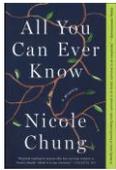


## New Books in a Bag

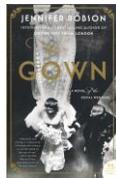
Click or Tap the Titles or Book Covers to see the Entry in the Library's Catalog

### [All You Can Ever Know by Nicole Chung](#)



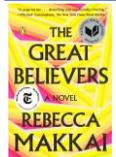
Nicole Chung was born severely premature, placed for adoption by her Korean parents, and raised by a white family in a sheltered Oregon town. She believed that her biological parents had made the ultimate sacrifice in the hope of giving her a better life, that forever feeling slightly out of place was her fate as a transracial adoptee. But as Nicole grew up—facing prejudice her adoptive family couldn't see, finding her identity as an Asian American and as a writer, becoming ever more curious about where she came from—she wondered if the story she'd been told was the whole truth.

### [The Gown: a Novel of the Royal Wedding by Jennifer Robson](#)



Heather Mackenzie seeks to unravel the mystery of a set of embroidered flowers, a legacy from her late grandmother. How did her beloved Nan, a woman who never spoke of her old life in Britain, come to possess the priceless embroideries that so closely resemble the motifs on the stunning gown worn by Queen Elizabeth II at her wedding almost seventy years before? And what was her Nan's connection to a celebrated textile artist and holocaust survivor?

### [The Great Believers by Rebecca Makkai](#)



A novel set in 1980s Chicago and contemporary Paris follows the director of a Chicago art gallery and a woman looking for her estranged daughter in Paris who both struggle to come to terms with the ways AIDS has affected their lives. The two intertwining stories take us through the heartbreak of the '80s and the chaos of the modern world, as they both struggle to find goodness in the midst of disaster.

### [The Library Book by Susan Orlean](#)



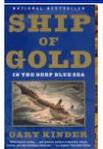
Susan Orlean, an esteemed journalist and author, turns her keen powers of observation and narrative gifts to the overlooked, underreported saga of the 1986 fire that ravaged the Los Angeles Public Library. Part detective story, part history, *The Library Book* serves as a meditation on and an ode to libraries, librarians, and their role in our communities.

### [Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive by Stephanie Land](#)



*Maid* explores the underbelly of upper-middle class America and the reality of what it's like to be in service to them. "I'd become a nameless ghost," Stephanie writes about her relationship with her clients, many of whom do not know her from any other cleaner, but who she learns plenty about. As she begins to discover more about her clients' lives—their sadness and love, too—she begins to find hope in her own path.

### [Ship of Gold in the Deep Blue Sea by Gary Kinder](#)



Bestselling author Gary Kinder tells, for the first time, an extraordinary tale of history, maritime drama, heroic rescue, scientific ingenuity, and individual courage. This is the riveting true account of death, danger, and discovery on the high seas in the dramatic search for America's greatest lost treasure, the *S.S. Central America*.

# Complete Books in a Bag Collection

*Click or Tap the Titles or Book Covers to see the Entry in the Library's Catalog*

## [The Alice Network by Kate Quinn](#)



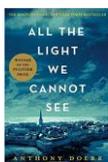
Novel in which two women — a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947 — are brought together in a story of courage and redemption. Haunted by the betrayal that tore apart the Alice Network, Eve spends her days secluded in her London home. Then a young American barges in uttering a name Eve hasn't heard in decades, launching them on a mission to find the truth.

## [The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion by Fannie Flagg](#)



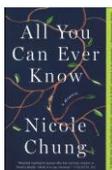
Mrs. Sookie Poole of Alabama has married off the last of her daughters and is looking forward to relaxing. Then she discovers a secret about her mother's past that calls into question everything she thought she knew about herself and her family. She begins a search for answers that takes her to California, the Midwest, and back in time to the 1940s, when an irrepressible woman began running her family's filling station. Sookie finds new inspiration for her own life with what she discovers.

## [All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr](#)



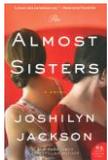
Novel about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Marie-Laure lives with her father in Paris. When she is twelve, the Nazis occupy Paris and they flee to the walled citadel of Saint-Malo, where her reclusive great-uncle lives. In a mining town in Germany, orphaned Werner has talent that wins him a place at an academy for Hitler Youth, then an assignment to track the resistance. Werner travels through the heart of the war and into Saint-Malo, where his story and Marie-Laure's converge.

## [All You Can Ever Know by Nicole Chung](#)



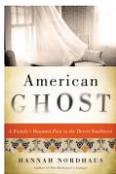
Nicole Chung was born severely premature, placed for adoption by her Korean parents, and raised by a white family in a sheltered Oregon town. She believed that her biological parents had made the ultimate sacrifice in the hope of giving her a better life, that forever feeling slightly out of place was her fate as a transracial adoptee. But as Nicole grew up—facing prejudice her adoptive family couldn't see, finding her identity as an Asian American and as a writer, becoming ever more curious about where she came from—she wondered if the story she'd been told was the whole truth.

## [The Almost Sisters by Joshilyn Jackson](#)



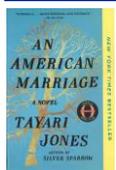
Leia returns to Alabama to put her grandmother's affairs in order and clean out the big Victorian that has been in the family for generations. Just when Leia thinks she's got it all under control, she learns that illness is not the only thing her grandmother's been hiding. Tucked in the attic is a dangerous secret that reaches all the way back to the Civil War. Its exposure threatens the family's future and changes everything about how Leia sees the world she thinks she knows.

### [American Ghost by Hannah Nordhaus](#)



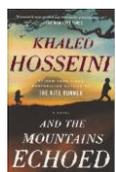
La Posada—“place of rest”—was once a grand Santa Fe mansion. It belonged to Abraham and Julia Staab, who emigrated from Germany in the mid-nineteenth century. After they died, the house became a hotel. And in the 1970s, the hotel acquired a resident ghost—a sad, dark-eyed woman in a long gown. Strange things began to happen there: vases moved, glasses flew, and blankets were ripped from beds. Julia Staab died in 1896—but her ghost, they say, lives on.

### [An American Marriage by Tayari Jones](#)



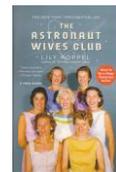
When her new husband is arrested and imprisoned for a crime she knows he did not commit, a rising artist takes comfort in a longtime friendship, only to encounter unexpected challenges in resuming her life when her husband's sentence is suddenly overturned. This novel takes an intimate look deep into the souls of people who must reckon with the past while moving forward — with hope and pain — into the future.

### [And the Mountains Echoed by Khaled Hosseini](#)



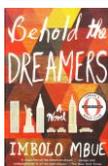
In this tale revolving around parents and children, brothers and sisters, cousins and caretakers, Hosseini explores the ways in which families nurture, wound, betray, honor and sacrifice for one another; and how often we are surprised by the actions of those closest to us, at the times that matter most. Following characters around the globe—from Kabul to Paris to San Francisco to the Greek island of Tinos—the story becomes more powerful with each turning page.

### [The Astronaut Wives Club by Lily Koppel](#)



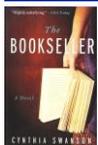
As America's Mercury Seven astronauts were launched, cameras focused on their wives. They had tea with Jackie Kennedy, appeared on the cover of *Life*, and grew into fashion icons. Annie Glenn was the envy of the other wives; Rene Carpenter was proclaimed JFK's favorite; and licensed pilot Trudy Cooper arrived on base with a secret. They and others formed the Astronaut Wives Club, supporting each other as divorce and death touched their lives.

### [Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue](#)



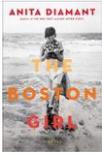
In 2007 Jende can hardly believe his luck when he lands a job as a chauffeur for Clark Edwards, a senior executive at Lehman Brothers. Clark's wife even offers Jende's wife, Neni, temporary work at their summer home in the Hamptons. With these opportunities, Jende and Neni can at last gain a foothold in America and imagine a brighter future. Then the financial world is rocked by the collapse of Lehman Brothers and all four lives are dramatically upended.

### [The Bookseller by Cynthia Swanson](#)



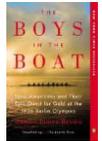
Loving her unconventional single life in 1962 Denver, a bookshop owner begins experiencing powerful dreams of an alternate life where she is a wife and mother. With each dream, the more irresistibly real the other life becomes. As lines between her worlds begin to blur, she must figure out what is real and what is imagined. Can she choose which life she wants? If so, at what cost?

### [The Boston Girl by Anita Diamant](#)



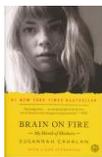
Addie is the spirited daughter of an immigrant Jewish family, born in 1900 to parents who were unprepared for America's effect on their daughters. Addie's intelligence and curiosity take her into a world of new opportunities for women. From the family's tenement apartment – to her first, disastrous love affair – to finding the love of her life, eighty-five-year-old Addie recounts her adventures with humor and compassion for the naïve girl she once was.

### [The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics by Daniel James Brown](#)



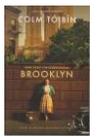
True story of the University of Washington's 1936 crew team and their quest for an Olympic gold medal. The sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, these boys defeated elite rivals first from eastern and British universities and then the German crew rowing for Adolf Hitler at the Olympic Games in Berlin – beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times.

### [Brain on Fire by Susannah Cahalan](#)



One day Susannah Cahalan woke up in a hospital room, unable to move or speak. Just weeks before she had been a healthy twenty-four-year old with a career as a cub reporter. She tells of the swift path of her illness and a last-minute intervention led by one of the few doctors able to save her life. He asked Susannah to draw a simple sketch which became the key to diagnosing her with an illness now thought to be the cause of “demonic possessions” throughout history.

### [Brooklyn by Colm Toibín](#)



Eilis Lacey has come of age in Ireland in the years following World War Two. Though skilled at bookkeeping, she cannot find a job in the miserable Irish economy. When an Irish priest from Brooklyn offers to sponsor her in America, she decides she must go, leaving her mother and her sister behind. Eilis finds work and love. But devastating news from Ireland threatens her future.

### [Carnegie's Maid by Marie Benedict](#)



Clara Kelley is a poor farmer's daughter with nowhere to go and nothing in her pockets. Serving as a lady's maid in the household of Andrew Carnegie requires skills she doesn't have, but what she does have is a resolve as strong as the steel Pittsburgh is becoming famous for. This novel tells the story of a brilliant woman who might have spurred Andrew Carnegie's transformation from ruthless industrialist into the world's first true philanthropist

### [Crazy Rich Asians by Kevin Kwan](#)



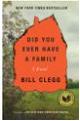
Humorous novel about three super-rich, pedigreed Chinese families and the backbiting that occurs when the heir to one of the most massive fortunes in Asia brings home his American-born Chinese girlfriend, Rachel, to attend the wedding of the season. When Rachel goes to Singapore with her boyfriend Nick, she imagines visiting a humble family home and spending quality time with the man she might one day marry. She doesn't know that Nick's family home looks like a palace and that he is one of Asia's most eligible bachelors.

### [Dark Matter by Blake Crouch](#)



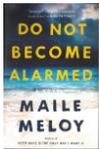
A science-fiction thriller about how far we'll go to claim the lives we dream of. “Are you happy with your life?” Those are the last words Jason Dessen hears before a masked abductor knocks him unconscious. In the world he's woken up to, Jason's life is not the one he knows. His wife is not his wife, his son was never born. Is it this world or the other that's the dream and if the home he remembers is real, how can Jason make it back to the family he loves?

### **[Did You Ever Have a Family by Bill Clegg](#)**



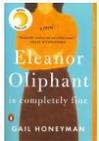
June Reid’s life is upended when disaster takes the lives of her daughter, her daughter’s fiancé, her ex-husband, and her boyfriend, Luke—her entire family, all are gone in a moment. Unable to see beyond her grief, June drives across the country and away from her small Connecticut town, unaware that the tragedy has touched many other people. In her wake, a community emerges, weaving a beautiful and surprising web of connections through shared heartbreak.

### **[Do Not Become Alarmed by Maile Meloy](#)**



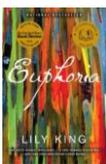
Adult cousins, Liv and Nora, decide to take their families on a cruise. At one of the ports, the moms take the children out with another family they met on the ship. All goes well until the children, in a brief moment, aren’t observed and disappear. From here the nightmare begins, and the story alternates between what is happening to the children and the adults. This gripping novel explores family and marital dynamics, race, privilege, guilt, and responsibility.

### **[Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman](#)**



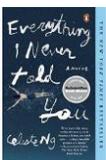
Eleanor Oliphant insists that she is just fine, but is she really? The gentle overtures of a coworker who accepts her just as she is gives her the emotional support she needs when a horrific (and embarrassing) event forces her to reevaluate her life. As it turns out, Eleanor is absolutely *not* completely fine... but she will be and Eleanor's unique take on life offers plenty of humor.

### **[Euphoria by Lily King](#)**



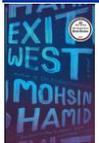
A novel about three anthropologists caught in a love triangle that threatens their careers and their lives. English anthropologist Andrew Bankson has been alone in the field for several years, studying a river tribe in the Territory of New Guinea. Nell and Fen have just fled the bloodthirsty Mumbanyo and are hungry for a new discovery. When Bankson helps Nell and Fen, he ignites a firestorm that burns out of anyone’s control.

### **[Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng](#)**



In a Chinese American family living in 1970s small-town Ohio, Lydia is the favorite, and middle, child. Parents Marilyn and James Lee are determined that Lydia will fulfill the dreams they were unable to pursue – in Marilyn’s case that her daughter become a doctor, in James’s case that Lydia be popular at school. When Lydia’s body is found in the local lake, the Lee family must confront long-kept secrets that have been slowly pulling them apart.

### **[Exit West by Mohsin Hamid](#)**



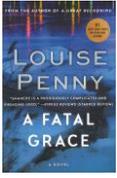
In a country teetering on the brink of civil war, two young people meet and embark on a furtive love affair, surrounded by the unrest roiling their city. Then, they hear about doors that can whisk people far away, if perilously and for a price. Deciding to leave their homeland and their old lives behind, they find a door and step through. They emerge into an alien and uncertain future, struggling to hold on to each other, to their past, to the very sense of who they are.

### **[Faithful by Alice Hoffman](#)**



Growing up on Long Island, Shelby Richmond is an ordinary girl until one night when tragedy changes her fate. Her best friend’s future is destroyed in an accident, while Shelby walks away burdened with guilt. In time she fights her way back to her own life, finding a circle of lost and found souls—including an angel who’s been watching over her ever since that fateful icy night.

### [A Fatal Grace by Louise Penny](#)



CC de Poitiers managed to alienate everyone in the hamlet of Three Pines. When Chief Inspector Armand Gamache begins his investigation, it seems like an impossible murder: CC was electrocuted on a frozen lake, in front of the entire town. With compassion and courage, Gamache digs beneath the idyllic surface of village life to find long buried secrets, while his own enemies threaten to bring something more chilling than bitter winter winds to Three Pines.

### [Fates and Furies by Lauren Groff](#)



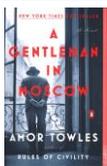
Lotto Satterwhite is the hub around which all characters revolve in the first half of the book. In the second half, the lens turns to Lotto's wife Mathilde. Her side of the lopsided partnership gives us a very different view. Sometimes the key to a great marriage is not its truths but its secrets. This novel presents the story of one such marriage over the course of twenty-four years.

### [The Friend by Sigrid Nunez](#)



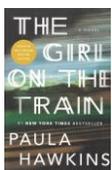
When a woman unexpectedly loses her lifelong best friend and mentor, she finds herself burdened with the unwanted dog he has left behind. Her own battle against grief is intensified by the mute suffering of the dog, a huge Great Dane. But while troubles abound, rich and surprising rewards lie in store for both of them. A moving story of love, friendship, grief, healing, and the magical bond between a woman and her dog.

### [A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles](#)



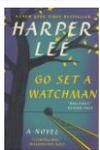
When, in 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, he's sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov, an indomitable man of erudition and wit, has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors.

### [The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins](#)



Rachel takes the same commuter train every morning. Each day it stops at a signal that allows her to watch the same couple eating breakfast on their deck. Their life—as she sees it—is perfect. Not unlike the life she recently lost. Then she sees something shocking. It's only a minute until the train moves on, but everything's changed. Unable to keep it to herself, Rachel offers what she knows to the police. Has she done more harm than good?

### [Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee](#)



Twenty-six-year-old Jean Louise Finch—"Scout"—returns home to Maycomb, Alabama to visit her aging father, Atticus. Set against the backdrop of the civil rights tensions and political turmoil that were transforming the South, Jean Louise's homecoming turns bittersweet when she learns disturbing truths about her close-knit family, the town, and the people dearest to her.

### [The Gown: a Novel of the Royal Wedding by Jennifer Robson](#)



Heather Mackenzie seeks to unravel the mystery of a set of embroidered flowers, a legacy from her late grandmother. How did her beloved Nan, a woman who never spoke of her old life in Britain, come to possess the priceless embroideries that so closely resemble the motifs on the stunning gown worn by Queen Elizabeth II at her wedding almost seventy years before? And what was her Nan's connection to a celebrated textile artist and holocaust survivor?

### [The Great Believers by Rebecca Makkai](#)



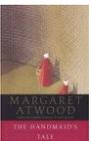
A novel set in 1980s Chicago and contemporary Paris follows the director of a Chicago art gallery and a woman looking for her estranged daughter in Paris who both struggle to come to terms with the ways AIDS has affected their lives. The two intertwining stories take us through the heartbreak of the '80s and the chaos of the modern world, as they both struggle to find goodness in the midst of disaster.

### [H Is for Hawk by Helen Macdonald](#)



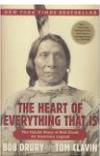
When Helen Macdonald's father died suddenly, she was devastated. An experienced falconer, she'd never before been tempted to train one of the most vicious predators, the goshawk. But in her grief, she knew the goshawk's fierce and feral temperament mirrored her own. Resolving to raise the deadly creature as a means to cope with her loss, she adopted Mabel, and turned to the guidance of T.H. White's chronicle *The Goshawk* to begin her endeavor.

### [The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood](#)



In the world of the near future, who will control women's bodies? In this novel where the birth rate has declined, fertile women are rounded up, indoctrinated as "handmaids," and forced to bear children to prominent men. Funny, unexpected, horrifying, and convincing, *The Handmaid's Tale* is at once scathing satire, dire warning, and tour de force.

### [The Heart of Everything That Is: The Untold Story of Red Cloud by Bob Drury & Tom Clavin](#)



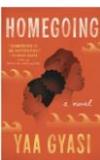
Sioux warrior Red Cloud was the only American Indian ever to defeat the United States Army in a war. Bob Drury and Tom Clavin tell the story of Red Cloud's rise to power against the backdrop of an exciting, dangerous, and tragic epoch, when American Indian warriors like Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull battled for the lushest hunting grounds while the prospect of gold and adventure lured men like John Bozeman and Nelson Story to the West.

### [Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly](#)



The phenomenal true story of the black female mathematicians at NASA whose calculations helped fuel some of America's greatest achievements in space. It chronicles their careers over nearly three decades they faced challenges, forged alliances and used their intellect to change their own lives, and their country's future.

### [Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi](#)



In 18th-century West Africa, the fates of two half-sisters could not be more different. Effia becomes the mistress of a British slave-trader. Esi survives the voyage to America only to live out her days in bondage on a plantation. In the centuries that follow, Effia's family experiences British imperialism and warfare between the African tribes, while Esi's descendants live through the Civil War, the Great Migration, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Civil Rights Movement.

### [The House Girl by Tara Conklin](#)



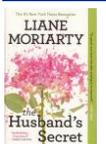
A novel of love, history, and a search for justice set in modern-day New York and 1852 Virginia. It weaves together the story of an escaped slave in the pre-Civil War South and a determined lawyer, Lina Sparrow, as she looks for a lead plaintiff in a lawsuit seeking compensation for families of slaves. In her research she learns about Lu Anne Bell, a renowned prewar artist, whose famous works might have actually been painted by her slave Josephine.

### **[How to Change Your Mind by Michael Pollan](#)**



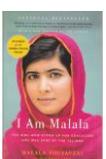
The best-selling author of *The Omnivore's Dilemma* presents a groundbreaking investigation into the medical and scientific revolution currently taking place in the field of psychedelic drugs, drawing on a range of experiences to trace the criminalization of such substances as LSD and psychedelic mushrooms and discussing how they may offer treatment options for difficult health challenges.

### **[The Husband's Secret by Liane Moriarty](#)**



Finding a letter that says she is to open it only in the event of her husband's death, Cecelia Fitzpatrick is unable to resist reading it. Cecilia is a businesswoman, a pillar of her small community, and a devoted wife and mother. Her life is as spotless as her home. But that letter is about to change everything – and not just for her.

### **[I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai](#)**



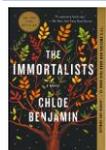
When Taliban took control her home in Pakistan, Malala refused to be silenced. Fighting for her right to an education, she was shot while riding the bus home from school. Few expected her to survive, but her miraculous recovery has taken her from Pakistan to the United Nations. At sixteen, she has become a symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize, demonstrating how one person's voice can inspire change in the world.

### **[Imagine Me Gone by Adam Haslett](#)**



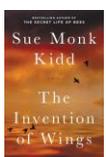
When Margaret's fiancé is hospitalized for depression, she faces a choice: carry on with their plans, or back away from the suffering it may bring her. She decides to marry him. What follows this act of love and faith is described: the love of a mother for her children, the devotion siblings feel toward one another, and the legacy of a father's pain in the life of a family.

### **[The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin](#)**



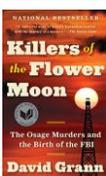
Sneaking out to get readings from a traveling psychic reputed to be able to tell customers when they will die, four adolescent siblings from New York City embark on five decades shaped by their determination to control fate. Probing the line between destiny and choice, this novel is a testament to the power of story, the nature of belief, and the unrelenting pull of familial bonds.

### **[The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd](#)**



Hetty “Handful” Grimke, an urban slave in the early nineteenth century, yearns for life beyond the walls of the wealthy 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. We follow their journeys over the next thirty five years, as both strive for a life of their own.

### **[Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann](#)**



In 1920s Oklahoma, the Osage Indian Nation possessed immense wealth because their land contained large petroleum reserves. In *Killers of the Flower Moon*, New Yorker staff writer David Grann describes a series of murders on the reservation. Local authorities couldn't solve the crimes, but an investigation by the relatively new FBI (led by the young J. Edgar Hoover) identified and charged the killers, whose primary motivation was greed.

### [Last Bus to Wisdom by Ivan Doig](#)



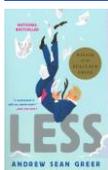
Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at a ranch in the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. After being sent to Gram's sister in Wisconsin, he's in for a rude surprise. Aunt Kate henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German. Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. So Donal and Herman fly the coop – lighting out for Montana and having rollicking misadventures along the way.

### [Leaving Time by Jodi Picoult](#)



For more than a decade, Jenna Metcalf has never stopped thinking about her mother, Alice, who mysteriously disappeared in the wake of a tragic accident. Desperate to find the truth, Jenna enlists two unlikely allies in her quest. Working together to uncover what happened to Alice, they realize that in asking hard questions, they'll have to face even harder answers. As Jenna's memories dovetail with events in her mother's journals, the story races to its finish.

### [Less: a novel by Andrew Sean Greer](#)



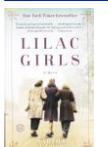
A scintillating satire of the American abroad, Arthur Less will almost fall in love in Paris, almost fall to his death in Berlin, barely escape to a Moroccan ski chalet from a Saharan sandstorm, accidentally book himself as the (only) writer-in-residence at a Christian Retreat Center in Southern India, and encounter, on a desert island in the Arabian Sea, the last person on Earth he wants to face.

### [The Library Book by Susan Orlean](#)



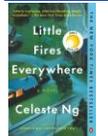
Susan Orlean, an esteemed journalist and author, turns her keen powers of observation and narrative gifts to the overlooked, underreported saga of the 1986 fire that ravaged the Los Angeles Public Library. Part detective story, part history, *The Library Book* serves as a meditation on and an ode to libraries, librarians, and their role in our communities.

### [Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly](#)



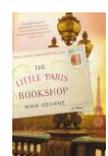
The story of women prisoners in the Ravensbruck concentration camp. Using alternating first-person narratives, the characters relate their experiences from 1939 through 1959. Drawing upon a decade of research, the author reconstructs what life was like in Ravensbruck. This is a tale of how the strength of women's bonds can carry them through even the most difficult situations.

### [Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng](#)



Fighting an ugly custody battle with an artistic tenant who has little regard for the strict rules of their progressive Cleveland suburb, a straitlaced family woman who is seeking to adopt a baby becomes obsessed with exposing the tenant's past, only to trigger devastating consequences for both of their families.

### [The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George](#)



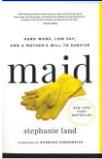
From his floating bookstore in a barge on the Seine, Monsieur Perdu prescribes novels for the hardships of life. Using an intuitive feel for the exact book a reader needs, he mends broken hearts and souls. Yet, he's still haunted by heartbreak. To make peace with his loss, Perdu, joined by a lovelorn Italian chef, sets sail along the country's rivers, dispensing his wisdom and his books, showing that the literary world can take the human soul on a journey to heal itself.

### **The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri**



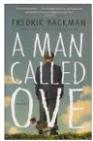
Two brothers born in Calcutta during World War II share a close childhood but separate from one another as adults. Subhash moves to the US to study marine chemistry. Udayan stays in India, becoming active in the Naxalite Communist movement. This is a family saga steeped in history: the story of two very different brothers bound by tragedy, a fiercely brilliant woman haunted by her past, a country torn apart by revolution, and a love that endures long past death.

### **Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive by Stephanie Land**



*Maid* explores the underbelly of upper-middle class America and the reality of what it's like to be in service to them. "I'd become a nameless ghost," Stephanie writes about her relationship with her clients, many of whom do not know her from any other cleaner, but who she learns plenty about. As she begins to discover more about her clients' lives-their sadness and love, too-she begins to find hope in her own path.

### **A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman**



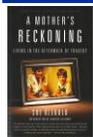
In this delightfully quirky debut novel from Sweden, a grumpy yet loveable man finds his solitary world turned on its head when a boisterous young family moves in next door. Fredrik Backman's novel about the angry old man next door is a thoughtful and charming exploration of the profound impact one life has on countless others.

### **Manhattan Beach by Jennifer Egan**



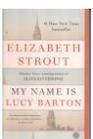
In Brooklyn during the Great Depression. Anna Kerrigan accompanies her father to the home of Dexter Styles, a man who is crucial to the survival of her family. Years later, her father has disappeared and the country is at war. Anna works at the Brooklyn Naval Yard and becomes the first female diver repairing war ships. At a nightclub she chances to meet Dexter Styles again and begins to understand the complex reasons her father vanished.

### **A Mother's Reckoning by Sue Klebold**



The mother of one of the two shooters at Columbine High School draws on personal recollections, journal entries and video recordings to piece together what led to her son's unpredicted breakdown and share insights into how other families might recognize warning signs.

### **My Name Is Lucy Barton by Elizabeth Strout**



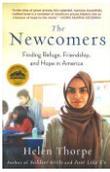
Lucy Barton is recovering from surgery. Her mother, to whom she hasn't spoken for many years, comes to see her. Gossip about people from Lucy's childhood seems to reconnect them, but just below the surface lie the tension and longing that have defined Lucy's life: escape from her troubled family, a desire to become a writer, her marriage and her love for her daughters.

### **The Nest by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney**



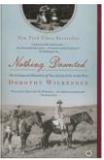
Suddenly faced with the dismantling of the nest egg they've counted on to solve their financial woes, the four Plumb siblings have to grow up, and fast. But though they all do some terrible things in the name of ambition, there's something lovable about them. This novel seems to say that family, for good or ill, unites us all.

### ***The Newcomers* by Helen Thorpe**



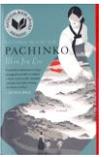
Follows the lives of twenty-two immigrant teenagers throughout the course of a year at South High School in Denver, Colorado. These newcomers come from nations convulsed by drought, famine, or war. At the center of their story is their dedicated and endlessly resourceful teacher of English Language Acquisition. If he does his job right, they will leave his class with basic English skills and new confidence, their foundation for finding a place in their new home.

### ***Nothing Daunted: the Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West* by Dorothy Wickenden**



In 1916 Dorothy Woodruff and Rosamond Underwood left their families in New York to teach school in northwestern Colorado. They lived with homesteaders in the mountains and rode to school on horseback. The young cattle rancher who lured them west promised them the adventure of a lifetime. Decades later, the author and granddaughter of Dorothy Woodruff, found the teachers' letters, which captured the voices of the unforgettable people the women got to know.

### ***Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee**



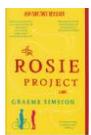
In the early 1900s the teenaged daughter of a fisherman falls for a wealthy stranger at the seashore near her home in Korea. He promises her the world, but when she discovers she is pregnant, and that her lover is married, she refuses to be bought. Instead, she marries a gentle minister passing through on his way to Japan. Her decision to abandon her home and to reject her son's powerful father sets off a saga that will echo down through generations.

### ***Pretty Baby* by Mary Kubica**



Charitable Heidi Wood horrifies her husband and daughter by inviting an apparently homeless teenager and her infant to take refuge in their home, a situation that quickly devolves as details from the girl's past begin to surface. What starts as an act of kindness quickly spirals into a story far more twisted than anyone could have expected.

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



Genetics professor Don Tillman's life is turned upside down when he embarks upon the Wife Project to find a suitable mate. When a PhD student named Rosie walks into his office, she's all wrong—her hair is dyed, her clothes are sloppy, and she is habitually late. Then again, there's something right about her. Don just can't recognize it at first. In the end Don confronts his idea of what it means to love and connect with people, and what it truly means to trust someone.

### ***Rough Beauty* by Karen Auvinen**



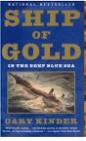
Determined to live an independent life on her own terms, Karen Auvinen flees to a primitive cabin in the Rockies to live in solitude as a writer and to embrace all the beauty and brutality nature has to offer. When a fire incinerates every word she has ever written and all of her possessions—except for her beloved dog Elvis, her truck, and a few singed artifacts—Karen embarks on a heroic journey to reconcile her desire to be alone with her need for community.

### ***Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward**



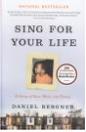
A hurricane is building over the Gulf of Mexico, threatening a coastal town in Mississippi and Esch's father, a hard drinker, is growing concerned. Esch and her three brothers are stocking food, but there isn't much to save. Esch is fourteen and pregnant. Her brother Skeetah is sneaking scraps for his prized pitbull's new litter. Meanwhile, brothers Randall and Junior try to stake their claim in a family long on child's play and short on parenting.

### [Ship of Gold in the Deep Blue Sea by Gary Kinder](#)



Bestselling author Gary Kinder tells, for the first time, an extraordinary tale of history, maritime drama, heroic rescue, scientific ingenuity, and individual courage. This is the riveting true account of death, danger, and discovery on the high seas in the dramatic search for America's greatest lost treasure, the *S.S. Central America*.

### [Sing for Your Life by Daniel Bergner](#)



A chronicle of a young black man's journey from violence to the world's elite opera circles. The author describes Ryan Speedo Green's abuse-marked upbringing and struggles with racism and imprisonment before winning a New York Metropolitan Opera competition. Today, Ryan is a rising star performing major roles at the Met and Europe's most prestigious opera houses.

### [Some Luck by Jane Smiley](#)



On their farm in Denby, Iowa, Rosanna and Walter Langdon abide by values that they pass on to their five wildly different children. Each chapter in the novel covers a single year, beginning in 1920, as American soldiers like Walter return home from World War I, and going up through the early 1950s, with the country on the cusp of enormous social and economic change.

### [The Soul of an Octopus by Sy Montgomery](#)



Sy Montgomery recounts her friendships with several octopuses—complex, spirited creatures who make remarkable connections with humans. She journeys from the New England Aquarium to the reefs of French Polynesia and the Gulf of Mexico in pursuit of these wild, solitary, predatory mollusks. Each octopus turns out to have a distinct personality. The story is in turn funny, entertaining, touching, and profound, as it reveals what octopuses can teach us.

### [A Spool of Blue Thread by Anne Tyler](#)



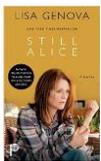
Abby and Red Whitshank and their four grown children have accumulated not only tender moments, laughter, and celebrations, but also jealousies, disappointments, and carefully guarded secrets. From Red's father and mother, newly arrived in Baltimore in the 1920s, to Abby and Red's grandchildren carrying the family legacy boisterously into the twenty-first century, here are four generations of Whitshanks, their lives unfolding in and around the sprawling, lovingly worn Baltimore house that has always been their anchor.

### [Station Eleven by Emily St. John Mandel](#)



Kirsten Raymonde will never forget the night Arthur Leander had a heart attack on stage during a production of *King Lear*. That was the night a devastating flu pandemic arrived in the city, and within weeks, civilization as we know it came to an end. Twenty years later, Kirsten moves between settlements of the altered world with a small troupe of actors and musicians. As the story takes off, moving back and forth in time, vividly depicting life before and after the pandemic, the strange twist of fate that connects them all will be revealed.

### [Still Alice by Lisa Genova](#)



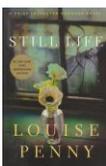
Alice Howland is proud of the life she worked so hard to build. At fifty years old, she’s a cognitive psychology professor at Harvard and a world-renowned expert in linguistics with a successful husband and three grown children. When she becomes increasingly disoriented and forgetful, a tragic diagnosis changes her life—and her relationship with her family and the world—forever. At once beautiful and terrifying, *Still Alice* is a moving and vivid depiction of life with early-onset Alzheimer’s.

### [Still Coming Home: Denver Veterans Writing edited by Jason Arment, Steven Dunn, & Bethany Strout](#)



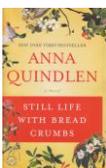
Born out of a workshop led by a group of volunteer veterans who are also writers, *Still Coming Home* is a collection of essays, poems, and short stories. The anthology was published by Colorado Humanities and Center for the Book and written by Denver area veterans in an effort to describe their varied military experiences in an honest and vulnerable way.

### [Still Life by Louise Penny](#)



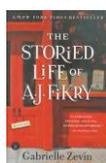
Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Surêté du Québec and his team of investigators are called to the scene of a suspicious death in a rural village south of Montreal. Jane Neal, a local fixture in the tiny hamlet of Three Pines, just north of the U.S. border, has been found dead in the woods. Gamache smells something foul in these remote woods, and is soon certain that Jane Neal died at the hands of someone much more sinister than a careless bow hunter. Inspector Gamache commands his forces with integrity and quiet courage to discover the truth.

### [Still Life with Bread Crumbs by Anna Quindlen](#)



A “marvelous romantic comedy of errors” (*The New York Times Book Review*), *Still Life with Bread Crumbs* begins with an imagined gunshot and ends with a new tin roof. Between the two is a wry and knowing portrait of Rebecca Winter, a photographer whose work made her an unlikely heroine for many women. Her career is now descendant, her bank balance is 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.

### [The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin](#)



A. J. Fikry, irascible owner of Island Books, has recently endured some tough years: his wife has died, his bookstore is experiencing the worst sales in its history, and his prized possession — a rare edition of Poe poems — has been stolen. He has given up on people, and even the books in his store are another reminder of a world that is changing too rapidly. Then a most unexpected occurrence gives him the chance to make his life over and see things anew.

### [Swing Time by Zadie Smith](#)



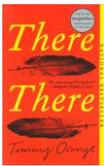
In a story about friendship and music and stubborn roots, two brown girls dream of being dancers—but only one, Tracey, has talent. The other has ideas: about rhythm and time, about black music, what constitutes a tribe, or what makes a person truly free. Their childhood friendship ends abruptly in their early twenties, but is never quite forgotten. Moving from northwest London to West Africa, it is an exuberant dance to the music of time.

### [A Teaspoon of Earth and Sea by Dina Nayeri](#)



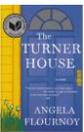
Growing up in a small rice-farming village in 1980s Iran, eleven-year-old Saba Hafezi and her twin sister, Mahtab, are captivated by America. So when her mother and sister disappear, leaving Saba and her father alone in Iran, Saba is certain that they have moved to America without her, giving her a sense of freedom despite all the grit and brutality of real life under the new Islamic regime. This is a tale about memory and the value of controlling one's own fate.

### [There There by Tommy Orange](#)



As we learn the reasons that each person is attending the Big Oakland Powwow, momentum builds toward a shocking conclusion that changes everything. Jacquie Red Feather is newly sober, Dene Oxendene is pulling his life back together after his uncle's death, and Opal Viola Victoria Bear Shield has come to watch her nephew Orvil perform the traditional Indian dance in public for the first time. Together, they tell us of the plight of the urban Native American.

### [The Turner House by Angela Flournoy](#)



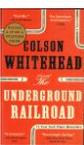
As ailing matriarch Viola finds herself forced to leave her home and move in with her eldest son, the family discovers that the house is worth just a tenth of its mortgage. The Turner children are called home to decide its fate and to reckon with how each of their pasts haunts—and shapes—their family's future.

### [Uncommon Type by Tom Hanks](#)



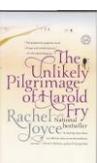
A collection of seventeen wonderful short stories showing that two-time Oscar winner, Tom Hanks, is as talented a writer as he is an actor. His stories are surprising, intelligent, and heartwarming. They each hold together a myriad of emotions, settings, and time periods with two common threads: the typewriter and uncommonly normal men and women.

### [The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead](#)



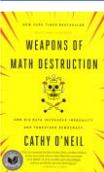
After Cora, a pre-Civil War Georgia slave, escapes with another slave, Caesar, they seek the help of the Underground Railroad as they flee from state to state and try to evade a slave catcher, Ridgeway, who is determined to return them to the South. A magnificent tour de force chronicling a young slave's adventures as she makes a desperate bid for freedom in the antebellum South.

### [The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce](#)



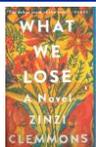
Harold Fry lives in a small English village with his wife. Little differentiates one day from the next. Then one morning a letter arrives, addressed to Harold in a shaky scrawl, from a woman he hasn't heard from in twenty years. Queenie Hennessy is in hospice and has written to say goodbye. Before Harold mails off his quick reply, a chance encounter convinces him that he must deliver his message to Queenie in person. Then he sets off on a six hundred mile walk.

### [Weapons of Math Destruction by Cathy O'Neil](#)



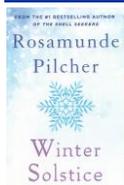
A former Wall Street quant sounds an alarm on the mathematical models that pervade modern life. The models being used today are opaque, unregulated, and uncontestable, even when they're wrong. Most troubling, they reinforce discrimination. O'Neil calls on modelers to take more responsibility for their algorithms and urges policy makers to regulate their use. This important book empowers us to ask the tough questions, uncover the truth, and demand change.

### **What We Lose by Zinzi Clemmons**



Raised in America, the multiracial daughter of a mother from Johannesburg struggles with her mother's terminal cancer and her own need to find love and a place to belong, quests shaped by losses, changes in her sense of identity and unexpected motherhood. This novel is a deeply felt meditation on race, sex, family and country.

### **Winter Solstice by Rosamunde Pilcher**



Tragedy brings five very different people together in a large, neglected estate house near the Scottish fishing town of Creagan. Ranging in age from teenagers to mid-sixties, each of them must confront various challenges or losses. In this house, on the winter solstice – the shortest day of the year, their lives will be forever changed. Winter solstice represents darkness and also hope, renewal, and rebirth. This is a novel that will inspire and uplift the hearts of readers.