

Middlesex County Library Book Club Bags

Last updated July 21, 2025.

Titles listed as coming soon are not yet available for booking. Thank you for your understanding.

21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act by Bob Joseph Canadian Author.

Based on a viral article, *21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act* is the essential guide to understanding the legal document and its repercussion on generations of Indigenous Peoples, written by a leading cultural sensitivity trainer.

Aki-wayn-zih: A Person as Worthy as the Earth by Eli Baxter Canadian author.

Aki-wayn-zih is a story about the land and its spiritual relationship with the Anishinaabayg, from the beginning of their life on Miss-koh-tay-sih Minis (Turtle Island) to the present day. Baxter writes about Anishinaabay life before European contact, his memories of trapping, hunting, and fishing with his family, and his experience surviving the residential school system.

All We Ever Wanted by Emily Giffen

Nina enjoys a lavish lifestyle and has a son, Finch, who just got accepted to Princeton. Thomas Talone works multiple jobs and has a daughter, Lyla, who was recently accepted to a prestigious private high school on a scholarship. Then scandal strikes, and the worlds of these very different families collide.

The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion by Fannie Flagg All Copies Large Print

The one and only Fannie Flagg, is at her hilarious and superb best in this new comic mystery novel about two women who are forced to reimagine who they are. Fabulous, fun-filled, spanning decades and generations, and centered on a little-known aspect of America's twentieth-century story, is irresistible.

An American Marriage by Tayari Jones

Newlyweds Celestial and Roy are the embodiment of both the American Dream and the New South. But as they settle into the routine of their life together, they are ripped apart by circumstances neither could have imagined. Roy is arrested and sentenced to twelve years for a crime Celestial knows he didn't commit.

Anti-Racism Starter Pack

This set contains copies of *Me and White Supremacy* by Laya F. Saad, and *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo. Oluo explores the complex reality of today's racial landscape and Saad teaches readers how to dismantle the privilege within themselves so they can stop inflicting the damage on people of colour, and in turn, help white people do better too.

Apples Never Fall by Liane Moriarty

The Delaneys are fixtures in their community: Stan and Joy, are the envy of all of their friends. One night a stranger named Savannah knocks on Stan and Joy's door, bleeding after a fight with her boyfriend. Later, when Joy goes missing, and Savannah is nowhere to be found, the police question the one person who remains: Stan.

The Arrangement by Sarah Dunn

When friends reveal they've made their marriage open, Lucy balks. There's a part of her though, that worries she's become too comfortable. Why not try a marital experiment? 6 months, clear rules, no questions. After an affair, Lucy must decide what truly makes her happy, "real life," or the "experiment?"

At a Loss for Words: Conversations in an Age of Rage by Carol Off

Canadian author.

Award-winning author and broadcast journalist Carol Off (CBC Radio's *As it Happens*) digs deep into six words whose meanings have been distorted and weaponized in recent years—including democracy, freedom and truth—and asks whether we can reclaim their value.

The Bear by Andrew Krivak

In an Eden-like future, a girl and her father live close to the land in the shadow of a lone mountain. A cautionary tale of human fragility, of love and loss, *The Bear* is a stunning tribute to the beauty of nature's domain.

Beautiful Little Fools by Jillian Cantor

On a sultry August day in 1922, Jay Gatsby is shot dead in his West Egg swimming pool. To the police, it appears to be an open-and-shut case of murder/suicide when the body of George Wilson, a local mechanic, is found in the woods nearby. Then a diamond hairpin is discovered in the bushes by the pool, and three women fall under suspicion.

The Beekeeper of Aleppo by Christy Lefteri

Nuri is a beekeeper, his wife, Afra, an artist. They live a simple life in the beautiful Syrian city of Aleppo—until the unthinkable happens. When all they care for is destroyed by war, they are forced to escape.

Before I Go to Sleep by S. J. Watson

Without her husband's knowledge, Christine, whose memory is damaged by a long-ago accident, is treated by a neurologist who helps her to remember her former self through journal entries until inconsistencies begin to emerge, raising disturbing questions.

Better Living Through Birding by Christian Cooper

Cooper is a self-described Black nerd, an avid comics fan, and an expert birder who devotes every spring to gazing upon the migratory birds that stop in Central Park. When birdwatching in the park one morning in May 2020, a routine encounter with a dog-walker escalates age old racial tensions. The viral video of the incident would send shockwaves through the nation.

Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson

In this moving debut novel, two estranged siblings must set aside their differences to deal with their mother's death and her hidden past--a journey of discovery that takes them from the Caribbean to London to California and ends with her famous black cake.

The Book That Matters Most by Ann Hood

Ava's marriage has fallen apart, and her two children are pursuing their own lives. Ava joins a book club, not only for her love of reading but also out of sheer desperation for companionship. Each member is to present the book that matters most to them, leading Ava to rediscover a mysterious book from her childhood.

The Boy from the Woods by Harlan Coben

Thirty years ago, Wilde was found as a boy living feral in the woods, with no memory of his past. Now an adult, he still doesn't know where he comes from, and another child has gone missing.

The Break by Katherine Vermette

Canadian author.

When Stella, looks out her window one evening and spots someone in trouble, she calls the police to alert them to a possible crime. In a series of shifting narratives, people who are connected, both directly and indirectly, with the victim — police, family, and friends — tell their personal stories leading up to that night.

The Bucket List by Georgia Clark

25-year-old Lacey is diagnosed with the BRCA1 gene mutation: the "breast cancer" gene. Her high risk forces a decision: increased surveillance or a preventative double mastectomy. To help choose, she creates a "boob bucket list": everything she wants do with and for her boobs before a possible surgery.

By Any Other Name by Jodi Picoult

Across centuries two women, Melina Green and Emilia Bassano, one a modern playwright and the other her Elizabethan ancestor, each fight societal expectations to have their voices heard on the stage in a world that silences female playwrights.

Carrie Soto is Back by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Carrie Soto is fierce, and her determination to win at any cost has not made her popular. But by the time she retires from tennis, she is the best player the world has ever seen. But six years after her retirement, Carrie finds herself watching her record be taken from her. At 37, Carrie makes the decision to come out of retirement in an attempt to reclaim her record.

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson

In this brilliant book, Isabel Wilkerson gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings.

Catch and Kill by Ronan Farrow

In a dramatic account of violence and espionage, Pulitzer Prize winning investigative reporter Ronan Farrow exposes serial abusers and a cabal of powerful interests hell-bent on covering up the truth, at any cost.

The Circle by Katherine Vermette

Canadian author.

The day that Cedar has been dreading and longing for has come: her sister Phoenix is released from prison. Phoenix's release cascades through the community. M, the victim, is triggered by the news. Her mother, Paulina, is worried and her cousin is angry. When Phoenix is seen outside of her son's school, the police get a call to file a report—but Phoenix has disappeared.

Clark and Division by Naomi Hirahara

Set in 1944 Chicago, Edgar Award-winner Naomi Hirahara's eye-opening and poignant new mystery, the story of a young woman searching for the truth about her revered older sister's death, brings to focus the struggles of one Japanese American family released from mass incarceration at Manzanar during World War II.

Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr

Set in Constantinople in the fifteenth century, in a small town in present-day Idaho, and on an interstellar ship decades from now, *Cloud Cuckoo Land* is a triumph of imagination and compassion, a soaring story about children on the cusp of adulthood in worlds in peril, who find resilience, hope—and a book.

The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese

Spanning the years 1900 to 1977, *The Covenant of Water* is set in Kerala, on South India's Malabar Coast, and follows three generations of a family that suffers a peculiar affliction: in every generation, at least one person dies by drowning—and in Kerala, water is everywhere.

Crazy Rich Asians by Kevin Kwan

An insider's look at the Asian Jet Set, a perfect depiction of the clash between old money and new money, between Overseas Chinese and Mainland Chinese, and a fabulous novel about what it means to be young, in love, and gloriously, disgustingly rich.

Daisy Darker by Alice Feeney

After years of avoiding each other, Daisy Darker's entire family is assembling for Nana's 80th birthday in her crumbling gothic house on a tiny tidal island. When the tide comes in, they will be cut off from the rest of the world for 8 hours. At the stroke of midnight, as a storm rages, Nana is found dead. And an hour later, the next family member follows...

Daring Greatly by Brené Brown

Every day we experience the uncertainty, risks, and emotional exposure that define what it means to be vulnerable or to dare greatly. Based on twelve years of pioneering research, Dr. Brown dispels the cultural myth that vulnerability is weakness and argues that it is, in truth, our most accurate measure of courage.

The Death and Life of Strother Purcell by Ian Weir

Canadian author.

In 1876, the fabled lawman Strother Purcell disappears into a winter storm in the mountains of BC. 16 years later, Purcell resurfaces in San Francisco; derelict, homeless and one-eyed. Failed journalist Barrington Weaver conceives a grand redemptive plan. He will write Purcell's true-life story. All it requires is a final act.

The Death of Mrs. Westaway by Ruth Ware

Hal is a tarot reader that doesn't believe in the power of her trade. When she receives a mysterious letter that it wasn't meant for her, she realizes she can try to use her cold-reading skills to potentially claim an inheritance. But, it soon dawns on her that there is something very, very wrong about this strange situation.

Detransition, Baby by Torrey Peters

A trans woman, her detransitioned ex and his cisgender lover build an unconventional family together in the wake of heartbreak and an unplanned pregnancy. This provocative debut is about what happens at the emotional, messy, vulnerable corners of womanhood that platitudes and good intentions can't reach.

The Diamond Eye by Kate Quinn

In 1937 in the snowbound city of Kiev, Mila Pavlichenko organizes her life around her library job and her young son—but Hitler's invasion of Ukraine and Russia sends her on a different path. Given a rifle and sent to join the fight, Mila must forge herself from studious girl to deadly sniper—a lethal hunter of Nazis known as Lady Death.

The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams

Set during the height of the women's suffrage movement and with the Great War looming, *The Dictionary of Lost Words* reveals a lost narrative, hidden between the lines of a history written by men. Inspired by actual events, author Pip Williams has delved into the archives of the Oxford English Dictionary to tell this highly original story.

The Dinner by Herman Koch

It's a summer's evening in Amsterdam, and two couples meet at a fashionable restaurant for dinner. Each couple has a 15 year-old son. The boys are united by their accountability for a single horrific act; an act that has triggered a police investigation and shattered the comfortable, insulated worlds of their families.

Educated by Tara Westover

Tara Westover was seventeen when she first set foot in a classroom. She had no birth certificate and no medical records. Instead of traditional lessons, she grew up learning how to stew herbs into medicine, scavenging in the family scrap yard and helping her family prepare for the apocalypse.

Everyone Here is Lying by Shari Lapena

Canadian author.

A father who had been having an affair that just ended badly discovers his difficult daughter unexpectedly home from school and loses his temper, ultimately discovering he's not the only one harboring secrets when she goes missing several hours later.

Everything is Tuberculosis by John Green

In 2019, Green met Henry Reider, a young tuberculosis patient at Lakka Government Hospital in Sierra Leone. In the years since, Green has become a vocal advocate for increased access to treatment and wider awareness of the healthcare inequities that allow this curable, preventable infectious disease to also be the deadliest, killing over a million people every year.

The Family Remains by Lisa Jewell

Early one morning, DCI Samuel Owusu is called to the scene of a gruesome discovery. Rachel Rimmer has received the news that her husband has been found dead. After fleeing London thirty years ago, Lucy Lamb is finally coming home. All are faced with complicated mysteries that are linked to a cold case that left three dead in a Chelsea mansion 30 years ago.

Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley

As a biracial, unenrolled tribal member and the product of a scandal, eighteen-year-old Daunis Fontaine has never quite fit in, both in her hometown and on the nearby Ojibway reservation. Daunis dreams of studying medicine, but when her family is struck by tragedy, she puts her future on hold to care for her fragile mother.

Five Little Indians by Michelle Good

Canadian Author.

Amnesty International book club selection.

Taken from their families and sent to a remote, church-run residential school, Kenny, Lucy, Clara, Howie and Maisie are finally released after years of detention. Alone and without any skills, support or families, the teens find their way to Vancouver, where they cling together, searching for a place of safety and belonging.

The Forest City Killer by Vanessa Brown

Canadian author.

50 years ago, a serial killer prowled London, Ontario, marking it as his hunting grounds. Detective Dennis Alsop began hunting the killer in the 1960s, and he didn't stop until his death 40 years later. Combing through the files Detective Alsop left behind, researcher Vanessa Brown reopens the cases.

The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

Texas, 1934. Millions are out of work and a drought has broken the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their land and their livelihoods as the crops are failing, the water is drying up, and dust threatens to bury them all. One of the darkest periods of the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl era, has arrived with a vengeance.

From the Ashes by Jesse Thistle

Canadian author.

In this extraordinary and inspiring debut memoir, Jesse Thistle—once a high school dropout and now a rising Indigenous scholar—chronicles his life on the streets and how he overcame trauma and addiction to discover the truth about who he is.

Funny Story by Emily Henry

Daphne always loved the way her fiancé Peter told their story. How they met (on a blustery day), fell in love (over an errant hat), and moved back to his lakeside hometown to begin their life together. He really was good at telling it...right up until the moment he realized he was actually in love with his childhood best friend Petra.

Furiously Happy by Jenny Lawson

In this humour memoir tinged with just enough tragedy and pathos to make it worthwhile, Jenny Lawson examines her own experience with severe depression and a host of other conditions, and explains how it has led her to live life to the fullest.

The Fury by Alex Michaelides

Spending Easter with Lana Farrar, a reclusive ex-movie star and one of the most famous women in the world, on her idyllic private Greek island, her guests, concealing hatred and desire for revenge, become trapped when the night ends in violence and murder.

The Girls With No Names by Serena Burdick

In 1910s New York City, Effie and Luella discover a secret about their father which later leads to Luella's disappearance. Effie suspects their father has sent Luella to the House of Mercy and hatches a plan to get herself committed in order to save her.

The Glass Hotel by Emily St. John Mandel

Canadian author.

A captivating novel of money, beauty, white-collar crime, ghosts, and moral compromise in which a woman disappears from a container ship off the coast of Mauritania and a massive Ponzi scheme implodes in New York, dragging countless fortunes with it.

Good Bad Girl by Alice Feeney

Twenty years after a baby is stolen from a stroller, a woman is murdered in a care home. The two crimes are somehow linked, and a good bad girl may be the key to discovering the truth. Queen of Twists, bestselling author of Daisy Darker and Rock Paper Scissors Alice Feeney, returns with another thrilling mystery filled with drama and her trademark surprises.

Good Company by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney

Flora Mancini has been happily married for more than twenty years. But everything she thought she knew about herself, her marriage, and her relationship with her best friend, Margot, is upended when she stumbles upon an envelope containing her husband's wedding ring—the one he claimed he lost one summer when their daughter, Ruby, was five.

The Good German by Dennis Bock

Canadian author.

In November 1939, a German anti-fascist named Georg Elser came as close to assassinating Adolf Hitler as anyone ever had. In this gripping novel of alternate history, he doesn't just come close—he succeeds. But he could never have imagined the terrible consequences that would follow from this act of heroism.

Happy Place by Emily Henry

Despite breaking up months earlier, a picture-perfect couple still haven't told their friends about the split and attempt to pretend they are still together at an annual Maine getaway in the new novel from the best-selling author of *Book Lovers*.

Haven by Emma Donoghue

Canadian Author.

In 7th century Ireland, a priest named Artt has a dream in which God tells him to leave the sinful world behind. With two monks—Trián and Cormac—he rows down the River Shannon in search of an isolated spot in which to found a monastery. Drifting out to sea, they find the steep, bare island known today as Skellig Michael. In such a place, what will survival mean?

Her Pretty Face by Robyn Harding

Canadian author.

Frances had high hopes when her troubled son got accepted into the elite Forrester Academy. But after an incident at school leads the other children and their families to ostracize them, she feels more alone than ever before. Until she meets Kate. As the two bond, a startling secret threatens to tear them apart—one of these women is not who she seems. She's a murderer.

Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance

A powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America's white working class. A deeply moving memoir with its share of humor and vividly colorful figures, and an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American dream.

The Home for Unwanted Girls by Joanna Goodman

Canadian author.

When she becomes pregnant at age 15, Maggie's parents force her to give up her baby daughter. Elodie is raised in an orphanage turned psychiatric hospital until her release at age 17. Maggie, now married, reconnects with her first love and begins actively searching for her daughter, who she has never forgotten.

Homes: A Refugee Story by Abu Bakr al Rabeeah & Winnie Yeung

Canadian author.

The al Rabeeah family left Iraq in hope of a safer life. They moved to Syria — just before the Syrian civil war broke out. Abu Bakr, was ten years old when the violence began on the streets

around him. Homes tells of the strange juxtapositions of growing up in a war zone: horrific events punctuated by normalcy.

The Hotel Nantucket by Elin Hilderbrand

Fresh off a breakup, Lizbet Keaton is desperately seeking a second act. When she's named the new manager of the Hotel Nantucket, a Gilded Age gem turned eyesore, she hopes that her expertise and charismatic staff can win the favor of new owner, Xavier Darling, as well as that of Shelly Carpenter, the popular Instagram tastemaker who can help put them back on the map.

The Huntress by Kate Quinn

A battle-haunted English journalist and a Russian female bomber pilot who join forces to track the Huntress, a Nazi war criminal gone to ground in America. When her long-widowed father unexpectedly comes home with a new fiancée, Jordan is thrilled. But there is something disconcerting about the soft-spoken widow.

The Ice House by Minette Walters

The people of Streech village had never trusted the 3 women living up at the Grange; not since Phoebe Maybury's husband suddenly vanished. Ten years later a corpse is discovered and Phoebe's nightmare begins. For once they have identified the body the police are determined to charge her with murder...

The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin

If you knew the date of your death, how would you live your life? It's 1969 in New York City's Lower East Side, and word has spread of the arrival of a mystical woman, a traveling psychic who claims to be able to tell anyone the day they will die. The four Gold children sneak out to hear their fortunes.

The Institute by Stephen King

In the middle of the night, in a house on a quiet street in suburban Minneapolis, intruders silently murder Luke Ellis's parents and load him into a black SUV. Luke will wake up at The Institute, in a room that looks just like his own, except there's no window. And outside his door are other doors, behind which are other kids with special talents—telekinesis and telepathy—who got to this place the same way Luke did.

The It Girl by Ruth Ware

After John Neville, the man convicted of killing her best friend April 10 years earlier, dies in prison and new information surfaces proving his innocence, expectant mother Hannah Jones reconnects with old friends to solve the mystery of April's death and realizes they all have something to hide.

Juliet's Answer by Glenn Dixon

Canadian author.

Eat, Pray, Love (from a man's perspective) meets Under the Tuscan Sun—a true, fresh, heartwarming story about a high school English teacher who travels to Verona, where he

answers letters addressed to Shakespeare's Juliet, all in an attempt to understand heartbreak, to heal and to find love again.

The Kingfisher Secret by Anonymous

Who owns the most powerful man in the world? Her code name is Kingfisher. Her mission: to seduce and marry a man of wealth and political influence. Now she must protect a terrifying secret. Spies, murder, and one of the biggest conspiracies of our time lie at the heart of this immersive thriller.

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

It's the 1960s, and Chemist Elizabeth Zott's all-male team at Hastings Research Institute has an unscientific view of equality. Except one: Calvin Evans. But, like science, life is unpredictable: a few years later Elizabeth is a single mother and the star of America's most beloved cooking show; not just teaching women to cook, but how to change the status quo.

Let Me Lie by Clare Mackintosh

Last year, Tom and Caroline Johnson chose to end their lives, one seemingly unable to live without the other. Their daughter, Anna, is struggling to come to terms with her parents' deaths, unwilling to accept the verdict of suicide. But as she digs up the past, someone is trying to stop her.

Lies and Weddings by Kevin Kwan

Forced by to attend his sister's wedding to seduce a woman with money and get his family out of debt, Rufus, the future Earl of Greshambury, finds their plans--and their reputation--going up in flames when a secret tryst and tragedy become known, revealing a shocking twist.

The Light We Carry by Michelle Obama

Mrs. Obama offers readers a series of fresh stories and insightful reflections on change, challenge, and power. Drawing from her experiences as a mother, daughter, spouse, friend, and First Lady, she shares the habits and principles she has developed to successfully adapt to change and overcome various obstacles.

Local Gone Missing by Fiona Barton

Detective Elise King sees the growing tensions in her small town of Ebbing—the weekenders renovating old homes, and the locals resentful of the changes. The conflicts boil over when a newcomer holds a giant music festival: two teenagers overdose on drugs, and a man disappears. So, Elise starts digging for answers.

Long Bright River by Liz Moore

Two sisters travel the same streets, though their lives couldn't be more different. Then, one of them goes missing. Long Bright River is at once heart-pounding and heart-wrenching: a gripping suspense novel that is also a moving story of sisters, addiction, and the formidable ties that persist between place, family, and fate.

Looking for Jane by Heather Marshall

Canadian author.

Spanning decades, three women's lives intertwine to reveal the devastating consequences that come from a lack of choice, the buried secrets that will always find a way to the surface, and the enduring power of a mother's love.

Mad Honey by Jody Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan

Olivia knows what it is like to start over. Her picture-perfect life was upended when her husband revealed a darker side. She never imagined she would be back in her New Hampshire hometown. Lily is familiar with do-overs, too. When she and her mom relocate to New Hampshire, they both hope it will be a fresh start. Until Lily turns up dead.

Malibu Rising by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Malibu Rising is a story about one unforgettable night in the life of a family: the night they each have to choose what they will keep from the people who made them... and what they will leave behind.

The Marrow Thieves by Cherie Dimaline

Canadian author.

Humanity has nearly destroyed its world through global warming, but now an even greater evil lurks. The indigenous people of North America are being hunted and harvested for their bone marrow, which carries the key to recovering something the rest of the population has lost: the ability to dream.

Mexican Gothic by Sylvia Moreno-Garcia

Canadian author.

After receiving a frantic letter from her newly-wed cousin begging for someone to save her from a mysterious doom, Noemí Taboada heads to High Place, a distant house in the Mexican countryside. Mesmerized by the terrifying yet seductive world of High Place, Noemí may soon find it impossible to ever leave this enigmatic house behind.

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

Between life and death there is a library, and within that library, the shelves go on forever. Every book provides a chance to try another life you could have lived. To see how things would be if you had made other choices . . . Would you have done anything different, if you had the chance to undo your regrets?

Moon of the Turning Leaves by Waubgeshig Rice

Canadian author.

Years after a mysterious cataclysm caused a permanent blackout, Evan Whitesky's community is running out of resources. Evan and his fifteen-year-old daughter, Nangohns, lead a small scouting party to their traditional home on the north shore of Lake Huron, to discover what kind of life--and what dangers--still exist in the lands to the south.

The Most Precious Substance on Earth by Shashi Bhat

Darkly funny, deeply moving, at times unsettling and even shocking, Shashi Bhat's irresistible novel examines the fraught relationships between those who take and those who have something taken. Rich with wry humour and sharp-edged insight, *The Most Precious Substance on Earth* is an unforgettable portrait of how silence can shape a life.

My Story, My Song by Elaine Cougler

Canadian Author.

My Story, My Song tells the fascinating tale--sometimes sweet and sometimes not--of the eldest daughter in a family of thirteen children, nine boys and four girls, growing up in the fifties and sixties in rural Ontario. The one-room schoolhouse and the church on the hill with the huge steeple both affected the lives of all who lived in that Embro community.

A New Season by Terry Fallis

Canadian author.

Jack McMaster seemingly has it all. A beautiful house, a loving son of many talents, even a special bond with his buddies in his ball hockey league. But he's also learning to live with loss. Then, a short and shocking video from an unexpected source gives him the gumption to make a change and inspired by his fascination with 1920s Paris, Jack finally visits the City of Light.

No Two Persons by Erica Bauermeister

Alice has always wanted to be a writer. Her talent is innate, but her stories remain inside until an event breaks her heart open, and she creates a debut novel. Readers drawn into Alice's novel discover something that alters their perspective, and presents ways forward for their lives. Their stories reveal how books can affect us in beautiful and unexpected ways.

None of This is True by Lisa Jewell

Popular podcaster Alix Summer becomes the subject of her own podcast after a woman named Josie Fair comes into her life and then disappears, leaving behind a terrible and terrifying legacy that puts her life and her family's lives in mortal danger.

Old Babes in the Woods by Margaret Atwood

Canadian author.

The internationally acclaimed, award-winning author of *The Handmaid's Tale* presents this stunning collection of short stories that showcase both her creativity and her humanity as she explores family relationships, marriage, loss and memory and what it means to spend a life together.

One Perfect Couple by Ruth Ware

Landing on a tropical paradise where they'll compete against four other couples to win a cash prize, Lyla and Nico, starring on the new reality TV show "One Perfect Couple," find themselves trapped on a storm-swept island where they all must band together for survival as a killer walks among them.

Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng

12 year-old Bird lives a quiet existence with his loving father. His mother, a Chinese American poet, left without a trace when he was 9 years old. He doesn't know what happened to her—only that her books have been banned. One day, Bird receives a mysterious letter containing only a cryptic drawing, and soon he is pulled into a quest to find her.

The Power of Kindness by Brian Goldman

Canadian author.

Dr. Brian Goldman has a successful career as an emergency room physician. He always believed that caring came naturally to physicians. But time, stress, errors, and heavy expectations left him wondering if he might not be the same caring doctor he thought he was at the beginning of his career.

Read Dangerously by Azar Nafisi

What is the role of literature in an era when one political party wages continual war on writers and the press? What is the connection between political strife in our daily lives, and the way we meet our enemies on the page in fiction? How can literature, through its free exchange, affect politics? In this guide to literature as resistance, Nafisi seeks to answer these questions.

Recursion by Blake Crouch

At first, it looks like a disease. An epidemic that spreads through no known means, driving its victims mad with memories of a life they never lived. But the force that's sweeping the world is no pathogen. It's just the first shock wave, unleashed by a stunning discovery—and what's in jeopardy is not our minds but the very fabric of time itself.

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

Tova works the night shift at an aquarium, mopping floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her 18 year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished. Marcellus, an octopus living at the aquarium, knows more than anyone can imagine but wouldn't dream of helping his human captors—until he forms a friendship with Tova.

The Right to be Cold by Sheila Watt-Cloutier

Canadian author.

This is a human story of resilience, commitment, and survival told from the unique vantage point of an Inuk woman who, in spite of many obstacles, rose from humble beginnings in the Arctic to become one of the most influential and decorated environmental, cultural, and human rights advocates in the world.

Run Towards the Danger by Sarah Polley

Canadian author.

Screenwriter, director, and actor Sarah Polley reflects on her life as she remembers it, while simultaneously examining the unreliability of memory, the mutability of reality in the mind, and the opportunity of experiencing the past anew, as the person you are now but were not then.

Save What's Left by Elizabeth Castellano

Kathleen moves to a small beach town looking for peace, only to find herself in an all-out war with her neighbors. *Save What's Left* can best be described as the “un-beach read.” It pulls back the curtain on life in a beach town, revealing the true cost of a pretty view. Told from the candid perspective of a newcomer turned local, this is a story of forgiveness and fortitude.

The Secret History of Audrey James by Heather Marshall

After an accident upends her life, Kate MacKenzie leaves London for a small Scottish town to work at an inn, where she hopes to heal from her loss. When she arrives, she discovers the elderly proprietor has her own secrets. In 1938 Berlin, Audrey James is living with her best friend. When Hitler targets Jewish families, 2 Nazi officers move into their house.

Secrets of the Sprakkar by Eliza Reid

Iceland is the best place on earth to be a woman—but why? The answer is found in the country's sprakkar, an ancient Icelandic word meaning extraordinary or outstanding women. Eliza Reid—Canadian born and raised, and now first lady of Iceland—examines her adopted homeland's attitude toward women.

The Seed Keeper by Diane Wilson

Rosalie Iron Wing has grown up in the woods with her father, Ray, who tells her stories of the origins of the Dakhóta people. One morning, Ray doesn't return from checking his traps. Told she has no family, Rosalie is sent to live with a foster family —where the reserved teen meets rebellious Gaby, in a friendship that transcends the damaged legacies they've inherited.

The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Aging and reclusive Hollywood movie icon Evelyn Hugo is finally ready to tell the truth about her glamorous and scandalous life. But when she chooses unknown magazine reporter Monique Grant for the job, no one is more astounded than Monique herself. Why her? Why now?

Sisters Under a Rising Sun by Heather Morris

Prisoners of war in 1942, Australian nurse Nesta James and Norah Chambers, held in the notorious Camp Palembang, deep in the jungle of Sumatra, battle disease, starvation and unimaginable brutality meted out by Japanese soldiers, but found, in themselves and in each other, the courage and resourcefulness to survive.

A Slow Fire Burning by Paula Hawkins

Years ago someone lit a match... Laura has spent most of her life being judged. She's seen as hot-tempered, troubled, a loner. Miriam knows that just because Laura is witnessed leaving the scene of a horrific murder with blood on her clothes doesn't mean Laura is a killer. Carla is reeling from the brutal murder of her nephew. She trusts no one and nothing.

Someone Else's Shoes by Jojo Moyes

When she accidentally takes the wrong gym bag, Sam Kemp tries on a pair of six-inch high Christian Louboutin red crocodile shoes that give her the confidence to change her life, while the shoes' owner tries to cling to her glamorous life after her husband cuts her off.

Something to Live For by Richard Roper

Telling a white lie that makes his coworkers believe he has a loving family at home, a lonely man stuck in a thankless public-health job falls in love with a new coworker who challenges his secrets. Previously published as *How Not to Die Alone*.

Son of a Trickster by Eden Robinson

Canadian author.

Meet Jared Martin: sixteen-year-old pot cookie dealer, smoker, drinker, and a son with the scariest mom ever. Compassionate, caring, and nurturing by nature, Jared's determined to help hold his family together. Even considering the talking ravens and the black outs, and his grandmother's perpetual suspicion that he is not human, but the son of a trickster.

Split Tooth by Tanya Tagaq

Canadian author.

A girl grows up in Nunavut in the 1970s knowing joy, friendship, and parents' love; knowing boredom, listlessness, and bullying. She knows the ravages of alcohol, and violence at the hands of those she should be able to trust. She sees the spirits that surround her, and the immense power that dwarfs all of us.

The Spoon Stealer by Lesley Crewe

Canadian author.

When Emmeline unexpectedly inherits the farm she grew up on, she knows she needs to leave her new life and see what remains of her family one last time. She arrives like a tornado in their lives, an off-kilter Mary Poppins bossing everyone around and getting quite a lot wrong. But with her generosity and hard-earned wisdom, she gets an awful lot right too.

The Story of Us by Catherine Hernandez

Like many overseas Filipino workers, Mary Grace has lived a life of sacrifices: she has travelled to Canada, in the hopes of one day sponsoring her husband Ale and having children of their own. Mary Grace seeks employment as a Personal Support Worker and begins caring for Liz, an elderly patient suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

The Sun Does Shine by Anthony Ray Hinton

A man who spent thirty years on death row for a crime he did not commit describes how he became a victim of a flawed legal system, recounting the years he shared with fellow inmates who were eventually executed before his exoneration.

The Surgeon's Daughter by Audrey Blake

Canadian author.

In the 19th century, women rarely study medicine. This means that Nora Beady, the only woman in her medical school, constantly feels like an outsider. And when she is chosen to work with the only female professor to develop the caesarian section, Nora draws the wrath of her male peers and professors.

Surprise Me by Sophie Kinsella

After being together for ten years, Sylvie and Dan have all the trimmings of a happy life and marriage. But when a scandal from the past is revealed that questions some important untold truths, they begin to wonder if they ever really knew each other after all. A humorous yet moving portrait of a marriage.

The Suspect by Fiona Barton

When two 18-year-old girls go missing in Thailand, their families are thrust into the international spotlight--desperate, and frantic with worry. What were the girls up to before they disappeared? Journalist Kate Waters always works to be first to the story, first to discover the truth--and this time is no exception.

The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris

This beautiful, illuminating tale of hope and courage is based on interviews that were conducted with Holocaust survivor and Auschwitz-Birkenau tattooist Ludwig (Lale) Sokolov—an unforgettable love story in the midst of atrocity.

They Both Die at the End by Adam Silvera

In a near-future New York City where a service alerts people on the day they will die, teenagers Mateo Torrez and Rufus Emeterio meet using the Last Friend app and are faced with the challenge of living a lifetime on their End Day.

This is How It Always Is by Laurie Frankel

This is how a family keeps a secret...and how that secret ends up keeping them. This is how a family lives happily ever after...until happily ever after becomes complicated. This is how children change...and then change the world.

This is Not My Life by Diane Schoemperlen

Canadian author.

For almost six turbulent years, award-winning writer Diane Schoemperlen was involved with a prison inmate serving a life sentence for second-degree murder. The relationship surprised no one more than her. How do you fall in love with a man with a violent past?

This Summer Will be Different by Carley Fortune

Canadian author.

Lucy is the tourist vacationing at a beach house on Prince Edward Island. Felix is the local who shows her a very good time. The only problem: Lucy doesn't know he's her best friend's younger brother. Lucy and Felix's chemistry is unreal, but the list of reasons why they need to stay away from each other is long, and they vow to never repeat that electric night again.

Trust by Hernan Diaz

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

The Turn of the Key by Ruth Ware

When Rowan Caine arrives at Heatherbrae House, she is smitten—by the luxurious “smart” home fitted out with all modern conveniences, by the beautiful Scottish Highlands, and by this picture-perfect family. What she doesn’t know is that she’s stepping into a nightmare—one that will end with a child dead and herself in prison awaiting trial for murder.

The Wangs vs The World by Jade Chang

Charles Wang is mad at America. A brash, big-hearted immigrant businessman who built a cosmetics empire and made a fortune, he’s just been ruined by the financial crisis. Charles pulls his kids out of schools he can no longer afford and, together with their stepmother, the family embarks on a cross-country road trip.

Wavewalker by Suzanne Heywood

Aged just seven, Suzanne Heywood set sail with her parents and brother on a 3 year voyage around the world. What followed was a decade-long way of life, through storms, shipwrecks, reefs and isolation, with little formal schooling. No one else knew where they were most of the time and no state showed any interest in what was happening to the children.

What Happened That Night by Sandra Block

Dahlia is a successful Harvard student who wakes up from a party, the victim of a brutal assault. With no memory of the attack, her life veers into a tailspin. Years later, Dahlia is suffering from PTSD and still haunted by that night. Then a video surfaces online, and Dahlia sees her attack for the first time.

What Have You Done? By Shari Lapena

Canadian author.

When the body of Diana Brewer is discovered in a hayfield by a local farmer, sleepy little Fairfield, Vermont, a town of friendly, familiar faces becomes a town of suspects and a place of fear and paranoia where everyone wants answers.

The Whispers by Ashley Audrain

When their picture-perfect hostess explodes in fury because her son disobeys her and then he falls from his bedside window in the middle of the night, three women grapple with what led to that terrible night as his life hangs in the balance.

White Houses by Amy Bloom

Lorena Hickok (known as “Hick”) meets Eleanor Roosevelt in 1932 while reporting on Franklin Roosevelt’s first presidential campaign. As her connection with the future first lady deepens into intimacy, what begins as a powerful passion matures into a lasting love, and a life that Hick never expected to have.

The World That We Knew by Alice Hoffman

In 1941, during humanity’s darkest hour, three unforgettable young women must act with courage and love to survive. In a world where evil can be found at every turn we meet remarkable characters that take us on a stunning journey of loss and resistance.

You Are Not Alone by Greer Hendricks & Sarah Pekkanen

Shay Miller wants to find love, but it eludes her. She wants to be fulfilled, but her job is a dead end. She wants to belong, but her life is increasingly lonely. Until Shay meets the Moore sisters. When they invite Shay into their circle, everything seems to get better. Shay would die for them to like her. She may have to.