 books in kit, blue box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn**

Two women—a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947—are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption. (pbk 503 pages, 10 regular print, red box) [Read a sample](#)

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

Mrs. Sookie Poole of Point Clear, Alabama, has just married off the last of her daughters and is looking forward to relaxing and perhaps traveling with her husband, Earle. The only thing left to contend with is her mother, the formidable Lenore Simmons Krackenberry. Then Sookie discovers a secret about her mother's past that knocks her for a loop and suddenly calls into question everything she ever thought she knew about herself, her family, and her future. (hbk & pbk 347 pages, 12 regular print, 1 LP, blue box) [Read a sample](#)

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

Set during World War II Europe, this novel is sobering without being sentimental. The tension builds as the alternating, parallel stories of Werner and Marie-Laure unfold, and their paths cross. I highly recommend this beautiful and compelling story. (hbk 531 pages, 10 regular print & 1 LP, blue kit) [Read a sample](#)

***And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini**

Hosseini, the #1 "New York Times"-bestselling author of "The Kite Runner" and "A Thousand Splendid Suns," has written a new novel about how people love, how they take care of one another, and how choices resonate through generations. From Kabul to Paris to San Francisco to the Greek island of Tinos--the story expands gradually outward, becoming more emotionally complex and powerful with each turning page. (hbk 404 pages, 10 books in kit, blue box) [Read a sample](#)

***Arrowood* by Laura McHugh**

Arden Arrowood returns to the family home, a stately Second Empire mansion, after the death of her father. She is hoping to find some peace and possibly an answer to the decades old mystery of her twin sisters' kidnapping. Arden, at age 8, was the only witness to their disappearance, but memory is a tricky thing. The spooky old house, the setting on the Iowa side of the Mississippi River Bluffs, the small town atmosphere, a creepy caretaker, and many family secrets make this novel Un-put-down-able! (pbk 288 pages, 11 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

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

A story inspired by the marriage between Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh traces the romance between a handsome young aviator and a shy ambassador's daughter whose relationship is marked by wild international acclaim. (pbk 433 pages, 11 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate**

Memphis, 1939. Twelve-year-old Rill Foss and her four younger siblings live a magical life aboard their family's Mississippi River shantyboat. But when their father must rush their mother to the hospital one stormy night, Rill is left in charge—until strangers arrive in force. Wrenched from all that is familiar and thrown into a Tennessee Children's Home Society orphanage, the Foss children are assured that they will soon be returned to their parents—but they quickly realize the dark truth. At the mercy of the facility's cruel director, Rill fights to keep her sisters and brother together in a world of danger and uncertainty. (hbk 342 pages, 10 regular print) [Read a sample](#)

***Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett**

When terrorists seize hostages at an embassy party, an unlikely assortment of people is thrown together, including American opera star Roxane Coss, and Mr. Hosokawa, a Japanese CEO and her biggest fan. (pbk 318 pages, 14 regular print & 1 LP, red box) [Read a sample](#)

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***The Bookman's Tale* by Charlie Lovett**

Antiquarian book enthusiast Peter Byerly discovers an eighteenth-century study of Shakespeare forgeries that contains a Victorian portrait strongly resembling his late wife, a finding that sparks an obsessive search through the bard's historical period. (pbk 352 pages, 13 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Britt-Marie Was Here* by Fredrik Bachman**

Britt-Marie is a woman who is used to her life being organized. But when she leaves her cheating spouse and takes a temporary job as caretaker of the recreation center in the tiny town of Borg, her life changes in unpredictable ways. With its wonderful cast of oddball characters and sly sense of humor, this novel is sure to capture readers' hearts. (pbk 336 pages, 10 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Clay's Quilt* by Silas House**

On a bone-chilling New Year's Day, when all the mountain roads are slick with ice, Clay's mother, Annet, insists on leaving her husband. She packs her things, and with three-year-old Clay in tow, they inch their way toward her hometown along the treacherous mountain roads. That journey ends in the death of Clay's mother. It's a day that comes to haunt her only son, who's left without a family and a history. This is the story of how Clay Sizemore, a coal miner in love with his town but unsure of his place within it, finds a family to call his own. (305 pages, 4 hardbacks, 5 paperbacks in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Commonwealth* by Ann Patchett**

The Cousins and the Keatings are two California families forever intertwined and permanently shattered by infidelity. Bert Cousins leaves his wife for Beverly Keating, leaving her to raise four children on her own. Beverly, with two children of her own, leaves her husband for Bert. The six children involved are forced to forge a childhood bond based on the combined disappointment in their parents. As adults, they find their families' stories revealed in a way they couldn't possibly expect. (pbk 464 pages, 10 regular print & 1 LP, red box) [Read a sample](#)

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

Marion and Shiva Stone are twins born of a nun mother and surgeon father. Abandoned by both at birth, they grow up in a mission hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Throughout their life, love, betrayal, and medical miracles intersect their lives. (pbk 688 pages, 10 books & 1 CD in kit & 1 LP, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Dear John* by Nicholas Sparks**

John, a high school dropout, enlists in the Army not knowing what else to do with his life. While in the Army he meets Savannah, they fall in love and she awaits his return from the Army. After 9/11 John feels it's his duty to re-enlist. During their long separation Savannah falls in love and marries someone else. **MOVIE included.** (pbk 276 pages, 10 books in kit & DVD, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Dollbaby* by Laura Lane McNeal**

In this coming-of-age story set in the Civil Rights era, Abby is dropped off at the home of her eccentric grandmother in New Orleans after the death of her beloved father. Filled with colorful characters, family secrets and lots of New Orleans tidbits. (pbk 352 pages, 13 books in kit, red box). [Read a sample](#)

***The Editor* by Steven Rowley (NEW)**

After years of trying to make it as a writer in 1990s New York City, James Smale finally sells his novel to an editor at a major publishing house: none other than Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. Jackie has fallen in love with James's candidly autobiographical novel, one that exposes his own dysfunctional family. She pushes him to write an authentic ending, encouraging him to head home to confront the truth about his relationship with his mother. (hbk 320 pages, 10 regular print, 1 large print, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Elephant Keeper* by Christopher Nicholson**

A sensitive boy suddenly becomes groom to Timothy and Jenny, the first pair of young elephants brought into England in the 1700s. This informative, engaging and moving book has clear insight into the impact of poverty, alienation and isolation that is as relevant today as it was then. (pbk 298 pages, 15 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles**

In 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, and is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery. (pbk 480 pages, 10 regular print, 1 large print) [Read a sample](#)

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

Returning home to Maycomb to visit her father, Jean Louise Finch “Scout” struggles with issues both personal and political, involving Atticus, society, and the small Alabama town that shaped her. Exploring how the characters from *To Kill a Mockingbird* are adjusting to the turbulent events transforming mid-1950s America, *Go Set a Watchman* casts a fascinating new light on Harper Lee’s enduring classic. Moving, funny and compelling, it stands as a magnificent novel in its own right. (hbk 288 pages, 14 books in kit, blue box)

[Read a sample](#)

***Home to Harmony* by Philip Gulley**

Come home to Harmony, Indiana, a peaceful slice of small-town America, as Sam Gardner, Harmony-born and raised, begins his inaugural year as pastor to a new flock of old friends, family members, and outrageous eccentrics -- in this unforgettable place where earth-shattering events rarely occur, but small life-altering ones happen daily. (pbk 219 pages, 10 books in kit, plastic box)

[Read a sample](#)

***Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi**

Ghana, eighteenth century: two half-sisters are born into different villages, each unaware of the other. One will marry an Englishman and lead a life of comfort in the palatial rooms of the Cape Coast Castle. The other will be captured in a raid on her village, imprisoned in the very same castle, and sold into slavery. *Homegoing* follows the parallel paths of these sisters and their descendants through eight generations: from the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the American Civil War to Jazz Age Harlem. (pbk 320 pages, 10 regular print & 1 LP, red box)

[Read a sample](#)

***The House Girl* by Tara Conklin**

1852. Josephine Bell decides to run from the failing tobacco farm where she is a slave and nurse to her ailing mistress, the aspiring artist Lu Anne Bell. New York City, 2004. Are the iconic paintings long ascribed to Lu Anne Bell really the work of her house slave, Josephine? (pbk 372 pages, 11 books in kit, red box)

[Read a sample](#)

***The House We Grew Up In* by Lisa Jewell**

When their picture-perfect Cotswold village family life is shattered by a tragic Easter weekend, four siblings pursue separate adult lives before a reunion at their childhood home reveals astonishing truths. (pbk 416 pages, 15 books in kit, red box)

[Read a sample](#)

***How to Stop Time* by Matt Haig**

*How to Stop Time* tells a love story across the ages—and for the ages—about a man lost in time, the woman who could save him, and the lifetimes it can take to learn how to live. It is a bighearted, wildly original novel about losing and finding yourself, the inevitability of change, and how with enough time to learn, we just might find happiness. (hbk 336 pages, 10 regular print, 1 large print, red box)

[Read a sample](#)

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

Imagine that your husband wrote you a letter, to be opened after his death. Imagine, too, that the letter contains his deepest, darkest secret—something with the potential to destroy not just the life you built together, but the lives of others as well. Imagine, then, that you stumble across that letter while your husband is still very much alive. . . . (hbk 394 pages, 15 books in kit, blue box)

[Read a sample](#)

***If the Creek Don’t Rise* by Leah Weiss**

It is 1970 and pregnant seventeen-year-old Sadie Blue is trapped in a marriage with her horrific moonshiner husband Roy in an Appalachian mountain town. Their friends and neighbors live stark, gritty lives that are written with vivid and captivating detail. Hope and strength shine through in bits and pieces in this terrific debut about Sadie’s struggles. Weiss’s fresh voice captivates the reader as this tale spins from several perspectives that draw the reader into Sadie’s world. (pbk 320 pages, 10 regular print, 1 large print, red box)

[Read a sample](#)

***In the Midst of Winter* by Isabel Allende**

Isabel Allende presents with a sweeping novel about three very different people who are brought together in a mesmerizing story that journeys from present-day Brooklyn to Guatemala in the recent past to 1970s Chile and Brazil. (hbk 352 pages, 10 regular print, 1 large print, blue box)

[Read a sample](#)

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

Traces more than three decades in the lives of a wealthy Charleston debutante who longs to break free from the strictures of her household and pursue a meaningful life; and the urban slave, Handful, who is placed in her charge as a child before finding courage and a sense of self. (hbk 373 pages, 10 regular print & 1 LP, plastic box)

[Read a sample](#)

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***June* by Miranda Beverly-Whittemore**

Twenty-five-year-old Cassie Danvers is holed up in her family's crumbling mansion in rural St. Jude, Ohio, mourning the loss of the woman who raised her—her grandmother, June. But a knock on the door forces her out of isolation. Cassie has been named the sole heir to legendary matinee idol Jack Montgomery's vast fortune. How did Jack Montgomery know her name? Could he have crossed paths with her grandmother all those years ago? What other shocking secrets could June's once-stately mansion hold? (not sure what's in box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Kitchen Boy* by Robert Alexander**

Drawing from decades of work, travel, and research in Russia, Robert Alexander re-creates the tragic, perennially fascinating story of the final days of Nicholas and Alexandra as seen through the eyes of the Romanovs' young kitchen boy, Leonka. (pbk 229 pages, 10 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Lace Makers of Glenmara* by Heather Barbieri (NEW)**

Overwhelmed by heartbreak and loss, Kate flees to Ireland, her ancestral homeland, hoping to reinvent herself. In the seaside hamlet of Glenmara, the struggling twenty-six-year-old fashion designer quickly develops a bond with members of the local lace-making society and soon she and the lace makers are creating a line of exquisite lingerie. But not everyone in this charming, fading Gaelic village welcomes Kate, and a series of unexpected events threatens to unravel everything the women have worked so hard for. (pbk 270 pages, 10 regular print, 1 large print, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Land of Love and Drowning* by Yanique Tiphonie**

In the early 1900s, the Virgin Islands are transferred from Danish to American rule, and an important ship sinks into the Caribbean Sea. Orphaned by the shipwreck are two sisters and their half-brother, now faced with an uncertain identity and future. Each of them is unusually beautiful, and each is in possession of a particular magic that will either sink or save them. (pbk 416 pages, 10 books in kit) [Read a sample](#)

***The Light Between Oceans* by M. L. Stedman**

After four harrowing years on the Western Front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper. After not having a child of her own, his wife Isabel hears a baby's cries in the wind. **Movie included.** (pbk 352 pages, 12 regular print & 1 LP & 1 DVD, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Lisette's List* by Susan Vreeland**

A young Parisian woman is exiled to Provence to take care of her husband's ailing grandfather during the Vichy regime, but discovers that despite the horrors of war, the paintings of Cezanne, Pissarro, Chagall, and Picasso bring to life the landscape around her and allow her once again to experience love. (pbk 448 pages, 16 copies in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Looking for Salvation at the Dairy Queen* by Susan Gregg Gilmore**

For fans of Fannie Flagg and Sheri Reynolds, this witty and unforgettable debut novel tells of a young Southern girl caught between two worlds, and coming of age in the space between them. (pbk 298 pages, 11 books in kit, plastic box) [Read a sample](#)

***Luckiest Girl Alive* by Jessica Knoll**

This debut novel follows a young woman striving to create the perfect life--husband, home, career--until a violent incident from her past threatens to unravel everything and expose her most shocking secret of all. (pbk 368 pages, 12 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Maisie Dobbs* by Jacqueline Winspear**

Maisie Dobbs isn't just any young housemaid. Through her own natural intelligence—and the patronage of her benevolent employers—she works her way into college at Cambridge. After the War, Maisie sets up on her own as a private investigator. But her very first assignment, seemingly an ordinary infidelity case, soon reveals a much deeper, darker web of secrets, which will force Maisie to revisit the horrors of the Great War and the love she left behind. (pbk 297 pages, 15 books in kit, plastic box) [Read a sample](#)

***March* by Geraldine Brooks**

From Louisa May Alcott's beloved classic **Little Women**, Geraldine Brooks has animated the character of the absent father, March, and crafted a story filled with the ache of love and marriage and with the power of war upon the mind and heart of one unforgettable man. Brooks follows March as he leaves behind his family to aid the Union cause in the Civil War. His experiences will utterly change his marriage and challenge his most ardently held beliefs. (pbk 304 pages, 15 books in kit, plastic box) [Read a sample](#)

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***Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes**

Louisa Clark is an ordinary girl living an exceedingly ordinary life—steady boyfriend, close family—who has barely been farther afield than their tiny village. She takes a badly needed job working for ex-Master of the Universe Will Traynor, who is wheelchair bound after an accident. Will has always lived a huge life—big deals, extreme sports, worldwide travel—and now he's pretty sure he cannot live the way he is. **Movie included.** (pbk 369 pages, 16 regular print & 1 LP & 1 DVD, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Miniaturist* by Jessie Burton** A dollhouse whose figures and furnishings foretell life events, mysterious notes, family secrets and the powerful guild and church of 1686 Amsterdam. All these elements combine for an engaging story of a young bride's struggle to be the 'architect of her own fortune.' (pbk 416 pages, 10 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Mr. Rosenblum Dreams in English* by Natasha Solomans**

At the outset of World War II, Jack Rosenblum and his family escape Berlin for London. Jack embraces the welcome pamphlet instructing immigrants how to act like "the English." He acquires Saville Row suits and a Jaguar. He never speaks German, apart from the occasional curse. But one key item--membership in a golf club--remains elusive. So Jack hatches a wild idea: he'll build his own. (pbk 355 pages, 10 books in kit, plastic box) [Read a sample](#)

***Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah**

Reunited when the elder's husband is sent to fight in World War II, French sisters Vianne and Isabelle find their bond as well as their respective beliefs tested by a world that changes in horrific ways. (hrdbk 440 pages, 11 books in kit, blue box) [Read a sample](#)

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

Between 1854 and 1929, so-called orphan trains ran regularly from the cities of the East Coast to the farmlands of the Midwest, carrying thousands of abandoned children whose fates would be determined by pure luck. Would they be adopted by a kind and loving family, or would they face a childhood and adolescence of hard labor and servitude? This is the story of one of these children. (pbk 273 pages, 14 regular print & 1 LP, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Paris Architect* by Charles Belfoure**

A Parisian architect is paid handsomely to devise secret hiding spaces for Jews in his Nazi-occupied country but struggles with risking his life for a cause he is ambivalent towards, until a personal failure brings home their suffering. (pbk 400 pages, 10 copies in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

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

Chicago, 1920: Hadley Richardson is a quiet twenty-eight-year-old who has all but given up on love and happiness—until she meets Ernest Hemingway. Following a whirlwind courtship and wedding, the pair set sail for Paris, where they become the golden couple in a lively and volatile group—the fabled “Lost Generation”—that includes Gertrude Stein, Ezra Pound, and F. Scott Fitzgerald. (pbk 352 pages, 12 books in kit, blue box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Postmistress* by Sarah Blake**

The stories of a small Cape Cod postmistress and an American radio reporter stationed in London collide on the eve of the United States entrance into World War II, a meeting that is shaped by a broken promise to deliver a letter. (hdbk 326 pages, 10 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Rabbit Cake* by Annie Hartnett (NEW)**

Elvis Babbitt has a head for the facts: she knows science proves yellow is the happiest color and she knows a healthy male giraffe weighs about 3,000 pounds. She knows she should plan to grieve her mother, who has recently drowned while sleepwalking, for exactly eighteen months. But there are things Elvis doesn't yet know—like how to keep her sister Lizzie from poisoning herself while sleep-eating. Elvis investigates the strange circumstances of her mother's death in Freedom, Alabama. Elvis is a truly original voice in this exploration of grief, family, and the endurance of humor after loss. (pbk 344 pages, 10 regular print, 1 large print, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Reckoning* by John Grisham (NEW)**

Pete Banning was Clanton, Mississippi's favorite son—a decorated World War II hero and a faithful member of the Methodist church. Then one October morning he rose early, drove into town, and committed a shocking crime. Pete's only statement about it was: "I have nothing to say." He was not afraid of death and was willing to take his motive to the grave. (hbk 435 pages, 10 regular print, 1 large print, blue box) [Read a sample](#)

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

Meet Don Tillman, a brilliant yet socially challenged professor of genetics, who's decided it's time he found a wife. And so, in the orderly, evidence-based manner with which Don approaches all things, he designs the Wife Project to find his perfect partner. (pbk 295 pages, 11 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Secret Scripture* by Sebastian Barry**

Roseanne McNulty was one of the most beautiful girls in County Sligo, Ireland. Now as a patient at Roscommon Regional Mental Hospital she decides to record her life story. As Dr. Grene researches her case he discovers a document written by a local priest that tells a very different story of Roseanne's life than what she recalls. (pbk 300 pages, 18 books in kit, plastic box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Shoemaker's Wife* by Adriana Trigiani**

A breathtaking multigenerational love story that spans two continents, two World Wars, and the quest of two star-crossed lovers to find each other again. (pbk 475 pages, 10 regular print & 1 LP, re box) [Read a sample](#)

***Silver Sparrow* by Tayari Jones**

Jones unveils a breathtaking story about a man's deception, a family's complicity, and two teenage girls caught in the middle, set in a middle-class neighborhood in Atlanta in the 1980s. (pbk 352 pages, 11 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Small, Great Things* by Jodi Picoult**

Ruth Jefferson is a labor and delivery nurse at a Connecticut hospital with more than twenty years' experience. During her shift, Ruth begins a routine checkup on a newborn, only to be told a few minutes later that she's been reassigned to another patient. The parents are white supremacists and don't want Ruth, who is African American, to touch their child. The hospital complies with their request, but the next day, the baby goes into cardiac distress while Ruth is alone in the nursery. Does she obey orders or does she intervene? (hbk 480 pages, 10 regular print & 1 LP) [Read a sample](#)

***Sold on a Monday* by Kristina McMorris **NEW****

**2 CHILDREN FOR SALE.** The sign is a last resort. It sits on a farmhouse porch in 1931, but could be found anywhere in an era of breadlines, bank runs and broken dreams. It could have been written by any mother facing impossible choices. For struggling reporter Ellis Reed, the gut-wrenching scene evokes memories of his family's dark past. He snaps a photograph of the children, not meant for publication. But when it leads to his big break, the consequences are more devastating than he ever imagined. (pbk 352 pages, 10 regular print, 1 LP, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***Stella Bain* by Anita Shreve**

Suffering from shell shock and memory loss from her time spent as a nurse's aide on a French battlefield during World War I, American Stella Bain is taken in by London surgeon August Bridge and his wife. (hbk 265 pages, 11 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

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

Meet Rebecca Winter, a photographer whose work made her an unlikely heroine for many women. Her career is now descendent, her bank balance shaky, and she has fled the city for the middle of nowhere. There she discovers, in a tree stand with a roofer named Jim Bates, that what she sees through a camera lens is not all there is to life. (hbk 252 pages, 12 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Story Hour* by Thrity Umrigar**

As a psychologist, Maggie generally stays objective, but she offers free treatment in her own home to a young Indian woman named Lakshmi who has tried to kill herself, recognizing that what Lakshmi really needs is a friend. With friendship, though, come revelations of deeply held secrets that shake both of them, creating some tough and looming choices. (hbk 336 pages, 10 books in kit, plastic box) [Read a sample](#)

***The Story of Land and Sea* by Katy Simpson Smith**

Set in a small coastal town in North Carolina during the waning years of the American Revolution, story follows three generations of family. Drawn to the ocean, ten-year-old Tabitha wanders the marshes of her small coastal village and listens to her father's stories about his pirate voyages and the mother she never knew. Since the loss of his wife Helen, John has remained land-bound for their daughter, but when Tab contracts yellow fever, he turns to the sea once more. Years before, Helen herself was raised by a widowed father. Asa, the devout owner of a small plantation, gives his daughter a young slave named Moll for her tenth birthday. Left largely on their own, Helen and Moll develop a close but uneasy companionship. (pbk 272 pages, 10 regular print & 1 LP) [Read a sample](#)

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### ***The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie* by C. Alan Bradley**

It is the summer of 1950, and at the once-grand mansion of Buckshaw, young Flavia de Luce, an aspiring chemist with a passion for poison, is intrigued by a series of inexplicable events. For Flavia, life begins in earnest when murder comes to Buckshaw. (pbk 385 pages, 10 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

### ***Sycamore: a novel* by Bryn Chancellor**

Out for a hike one scorching afternoon in Sycamore, Arizona, a newcomer to town stumbles across what appear to be human remains embedded in the wall of a dry desert ravine. Sycamore's longtime residents fear the bones may belong to Jess Winters, the teenage girl who disappeared suddenly some eighteen years earlier, an unsolved mystery that has soaked into the porous rock of the town and haunted it ever since. (pbk 336 pages, 10 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

### ***The Tilted World* by Tom Franklin and Beth Ann Fennelly**

In 1927, as rains swell the Mississippi, the river threatens to burst its banks and engulf everything in its path, including the tiny hamlet of Hobnob, where federal agents Ted Ingersoll and Ham Johnson arrive to investigate the disappearance of two fellow agents—and find a baby boy abandoned in the middle of a crime scene. Ingersoll finds a home for the infant with local woman Dixie Clay Holliver, unaware that she's the best bootlegger in the county and has many tender and consequential secrets of her own. (pbk 336 pages, 10 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

### ***To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee**

This novel is a story about innocence, knowledge, prejudice and courage. Lee tells two deftly paired stories set in a small Southern town: one focused on lawyer Atticus Finch's defense of an unjustly accused man, the other on his bright, bratty daughter's gradual discovery of her own goodness. For many young people this novel becomes their first big read, the grown-up story that all later books will be measured against. (pbk 323 pages, 11 books in kit, blue box) [Read a sample](#)

### ***Twelve Tribes of Hattie* by Anaya Mathis**

In 1923, fifteen-year-old Hattie Shepherd, swept up by the tides of the Great Migration, flees Georgia and heads north. Full of hope, she settles in Philadelphia to build a better life. Instead she marries a man who will bring her nothing but disappointment, and watches helplessly as her firstborn twins are lost to an illness that a few pennies could have prevented. Hattie gives birth to nine more children, whom she raises with grit, mettle, and not an ounce of the tenderness they crave. She vows to prepare them to meet a world that will not be kind. (pbk 320 pages, 10 books in kit, red box) [Read a sample](#)

### ***The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead**

Chronicles the daring survival story of a cotton plantation slave in Georgia, who, after suffering at the hands of both her owners and fellow slaves, races through the Underground Railroad with a relentless slave-catcher close behind. (pbk & hbk 320 pages, 10 regular print & 1 LP) [Read a sample](#)

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

Meet Harold Fry, recently retired. He lives in a small English village with his wife, Maureen, who seems irritated by almost everything he does. Little differentiates one day from the next. Then one morning a letter arrives, addressed to Harold in a shaky scrawl, from a woman he hasn't heard from in twenty years. But before Harold mails off a quick reply, a chance encounter convinces him that he absolutely must deliver his message to Queenie in person. Determined to walk six hundred miles to the hospice, Harold believes that as long as he walks, Queenie will live. (pbk 336 pages, 10 regular print & 1 LP, plastic box) [Read a sample](#)

### ***Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens **NEW****

For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life--until the unthinkable happens. (hbk 370 pages, 10 regular print and 1 large print, blue box) [Read a sample](#)

### ***White Houses* by Amy Bloom**

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