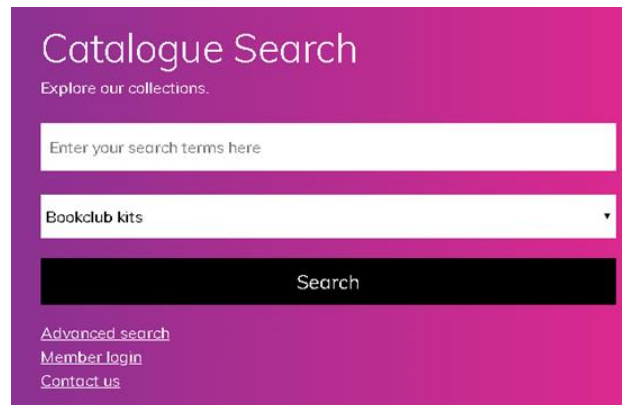
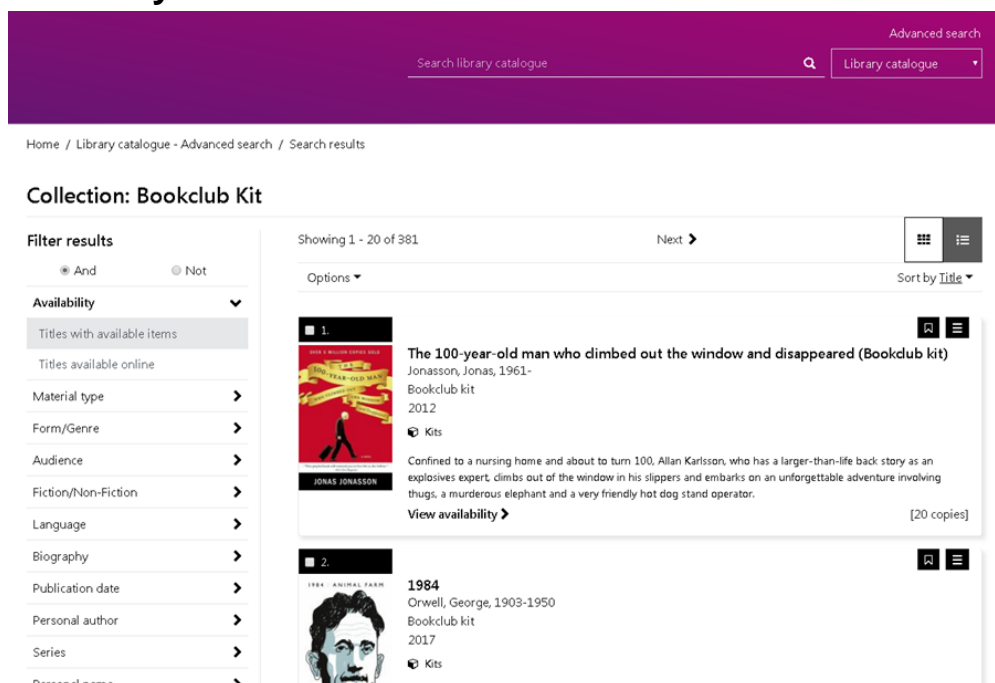


## HOW TO SEARCH FOR AVAILABLE KITS

The easiest way to search for available book club kits on our [catalogue](#) is to select **Bookclub kits** in the drop-down menu.



From the search results page you can then filter by **Titles with available items**. Check availability and location by clicking **View availability**.



If you give us a few days' notice, an available Bookclub Kit can be sent to any branch for you to collect.



## ALL BOOK CLUB KITS

Click on any title for full details. To print a simple list, select pages 2-8.

Title	Author	Pub		
<a href="#">100-year-old man who climbed out the window and disappeared</a>	Jonasson, Jonas	2012		
<a href="#">1984 and Animal Farm</a>	Orwell, George	1949 1945		
<a href="#">57 bus, The</a>	Slater, Dashka	2018		
<a href="#">84, Charing Cross Road</a>	Hanff, Helen	1970		
<a href="#">After</a>	Gemmell, Nikki	2017		
<a href="#">After you</a>	Moyes, Jojo	2015		
<a href="#">Alias Grace</a>	Atwood, Margaret	1996		
<a href="#">Alice network, The</a>	Quinn, Kate	2017		
<a href="#">All that I am</a>	Funder, Anna	2011		
<a href="#">All the light we cannot see</a>	Doerr, Anthony	2014		
<a href="#">An American marriage</a>	Jones, Tayari	2018		
<a href="#">An ordinary epidemic</a>	Hickie, Amanda	2015		
<a href="#">Anatomy of a miracle</a>	Miles, Johnathan	2018		
<a href="#">And the mountains echoed</a>	Hosseini, Khaled	2013		
<a href="#">Any ordinary day</a>	Sales, Leigh	2018		
<a href="#">Apeirogon</a>	McCann, Colum	2020		
<a href="#">Art of travel, The</a>	De Botton, Alain	2002		
<a href="#">Artist's portrait, The</a>	Keys, Julie	2019		
<a href="#">Ask again, yes</a>	Keane, Mary Beth	2019		
<a href="#">Balzac &amp; the little Chinese seamstress</a>	Sijie, Dai	2001		
<a href="#">Beast's garden, The</a>	Forsythe, Kate	2016		
<a href="#">Becomng</a>	Obama, Michelle	2018		
<a href="#">Behind the beautiful forevers</a>	Boo, Katherine	2012		
<a href="#">Bellman &amp; Black</a>	Setterfield, Diane	2013		
<a href="#">Below deck</a>	Hardcastle, Sophie	2020		
<a href="#">Before we were yours</a>	Wingate, Lisa	2017		
<a href="#">Best of Adam Sharp, The</a>	Simsion, Graeme	2016		
<a href="#">Best we could do, The</a>	Bui, Thi	2017		
<a href="#">Big little lies</a>	Moriarty, Liane	2014		
<a href="#">Binding, The</a>	Collins, Bridget	2018		
<a href="#">Birthday</a>	Russo, Meredith	2019		
<a href="#">Bluest eye, The</a>	Morrison, Toni	1970		
<a href="#">Book of lost friends, The</a>	Wingate, Lisa	2020		
<a href="#">Book woman of Troublesome Creek, The</a>	Richardson, Kim Michele	2019		
<a href="#">Born a crime</a>	Noah, Trevor	2016		
<a href="#">Born-again Blakfella</a>	Charles, Jack	2020		
<a href="#">Boy behind the curtain, The</a>	Winton, Tim	2016		
<a href="#">Boy swallows universe</a>	Dalton, Trent	2018		
<a href="#">Boys in the boat, The</a>	Brown, Daniel James	2014		
<a href="#">Bride test, The</a>	Hoang, Helen	2019		



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<a href="#">Burial rites</a>	Kent, Hannah	2013		
<a href="#">Burning, A</a>	Majumdar, Megha	2020		
<a href="#">Calling me home</a>	Kibler, Julie	2013		
<a href="#">Cedar tree, The</a>	Alexander, Nicole	2020		
<a href="#">Champagne</a>	Kladstrup, Don	2006		
<a href="#">Chocolate tin, The</a>	McIntosh, Fiona	2016		
<a href="#">Choke, The</a>	Laguna, Sofie	2017		
<a href="#">Church of marvels</a>	Parry, Leslie	2015		
<a href="#">Cilka's journey</a>	Morris, Heather	2019		
<a href="#">City of friends</a>	Trollope, Joanna	2017		
<a href="#">Coconut children, The</a>	Pham, Vivian	2020		
<a href="#">Collected works of A J Fikry, The</a>	Zevin, Gabrielle	2014		
<a href="#">Colette's France</a>	Jane Gilmour	2017		
<a href="#">Commonwealth</a>	Patchett, Ann	2016		
<a href="#">Curious incident of the dog in the night time, The</a>	Haddon, Mark	2004		
<a href="#">Daisy Jones and The Six</a>	Reid, Taylor Jenkins	2019		
<a href="#">Day we met, The</a>	Coleman, Rowan	2015		
<a href="#">Dead man walking</a>	McClymont, Kate	2019		
<a href="#">Defending Jacob</a>	Landay, William	2013		
<a href="#">Devil inside, The</a>	Hicks, D. L.	2020		
<a href="#">Distant hours, The</a>	Morton, Kate	2010		
<a href="#">Dreamers, The</a>	Walker, Karen Thompson	2019		
<a href="#">Dressmaker, The</a>	Ham, Rosalie	2015		
<a href="#">Dry, The</a>	Harper, Jane	2016		
<a href="#">Dutch house, The</a>	Patchett, Ann	2019		
<a href="#">Eleanor Oliphant is completely fine</a>	Honeyman, Gail	2017		
<a href="#">Erotic stories for Punjabi widows</a>	Jaswal, Balli Kaur	2017		
<a href="#">Every note played</a>	Genova, Lisa	2018		
<a href="#">Everyone brave is forgiven</a>	Cleave, Chris	2016		
<a href="#">Everything I never told you</a>	Ng, Celeste	2014		
<a href="#">Everywhere I look</a>	Garner, Helen	2016		
<a href="#">Exit west</a>	Hamid, Mohsin	2017		
<a href="#">Extinctions</a>	Wilson, Josephine	2016		
<a href="#">Eye of the sheep, The</a>	Laguna, Sofie	2014		
<a href="#">Faithful</a>	Hoffman, Alice	2016		
<a href="#">Fake</a>	Wood, Stephanie	2019		
<a href="#">Family secrets</a>	Byrski, Liz	2014		
<a href="#">Fates and furies</a>	Groff, Lauren	2015		
<a href="#">Fear and loathing in Las Vegas</a>	Thompson, Hunter S.	1972		
<a href="#">Feel good guide to menopause, The</a>	Gates, Nicola	2019		
<a href="#">Fence, The</a>	Jaffe, Meredith	2016		
<a href="#">Few of the girls, A</a>	Binchy, Maeve	2015		
<a href="#">Fifth letter, The</a>	Moriarty, Nicola	2017		
<a href="#">Finding Chika</a>	Albom, Mitch	2019		
<a href="#">Fishermen, The</a>	Obioma, Chigozie	2015		
<a href="#">Flesh wounds</a>	Glover, Richard	2015		
<a href="#">Flight behaviour</a>	Kingsolver, Barbara	2012		
<a href="#">Follow the rabbit proof fence</a>	Pilkington, Doris	1996		
<a href="#">Force of nature</a>	Harper, Jane	2017		



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<a href="#">Forgotten garden, The</a>	Morton, Kate	2016		
<a href="#">Foundling, The</a>	Halls, Stacey	2020		
<a href="#">Fourteen</a>	Molloy, Shannon	2020		
<a href="#">Freedom at midnight</a>	Collins, Larry & Lapierre, Dominique	2017		
<a href="#">From scratch</a>	Locke, Tembi	2019		
<a href="#">Gentleman in Moscow, A</a>	Towles, Amor	2018		
<a href="#">Gift of rain, The</a>	Tan, Twan Eng	2007		
<a href="#">Gilded cage, The</a>	Lackberg, Camilla	2020		
<a href="#">Girl at war</a>	Novic, Sara	2015		
<a href="#">Girl in hyacinth blue</a>	Vreeland, Susan	2000		
<a href="#">Girl on the train, The</a>	Hawkins, Paula	2015		
<a href="#">Girt</a>	Hunt, David	2013		
<a href="#">Glass hotel, The</a>	Mandel, Emily St. John	2020		
<a href="#">Go set a watchman</a>	Lee, Harper	2015		
<a href="#">Golden age, The</a>	London, Joan	2014		
<a href="#">Golden boys</a>	Hartnett, Sonya	2014		
<a href="#">Golden child, The</a>	James, Wendy	2017		
<a href="#">Gone girl</a>	Flynn, Gillian	2012		
<a href="#">Good people, The</a>	Kent, Hannah	2016		
<a href="#">Goodwood</a>	Throsby, Holly	2016		
<a href="#">Gossip</a>	Gutcheon, Beth	2013		
<a href="#">Great alone, The</a>	Hannah, Kristin	2018		
<a href="#">H is for Hawk</a>	MacDonald, Helen	2014		
<a href="#">Half the perfect world</a>	Genomi, Paul & Dalziell, Tanya	2018		
<a href="#">Happiest refugee, The</a>	Do, Ahn	2010		
<a href="#">Hare's fur</a>	Shearston, Trevor	2019		
<a href="#">Hazel wood, The</a>	Albert, Melissa	2018		
<a href="#">Henna artist, The</a>	Joshi, Alka	2020		
<a href="#">Hidden figures</a>	Shetterly, Margot Lee	2016		
<a href="#">Hidden life of trees, The</a>	Wohlleben, Peter	2017		
<a href="#">Holding</a>	Norton, Graham	2016		
<a href="#">Home fire</a>	Shamsie, Kamila	2017		
<a href="#">How to sell a massacre</a>	Charley, Peter	2020		
<a href="#">How to stop time</a>	Haig, Matt	2017		
<a href="#">Husband's secret, The</a>	Moriarty, Liane	2013		
<a href="#">I am Malala</a>	Yousafzai, Malala	2013		
<a href="#">I am Pilgrim</a>	Hayes, Terry	2014		
<a href="#">If I had your face</a>	Cha, Frances	2020		
<a href="#">If only I could tell you</a>	Beckerman, Hannah	2019		
<a href="#">Immortalists</a>	Benjamin, Chloe	2018		
<a href="#">In the garden of the fugitives</a>	Dovey, Ceridwen	2016		
<a href="#">In the heart of the sea</a>	Philbrick, Nathaniel	2015		
<a href="#">Inaugural meeting of the Fairvale ladies book club, The</a>	Green, Sophie	2017		
<a href="#">Instructions for a heatwave</a>	O'Farrell, Maggie	2013		
<a href="#">Into the water</a>	Hawkins, Paula	2017		
<a href="#">Island of sea women, The</a>	See, Lisa	2019		
<a href="#">Jane Austen society, The</a>	Jenner, Natalie	2020		



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<a href="#">Japanese lover, The</a>	Allende, Isabel	2015		
<a href="#">Jasper Jones</a>	Silvey, Craig	2009		
<a href="#">Just an ordinary family</a>	Lowe, Fiona	2020		
<a href="#">Lab Girl</a>	Jahren, Hope	2017		
<a href="#">Lake house, The</a>	Morton, Kate	2015		
<a href="#">Last explorer, The</a>	Nasht, Simon	2006		
<a href="#">Last great Australian adventurer, The</a>	Bass, Gordon	2017		
<a href="#">Last migration, The</a>	McConaghy, Charlotte	2020		
<a href="#">Leonardo Da Vinci</a>	Isaacson, Walter	2018		
<a href="#">Library book, The</a>	Orlean, Susan	2018		
<a href="#">Life after</a>	Ganshert, Katie	2017		
<a href="#">Life we bury, The</a>	Eskens, Allen	2014		
<a href="#">Lincoln in the bardo</a>	Saunders, George	2017		
<a href="#">Little fires everywhere</a>	Ng, Celeste	2017		
<a href="#">Little Paris bookshop, The</a>	George, Nina	2015		
<a href="#">Longbourn</a>	Baker, Jo	2014		
<a href="#">Long bright river</a>	Moore, Liz	2020		
<a href="#">Long live the tribe of fatherless girls</a>	Madden, T Kira	2019		
<a href="#">Long petal of the sea, A</a>	Allende, Isabel	2020		
<a href="#">Lost children archive</a>	Luiselli, Valeria	2019		
<a href="#">Lost man, The</a>	Harper, Jane	2018		
<a href="#">Lotus eaters, The</a>	Clements, Emily	2020		
<a href="#">Love song of Miss Queenie Hennessy, The</a>	Joyce, Rachel	2014		
<a href="#">Lying game, The</a>	Ware, Ruth	2018		
<a href="#">Man called Ove, A</a>	Backman, Fredrik	2014		
<a href="#">Manhattan Beach</a>	Egan, Jennifer	2017		
<a href="#">Manhunters</a>	Murphy, Steve; Pena, Javier F.	2019		
<a href="#">Me</a>	John, Elton	2019		
<a href="#">Mercies, The</a>	Hargrave, Kiran Millwood	2020		
<a href="#">Milkman</a>	Burns, Anna	2018		
<a href="#">Midnight watch, The</a>	Dyer, David	2016		
<a href="#">Millionaire castaway, The</a>	Glasheen, David	2019		
<a href="#">Mimi</a>	Ellmann, Lucy	2013		
<a href="#">Ministry of utmost happiness, The</a>	Roy, Arundhati	2017		
<a href="#">Missing Christopher</a>	Newling, Jane	2014		
<a href="#">Moment of lift, The</a>	Gates, Melinda	2019		
<a href="#">Mort</a>	Pratchett, Terry	1987		
<a href="#">Mothers, The</a>	Bennett, Brit	2016		
<a href="#">Mothers, The</a>	Gannon, Genevieve	2020		
<a href="#">Mother's Promise, The</a>	Hepworth, Sally	2017		
<a href="#">Mr Mac and me</a>	Freud, Esther	2014		
<a href="#">Mr Penumbra's 24 hour book store</a>	Sloan, Robin	2012		
<a href="#">Mountain, The</a>	Modjeska, Drusilla	2012		
<a href="#">Murder in Mississippi</a>	Safran, John	2013		
<a href="#">My brilliant friend (Book 1)</a>	Ferrante, Elana	2012		
<a href="#">My brother Jack</a>	Johnston, George	1964		
<a href="#">My dark Vanessa</a>	Russell, Kate Elizabeth	2020		



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<a href="#">Narrow road to the deep north, The</a>	Flanagan, Richard	2013	
<a href="#">Natural way of things, The</a>	Wood, Charlotte	2015	
<a href="#">Nickel boys, The</a>	Whitehead, Colson	2019	
<a href="#">Nightingale</a>	McIntosh, Fiona	2014	
<a href="#">Nine perfect strangers</a>	Moriarty, Liane	2018	
<a href="#">No friend but the mountains</a>	Boochani, Behrouz	2018	
<a href="#">Normal people</a>	Rooney, Sally	2018	
<a href="#">Not forgetting the whale</a>	Ironmonger, J W	2015	
<a href="#">Nothing Ventured</a>	Archer, Jeffrey	2019	
<a href="#">Old baggage</a>	Evans, Lissa	2018	
<a href="#">Olive Kitteridge</a>	Strout, Elizabeth	2008	
<a href="#">Once we were sisters</a>	Kohler, Sheila	2017	
<a href="#">One hundred days of happiness</a>	Brizzi, Fausto	2015	
<a href="#">Only story, The</a>	Barnes, Julian	2018	
<a href="#">Ordinary Grace</a>	Kreuger, William Kent	2014	
<a href="#">Other side of the world, The</a>	Bishop, Stephanie	2015	
<a href="#">Our souls at night</a>	Haruff, Kent	2015	
<a href="#">Overstory, The</a>	Powers, Richard	2019	
<a href="#">Pachinko</a>	Lee, Min Jin	2017	
<a href="#">Paris secret, The</a>	Lester, Natasha	2020	
<a href="#">Paris wife, The</a>	McLain, Paula	2011	
<a href="#">Part of the furniture</a>	Wesley, Mary	1997	
<a href="#">Penguin Bloom</a>	Bloom, Cameron	2016	
<a href="#">Persuasion</a>	Austen, Jane	1817	
<a href="#">Phosphorescence</a>	Baird, Julia	2020	
<a href="#">Picnic at Hanging Rock</a>	Lindsay, Joan	1967	
<a href="#">Picnic at Hanging Rock (stage version)</a>	Lindsay, Joan Wright, Tom	2017	
<a href="#">Picture of Dorian Gray, The</a>	Wilde, Oscar	1891	
<a href="#">Place called winter, A</a>	Gale, Patrick	2016	
<a href="#">Playing Beatie Bow</a>	Park, Ruth	1982	
<a href="#">Postmistress, The</a>	Blake, Sarah	2010	
<a href="#">President's hat, The</a>	Laurain, Antione	2013	
<a href="#">Prisoner in his palace, The</a>	Bardenwerper, Will	2017	
<a href="#">Prisoner's wife, The</a>	Brookes, Maggie	2020	
<a href="#">Queenie Malone's paradise hotel</a>	Ruth Hogan	2019	
<a href="#">Questions of travel</a>	de Kretser, Michelle	2013	
<a href="#">Reader, The</a>	Chee, Traci	2017	
<a href="#">Reckoning</a>	Szubanski, Magda	2015	
<a href="#">Red notice</a>	Browder, Bill	2016	
<a href="#">Remains of the day, The</a>	Ishiguro, Kazuo	1989	
<a href="#">Remarkable creatures</a>	Chevalier, Tracy	2009	
<a href="#">Restorer, The</a>	Sala, Michael	2017	
<a href="#">Rip, The</a>	Brandi, Mark	2019	
<a href="#">Riptides</a>	Alexander, Kirsten	2020	
<a href="#">River, The</a>	Heller, Peter	2019	
<a href="#">River home, The</a>	Richell, Hannah	2020	
<a href="#">River house, The</a>	Cunnington, Janita	2016	
<a href="#">Rivers of London</a>	Aaronovich, Ben	2011	
<a href="#">Room made of leaves, A</a>	Grenville, Kate	2020	
<a href="#">Rosie effect, The</a>	Simsion, Graeme	2014	





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<a href="#">Rosie project, The</a>	Simsion, Graeme	2013		
<a href="#">Rough beauty</a>	Auvinen, Karen	2019		
<a href="#">Round house, The</a>	Erdrich, Louise	2012		
<a href="#">Ruin, The</a>	McTiernan, Dervla	2018		
<a href="#">Rules of magic, The</a>	Hoffman, Alice	2018		
<a href="#">Sadness is a white bird</a>	Rothman-Zecher, Moriel	2018		
<a href="#">Salt path, The</a>	Winn, Raynor	2019		
<a href="#">Sarah Thornhill</a>	Grenville, Kate	2011		
<a href="#">Saving Missy</a>	Morrey, Beth	2020		
<a href="#">Say hello</a>	Findlay, Carly	2019		
<a href="#">Scrublands</a>	Hammer, Chris	2018		
<a href="#">Secret chord, The</a>	Brooks, Geraldine	2015		
<a href="#">Secret river, The</a>	Grenville, Kate	2005		
<a href="#">Secrets we kept, The</a>	Prescott, Lara	2019		
<a href="#">Shadow lines</a>	Kinnane, Stephen	2020		
<a href="#">Sheila: The Australian beauty who bewitched British society</a>	Wainwright, Robert	2014		
<a href="#">Shepherd's hut, The</a>	Winton, Tim	2018		
<a href="#">Shuggie Bain</a>	Stuart, Douglas	2020		
<a href="#">Signature of all things, The</a>	Gilbert, Elizabeth	2013		
<a href="#">Silent inheritance, The</a>	Dettman, Joy	2016		
<a href="#">Silver</a>	Hammer, Chris	2019		
<a href="#">Simon vs the Homo sapiens agenda</a>	Albertali, Becky	2015		
<a href="#">Small great things</a>	Picoult, Jodi	2016		
<a href="#">Songs of a war boy: My story</a>	Adut, Deng Thiak	2016		
<a href="#">Spirits of the Ghan</a>	Nunn, Judy	2015		
<a href="#">Spy and the traitor, The</a>	Macintyre, Ben	2018		
<a href="#">S.T.A.G.S.</a>	Bennett, M. A.	2017		
<a href="#">Starless sea, The</a>	Morgenstern, Erin	2019		
<a href="#">Stars are fire, The</a>	Shreve, Anita	2017		
<a href="#">Stay with me</a>	Adebayo, Ayobami	2018		
<a href="#">Stoner</a>	Williams, John	1965		
<a href="#">Such a fun age</a>	Reid, Kiley	2020		
<a href="#">Such a long journey</a>	Mistry, Rohinton	1991		
<a href="#">Summer book, The</a>	Jansson, Tove	1974		
<a href="#">Survivors, The</a>	Furnivall, Kate	2019		
<a href="#">Sympathizer, The</a>	Nguyen, Viet Thanh	2015		
<a href="#">Tattooist of Auschwitz, The</a>	Morris, Heather	2018		
<a href="#">Tea girl of Hummingbird Lane, The</a>	See, Lisa	2017		
<a href="#">Ten doors down</a>	Tickner, Robert	2020		
<a href="#">Terra nullius</a>	Coleman, Claire G.	2017		
<a href="#">Testaments, The</a>	Atwood, Margaret	2019		
<a href="#">Then come back</a>	Neruda, Pablo	2016		
<a href="#">There was still love</a>	Parrett, Favel	2019		
<a href="#">Third hotel, The</a>	Van den Berg, Laura	2019		
<a href="#">This house of grief: the story of a murder trial</a>	Garner, Helen	2014		
<a href="#">This is how it always is</a>	Frankel, Laurie	2017		
<a href="#">Three women</a>	Taddeo, Lisa	2019		
<a href="#">Tin man</a>	Winman, Sarah	2017		



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<a href="#">Travelling to infinity: the true story behind <i>The theory of everything</i></a>	Hawking, Jane	2014		
<a href="#">Tree grows in Brooklyn, A</a>	Smith, Betty	1943		
<a href="#">True Girt</a>	Hunt, David	2016		
<a href="#">True story of Maddie Bright, The</a>	MacColl, Mary-Rose	2019		
<a href="#">Truganini</a>	Pybus, Cassandra	2020		
<a href="#">Truly, madly, guilty</a>	Moriarty, Liane	2016		
<a href="#">Truth</a>	Temple, Peter	2009		
<a href="#">Two Sisters</a>	Seierstad, Åsne	2018		
<a href="#">Two steps forward</a>	Simsion, Graeme & Buist, Anne	2018		
<a href="#">Unbreakable</a>	Dokic, Jelena & Halloran, Jessica	2017		
<a href="#">Uncommon reader, The</a>	Bennett, Alan	2007		
<a href="#">Underground railroad, The</a>	Whitehead, Colson	2016		
<a href="#">Ungrateful refugee, The</a>	Nayeri, Dina	2019		
<a href="#">Unlikely pilgrimage of Harold Fry, The</a>	Joyce, Rachel	2012		
<a href="#">Unsheltered</a>	Kingsolver, Barbara	2018		
<a href="#">Vanishing half, The</a>	Bennett, Brit	2020		
<a href="#">Very good lives</a>	Rowling, J. K.	2015		
<a href="#">Victoria, the Queen</a>	Baird, Julia	2016		
<a href="#">Warlight</a>	Ondaatje, Michael	2018		
<a href="#">Water dancer, The</a>	Coates, Ta-Nehisi	2019		
<a href="#">We are all completely beside ourselves</a>	Fowler, Karen Joy	2013		
<a href="#">We need to talk about Kevin</a>	Shriver, Lionel	2006		
<a href="#">We never asked for wings</a>	Diffenbaugh, Vanessa	2016		
<a href="#">Weekend, The</a>	Wood, Charlotte	2019		
<a href="#">When Grace went away</a>	Appleyard, Meredith	2020		
<a href="#">When we were vikings</a>	MacDonald, Andrew	2020		
<a href="#">Where'd you go Bernadette?</a>	Semple, Maria	2013		
<a href="#">Where the crowdads sing</a>	Owens, Delia	2019		
<a href="#">Whisper network</a>	Baker, Chandler	2019		
<a href="#">Wicked boy, The</a>	Summerscale, Kate	2016		
<a href="#">Wife and the widow, The</a>	White, Christian	2019		
<a href="#">Wild: A journey from lost to found on the Pacific Crest Trail</a>	Strayed, Cheryl	2012		
<a href="#">Wimmera</a>	Brandi, Mark	2017		
<a href="#">Witches: Salem 1692, The</a>	Schiff, Stacy	2015		
<a href="#">Woman of no importance, A</a>	Purnell, Sonia	2019		
<a href="#">Wonder, The</a>	Donoghue, Emma	2016		
<a href="#">Woolgrower's companion, The</a>	Rhoades, Joy	2017		
<a href="#">Working class boy</a>	Barnes, Jimmy	2016		
<a href="#">World that we knew, The</a>	Hoffman, Alice	2019		
<a href="#">Year of wonders</a>	Brooks, Geraldine	2002		
<a href="#">Yellow house, The</a>	O'Grady, Emily	2018		
<a href="#">Yield, The</a>	Winch, Tara June	2019		
<a href="#">Your own kind of girl</a>	Bowditch, Clare	2019		

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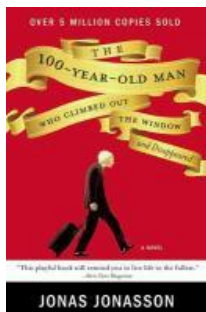
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## 100-year-old man who climbed out the window and disappeared, The

Jonas Jonasson

**CONTEMPORARY**

384pp; Pub 2012



Confined to a nursing home and about to turn 100, Allan Karlsson, who has a larger-than-life back story as an explosives expert, climbs out of the window in his slippers and embarks on an unforgettable adventure involving thugs, a murderous elephant and a very friendly hot dog stand operator.

## 1984 and Animal Farm

George Orwell

**CONTEMPORARY**

433pp; Orig Pub 1949 & 1945



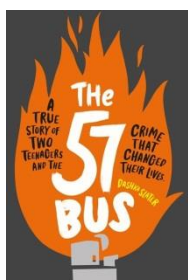
George Orwell's novels about the dangers of tyranny, the corruption of the state and the enslavement of the individual are essential reading. In an era of doublespeak, they remain chillingly prophetic. 1984 is a political fiction and dystopian science fiction which sets in Airstrip One (formerly Great Britain), a province of the superstate Oceania in a world of perpetual war, omnipresent government surveillance, and public manipulation. Animal farm is an allegorical novel that reflects events leading up to the Russian Revolution of 1917 and then on into the Stalinist era of the Soviet Union.

## 57 bus, The

Dashka Slater

**TRUE CRIME**

320pp; Pub 2017



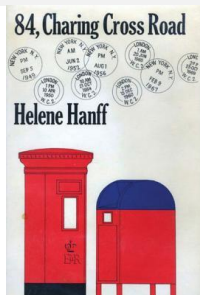
One teenager in a skirt.  
One teenager with a lighter.  
One moment that changes both their lives forever.

## 84, Charing Cross Road

Helen Hanff

**NON FICTION**

71pp; Pub 1970



This book is the very simple story of the love affair between Miss Helene Hanff of New York and Messrs Marks and Co, sellers of rare and secondhand books, at 84 Charing Cross Road, London. Told in a series of letters, this true story has touched the hearts of thousands.



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# BOOK CLUB

**After**  
Nikki Gemmell

**BIOGRAPHY**  
304pp; Pub 2017



Nikki Gemmell's world changed forever in October 2015 when the body of her elderly mother was found and it became clear she had decided to end her own life. After the immediate shock and devastation came the guilt and the horror, for Nikki, her family, relatives and friends. No note was left, so the questions that Elayn's death raised were endless. Was the decision an act of independence or the very opposite? Was it a desperate act driven by hopelessness and anger, or was her euthanasia a reasoned act of empowerment?

**After you**  
Jojo Moyes

**CONTEMPORARY**  
409pp; Pub 2015



Lou Clark has lots of questions. Like how it is she's ended up working in an airport bar, spending every shift watching other people jet off to new places. And will she ever get over the love of her life? What Lou does know for certain is that something has to change. Then, one night, it does. But does the stranger on her doorstep hold the answers Lou is searching for - or just more questions? Close the door and life continues: simple, ordered, safe. Open it and she risks everything. But Lou once made a promise to live. And if she's going to keep it, she has to invite them in. ...

**Alias Grace**  
Atwood, Margaret

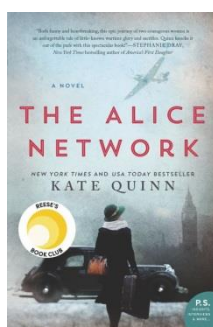
**HISTORICAL FICTION  
PSYCHOLOGICAL**  
545pp; Pub 1996



Sometimes I whisper it over to myself: Murderess. Murderess. It rustles, like a taffeta skirt along the floor.' Grace Marks. Female fiend? Femme fatale? Or weak and unwilling victim? Around the true story of one of the most enigmatic and notorious women of the 1840s, Margaret Atwood has created an extraordinarily potent tale of sexuality, cruelty and mystery.

**Alice network, The**  
Kate Quinn

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
560pp; Pub 2017



In an enthralling new historical novel from national bestselling author Kate Quinn, two women—a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947—are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.

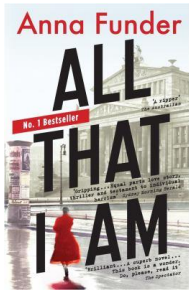


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# BOOK CLUB

**All that I am**  
Anna Funder

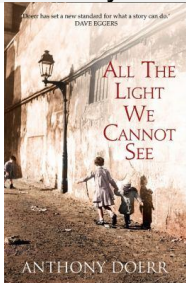
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
369pp; Pub 2011



Ruth Becker, defiant and cantankerous, is living out her days in the eastern suburbs of Sydney. She has made an uneasy peace with the ghosts of her past -- and a part of history that has been all but forgotten. Another lifetime away, it's 1939 and the world is going to war. Ernst Toller, self-doubting revolutionary and poet, sits in a New York hotel room settling up the account of his life. When Toller's story arrives on Ruth's doorstep their shared past slips under her defences, and she's right back among them -- those friends who predicted the brutality of the Nazis and gave everything they had to stop them.

**All the light we cannot see**  
Anthony Doerr

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
531pp; Pub 2014

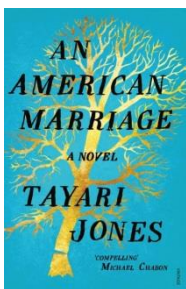


A novel about a blind French girl, Marie-Laure, and a German boy, Werner, whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, Doerr illuminates the ways, against all odds, Doerr's gorgeous combination of soaring imagination with observation is electric.

**An American marriage**  
Tayari Jones

**CONTEMPORARY  
FICTION**  
320pp; Pub 2018

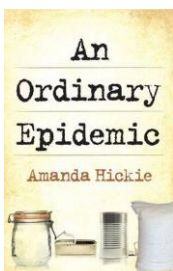


An explosive love story about a marriage interrupted.

Could you put your life on hold for twelve years? A stunning love story about family, injustice and marriage, and three people at once bound and separated by forces beyond their control.

**An ordinary epidemic**  
Amanda Hickie

**AUSTRALIAN FICTION  
SUSPENSE**  
384pp; Pub 2015



Hannah is stuck in the middle of a deadly outbreak. As Sydney goes into lockdown, she attempts to quarantine her home and protect her family from the alarming infection around them. How far will a desperate mother go to keep her loved ones safe?

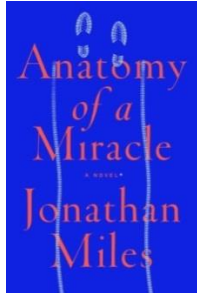


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# BOOK CLUB

**Anatomy of a miracle**  
Johnathan Miles

**LITERARY  
FICTION**  
368pp; Pub 2018

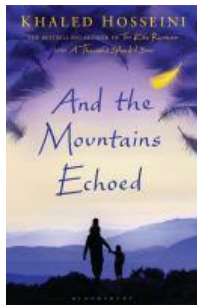


A profound new novel about a paralyzed young man's unexplainable recovery—a stunning exploration of faith, science, mystery, and the meaning of life.

Brilliantly written as closely observed journalistic reportage and filtered through a wide lens that encompasses the vibrant characters affected by Cameron's story, *Anatomy of a Miracle* will be read, championed, and celebrated as a powerful story of our time, and the work of a true literary master.

**And the mountains echoed**  
Khaled Hosseini

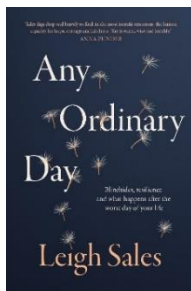
**CONTEMPORARY**  
404pp; Pub 2013



Khaled Hosseini, the 1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Kite Runner* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, has written a new novel about how we love, how we take care of one another, and how the choices we make resonate through generations.

**Any ordinary day**  
Leigh Sales

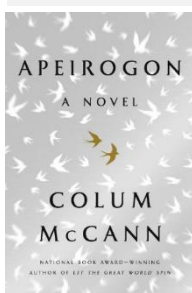
**NON FICTION**  
264pp; Pub 2018



As a journalist, Leigh Sales often encounters people experiencing the worst moments of their lives in the full glare of the media. But one particular string of bad news stories - and a terrifying brush with her own mortality - sent her looking for answers about how vulnerable each of us is to a life-changing event.

**Apeirogon**  
Colum McCann

**LITERARY FICTION  
HISTORICAL FICTION**  
**463 PAGES; PUB.  
2020**



Bassam Aramin is Palestinian. Rami Elhanan is Israeli. They inhabit a world of conflict that colours every aspect of their lives, from the roads they are allowed to drive on to the schools their children attend to the checkpoints, both physical and emotional, they must negotiate. But their lives, however circumscribed, are upended one after the other: first, Rami's thirteen-year-old daughter, Smadar, becomes the victim of suicide bombers; a decade later, Bassam's ten-year-old daughter, Abir, is killed by a rubber bullet. Rami and Bassam had been raised to hate one another. And yet, when they learn of each other's stories, they recognize the loss that connects them. Together they attempt to use their grief as a weapon for peace—and with their one small act, start to permeate what has for generations seemed an impermeable conflict.





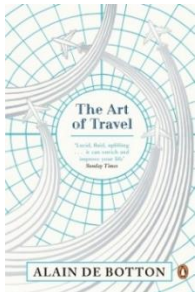
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# BOOK CLUB

## Art of travel, The Alain de Botton

TRAVEL  
NON-FICTION

261pp; Pub 2002



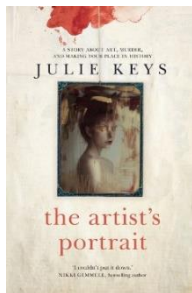
Few activities seem to promise us as much happiness as going travelling: taking off for somewhere else, somewhere far from home, a place with more interesting weather, customs and landscapes. But although we are inundated with advice on *where* to travel to, we seldom ask *why* we go and how we might become more fulfilled by doing so. With the help of a selection of writers, artists and thinkers - including Flaubert, Edward Hopper, Wordsworth and Van Gogh - Alain de Botton's bestselling *The Art of Travel* provides invaluable insights into everything from holiday romance to hotel mini-bars, airports to sight-seeing.

The perfect antidote to those guides that tell us what to do when we get there, *The Art of Travel* tries to explain why we really went in the first place - and helpfully suggests how we might be happier on our journeys.

## Artist's portrait, The Julie Keys

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

290pp; Pub 2019



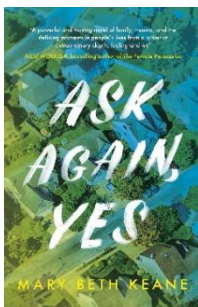
In 1992, morning sickness drives Jane to pre-dawn walks of her neighbourhood where she meets an unfriendly woman who sprays her with a hose as she passes by. When they do talk: *Muriel Kemp eyes my pregnant belly and tells me if I really want to succeed, I'd get rid of the baby.*

Driven to find out more about her curmudgeonly neighbour, Jane Cooper begins to investigate the life of Muriel, who claims to be a famous artist from Sydney's bohemian 1920s. Contemporary critics argue that legend, rather than ability, has secured her position in history. They also claim that the *real* Muriel Kemp died in 1936.

## Ask again, yes Mary Beth Keane

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

400pp; Pub 2019



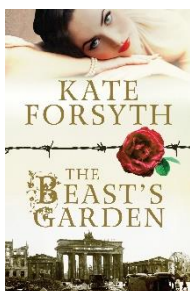
A profoundly moving novel about two neighboring families in a suburban town, the friendship between their children, a tragedy that reverberates over four decades, the daily intimacies of marriage, and the power of forgiveness.

Francis Gleeson and Brian Stanhope, rookie cops in the NYPD, live next door to each other outside the city. What happens behind closed doors in both houses—the loneliness of Francis's wife, Lena, and the instability of Brian's wife, Anne, sets the stage for the explosive events to come.

## Beast's garden, The Kate Forsyth

HISTORICAL FICTION

448pp; Pub 2016



It's August 1939 in Germany, and Ava's world is in turmoil. To save her father, she must marry a young Nazi officer, Leo von Löwenstein, who works for Hitler's spy chief in Berlin. However, she hates and fears the brutal Nazi regime, and finds herself compelled to stand against it.

Ava joins an underground resistance movement that seeks to help victims survive the horrors of the German war machine. But she must live a double life, hiding her true feelings from her husband, even as she falls in love with him. Gradually she comes to realise that Leo is part of a dangerous conspiracy to assassinate Hitler. As Berlin is bombed into ruins, the Gestapo ruthlessly hunt down all resistance and Ava finds herself living hand-to-mouth in the rubble of the shell-shocked city. Both her life and Leo's hang in the balance.



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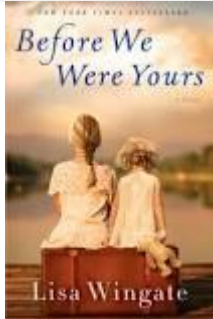
# BOOK CLUB

## Before We Were Yours

Lisa Wingate

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
**LITERARY FICTION**  
**WOMEN'S FICTION**

352pp; Pub 2017



Based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals—in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country—Lisa Wingate's riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong.

## Becoming

Michelle Obama

**BIOGRAPHY**

448pp; Pub 2018



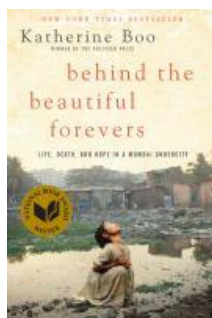
In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story in her own words and on her own terms.

## Behind the beautiful forevers

Katherine Boo

**NON FICTION**

256pp; Pub 2012



The dramatic story of families striving toward a better life in Annawadi, a makeshift settlement in the shadow of luxury hotels near the Mumbai airport. As India starts to prosper, the residents of Annawadi are electric with hope. Abdul sees "a fortune beyond counting" in the recyclable garbage that richer people throw away. Meanwhile Asha has identified a shadier route to the middle class. With a little luck, her beautiful daughter might become its first female college graduate. But then Abdul is falsely accused in a shocking tragedy; terror and global recession rock the city; and suppressed tensions over religion, caste, sex, power, and economic envy turn brutal.

## Bellman & Black

Diane Setterfield

**CONTEMPORARY**

**GHOST STORY**

328pp; Pub 2013



Killing a bird with his slingshot as a boy, William Bellman grows up a wealthy family man unaware of how his act of childhood cruelty will have terrible consequences until a wrenching tragedy compels him to enter into a macabre bargain with a stranger in black.





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# BOOK CLUB

## Below deck

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

Sophie Hardcastle

296pp; Pub 2020



Twenty-one-year-old Olivia hears the world in colour, but her life is mottled grey. Estranged from her parents, and living with her grandfather who is drowning in sadness, Oli faces the reality of life beyond university alone.

When she wakes on a boat with no recollection of how she got there, she accepts the help of two strangers who change the course of her future forever. With Mac and Maggie, Oli learns to navigate a life upon open ocean and the world flowers into colours she's never seen before.

Four years later, Oli, fluent in the language of the sea, is the only woman among men on a yacht delivery from Noumea to Auckland. In the darkness below deck, she learns that at sea, no one can hear you scream.

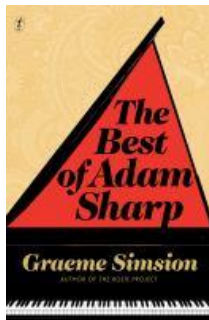
Moving to London, Oli's life at sea is buried. When she meets Hugo, the wind changes, and her memories are dust blown into shapes. Reminding her of everything.

## Best of Adam Sharp, The

CONTEMPORARY

Graeme Simsion

374pp; Pub 2016



On the cusp of fifty, Adam Sharp has a loyal partner, earns a good income as an IT contractor and is the music-trivia expert at quiz nights. It is the lifestyle he wanted, but something is missing. Two decades ago, on the other side of the world, his part-time piano playing led him into a passionate relationship with Angelina Brown. She gave Adam a chance to make it something more than an affair but he did not take it. And now he cannot shake off his nostalgia for what might have been. Then, out of nowhere, Angelina gets in touch. What does she want?

## Best we could do, The

MEMOIR

Thi Bui

GRAPHIC NOVEL

327pp; Pub 2017



Thi Bui's critically acclaimed and beautifully illustrated story of her family's journey from their war-torn home in Vietnam to their new lives in America. Exploring the anguish of immigration and the lasting effects that displacement has on a child and family, Bui documents the difficulties immigrants face as they build new lives for themselves. At the heart of Bui's story is a universal struggle: adjusting to life as a first-time mother. With haunting, poetic writing and breathtaking art, *The Best We Could Do* examines the strength of family, the importance of identity, and the meaning of home, providing inspiration to all who search for a better future while longing for a simpler past.

## Big little lies

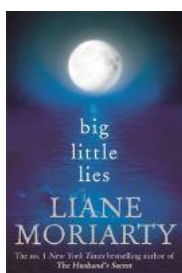
CONTEMPORARY

Liane Moriarty

MYSTERY

AUSTRALIAN

472pp; Pub 2014



A murder...a tragic accident...or just parents behaving badly? What's indisputable is that someone is dead. But who did what? *Big Little Lies* follows three women whose children all attend kindergarten at the same school. They each at a crossroads: funny and passionate Madeline; beautiful but haunted Celeste, and young single mum Jane who has secrets of her own.



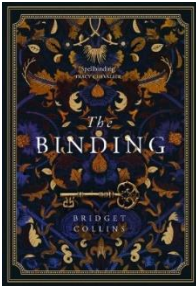
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# BOOK CLUB

## Binding, The Bridget Collins

CONTEMPORARY  
FICTION

448pp; Pub 2018



Emmett Farmer is working in the fields when a letter arrives summoning him to begin an apprenticeship. He will work for a Bookbinder, a vocation that arouses fear, superstition and prejudice – but one neither he nor his parents can afford to refuse.

He will learn to hand-craft beautiful volumes, and within each he will capture something unique and extraordinary: a memory. If there's something you want to forget, he can help. If there's something you need to erase, he can assist. Your past will be stored safely in a book and you will never remember your secret, however terrible.

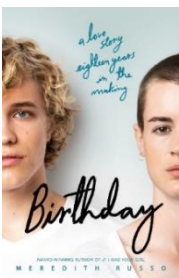
In a vault under his mentor's workshop, row upon row of books – and memories – are meticulously stored and recorded.

Then one day Emmett makes an astonishing discovery: one of them has his name on it.

## Birthday Meredith Russo

CONTEMPORARY FICTION  
YOUNG ADULT

299pp; Pub 2019



They've always shared this one day together, but as they grow up they begin to grow apart. Everyone expects Eric to get a football scholarship, but no one knows he's having second thoughts. Former quarterback Morgan feels utterly alone, as she wrestles with the difficult choice to live as her true self. Both of them are struggling to be the person they know they are. Who better to help than your best friend?

## Bluest eye, The Toni Morrison

CONTEMPORARY  
FICTION

207pp; Pub 1970

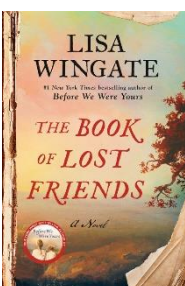


THE BLUEST EYE chronicles the tragic, torn lives of a poor black family in 1940s Ohio: Pauline, Cholly, Sam and Pecola. Pecola, unlovely and unloved, prays each night for blue eyes like those of her privileged blond white schoolfellows. She becomes the focus of the mingled love and hatred engendered by her family's frailty and the world's cruelty as the novel moves toward a savage but poignant resolution.

## Book of lost friends, The Lisa Wingate

HISTORICAL FICTION

457pp; Pub 2020



Bestselling author Lisa Wingate brings to life startling stories from actual “Lost Friends” advertisements that appeared in Southern newspapers after the Civil War, as newly freed slaves desperately searched for loved ones who had been sold away.



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# BOOK CLUB

## Book woman of Troublesome Creek, The Kim Michele Richardson

**HISTORICAL  
FICTION**  
308pp; Pub 2019



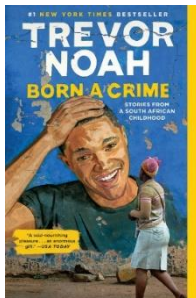
The hardscrabble folks of Troublesome Creek have to scarp for everything—everything except books, that is. Thanks to Roosevelt's Kentucky Pack Horse Library Project, Troublesome's got its very own traveling librarian, Cussy Mary Carter.

Cussy's not only a book woman, however, she's also the last of her kind, her skin a shade of blue unlike most anyone else.

Not everyone is keen on Cussy's family or the Library Project, and a Blue is often blamed for any whiff of trouble. If Cussy wants to bring the joy of books to the hill folks, she's going to have to confront prejudice as old as the Appalachias and suspicion as deep as the holler.

## Born a crime Trevor Noah

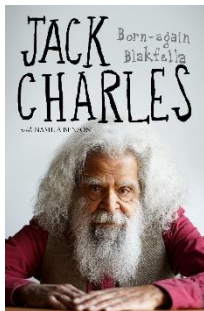
**MEMOIR**  
288pp; Pub 2016



Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of *The Daily Show* began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Living proof of his parents' indiscretion, Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Finally liberated by the end of South Africa's tyrannical white rule, Trevor and his mother set forth on a grand adventure, living openly and freely and embracing the opportunities won by a centuries-long struggle.

## Born-again Blakfella Jack Charles

**MEMOIR**  
256pp; Pub 2020

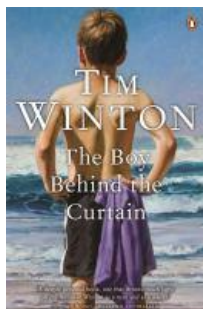


Jack Charles has worn many hats throughout his life: actor, cat burglar, musician, heroin addict, activist, even Senior Victorian Australian of the Year. But the title he's most proud to claim is that of Aboriginal Elder.

Stolen from his mother and placed into institutional care when he was only a few months old, Uncle Jack was raised under the government's White Australia Policy. The loneliness and isolation he experienced during those years had a devastating impact on him that endured long after he reconnected with his Aboriginal roots and discovered his stolen identity. Even today he feels like an outsider; a loner; a fringe dweller.

## Boy behind the curtain, The Tim Winton

**BIOGRAPHY / MEMOIR  
AUSTRALIAN**  
296pp; Pub 2016



In this remarkable work of nonfiction, Australia's greatest novelist takes us behind the scenes, sharing the extraordinarily powerful true stories that have influenced his view of the world and fuelled his fiction. Like those of his characters, Tim Winton's life has been shaped by havoc. *The Boy Behind the Curtain* shows the unexpected links between car crashes and religious faith, between surfing and writing, and how going to the wrong movie at the age of eight opened him up to a life of the imagination. Behind it, all, from risk-taking youth to surprise-averse middle age, has been the crazy punt of staking everything on becoming a writer.



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# BOOK CLUB

**Boy swallows universe**  
Trent Dalton

**CONTEMPORARY  
FICTION**  
480pp; Pub 2018

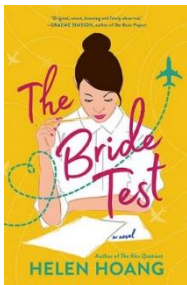


Brisbane, 1983: A lost father, a mute brother, a mum in jail, a heroin dealer for a stepfather and a notorious crim for a babysitter. It's not as if Eli's life isn't complicated enough already. He's just trying to follow his heart, learning what it takes to be a good man, but life just keeps throwing obstacles in the way - not least of which is Tytus Broz, legendary Brisbane drug dealer.

But Eli's life is about to get a whole lot more serious. He's about to fall in love. And, oh yeah, he has to break into Boggo Road Gaol on Christmas Day, to save his mum.

**Bride test, The**  
Helen Hoang

**ROMANCE**  
312pp; Pub 2019

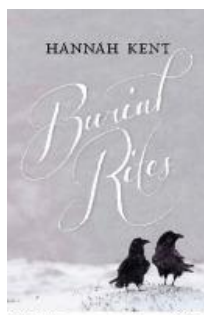


Khai Diep has no feelings. Well, he feels irritation when people move his things or contentment when ledgers balance down to the penny, but not big, important emotions - like grief. And love. He thinks he's defective.

Khai's family, however, understand that his autism means he processes emotions differently. As he steadfastly avoids relationships, his mother takes matters into her own hands and returns to Vietnam to find him the perfect bride.

**Burial rites**  
Hannah Kent

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
338pp; Pub 2013



Northern Iceland, 1829. A woman condemned to death for murdering her lover. A family forced to take her in. A priest tasked with absolving her. But all is not as they had assumed, and time is running out - winter is coming and with it the execution date. Only she can know the truth.

**Burning, A**  
Megha Majumdar

**LITERARY FICTION  
THRILLER**  
293pp; Pub 2020



Set in contemporary India, *A Burning* is the story of three unforgettable characters, all dreaming of a better future, whose lives are changed for ever when they become caught up in the devastating aftermath of a terrorist attack.

Jivan – a poor, young, Muslim girl, who dreams of going to college – faces a possible death sentence after being accused of collaborating with the terrorists. Lovely – an exuberant hijra who longs to be a Bollywood star – holds the alibi that can set Jivan free, but telling the truth will cost her everything she holds dear.

PT Sir – an opportunistic gym teacher who once taught Jivan – becomes involved with Hindu nationalist politics and his own ascent is soon inextricably linked to Jivan's fall.





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# BOOK CLUB

## Calling me home

Julie Kibler

**CONTEMPORARY**

325pp; Pub 2013



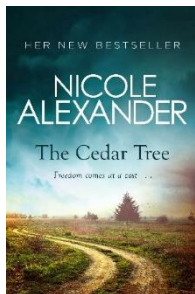
Eighty-nine-year-old Isabelle McAllister has a favour to ask her hairdresser Dorrie Curtis: drop everything and drive from Arlington, Texas, to a funeral in Cincinnati. Tomorrow. Dorrie, fleeing problems of her own, agrees. It's a journey that changes both their lives, as she learns Isabelle's tale of a forbidden relationship and its tragic consequences-- a tale that just might help Dorrie find her own way.

## Cedar tree, The

Nicole Alexander

**HISTORICAL FICTION**

384pp; Pub 2020



In the spring of 1949, Stella O'Riain flees her home – a sheep property on the barren edge of the Strzelecki Desert. She leaves behind the graves of her husband Joe and her baby daughter.

With no money and limited options, Stella accepts her brother-in-law Harry's offer to live at the O'Riain cane farm in the Richmond Valley. There she hopes to get answers to the questions that plague her about her marriage. However Harry refuses to discuss Joe or the family's secrets, even forbidding her to speak to the owner of the neighbouring property.

Nearly a century earlier in County Tipperary, Irish cousins Brandon and Sean O'Riain also fled their homes – as wanted criminals. By 1867, they are working as cedar-cutters in New South Wales's lush green Richmond Valley.

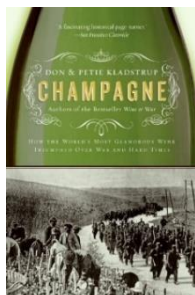
But while Brandon embraces the opportunities this new country offers, Sean refuses to let go of the past. And one cousin is about to make a dangerous choice that will have devastating consequences down the generations . . .

## Champagne

Don & Petie Kladstrup

**NON FICTION**

320pp; Pub 2006



Throughout history, waves of invaders have coveted the northeast corner of France: Attila the Hun in the fifth century, the English in the Hundred Years War, the Prussians in the nineteenth century. Yet this region – which historians say has suffered more battles and wars than any other place on earth – is also the birthplace of one thing the entire world equates with good times, friendship and celebration: champagne.

Champagne is the story of the world's favourite wine. It tells how a sparkling beverage that became the toast of society during the Belle Epoque emerged after World War I as a global icon of fine taste and good living. The book celebrates the gutsy, larger-than-life characters whose proud determination nurtured and preserved the land and its grapes throughout centuries of conflict.

## Chocolate tin, The

Fiona McIntosh

**HISTORICAL FICTION**

419pp; Pub 2016



Alexandra Frobisher has received several proposals of marriage. Matthew Britten-Jones is a man of charm and strong social standing. He impresses Alex and her parents with his wit and intelligence, but would an amicable union be enough for a fulfilling life together? At the end of the war, Captain Harry Blakeney discovers a dead soldier in a trench in France. In the man's possession is a secret love note, tucked inside a tin of chocolate that had been sent to the soldiers as a gift from the people back home. In pursuit of the author of this mysterious message, Harry travels to Rowntree's chocolate factory in England's north, where his life becomes inextricably bound with Alexandra and Matthew's .

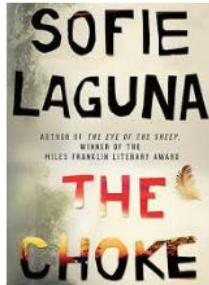


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**Choke, The**  
Sofie Laguna

# BOOK CLUB

**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN AUTHOR**  
369pp; Pub 2017



'I never had words to ask anybody the questions, so I never had the answers.'  
Abandoned by her mother as a toddler and only occasionally visited by her volatile father who keeps dangerous secrets, Justine is raised solely by her Pop, an old man tormented by visions of the Burma Railway. Justine finds sanctuary in Pop's chooks and The Choke, where the banks of the Murray River are so narrow they can almost touch.

**Church of marvels, The**  
Leslie Parry

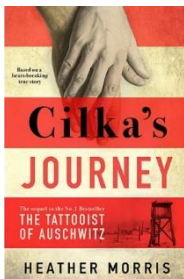
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
308pp; Pub 2015



It is late on a warm city night when Sylvan Threadgill, a young night soiler who cleans out the privies behind the tenement houses, pulls a terrible secret out from the filthy hollows: an abandoned newborn baby. An orphan himself, Sylvan was raised by a kindly Italian family and can't bring himself to leave the baby in the slop. He tucks her into his chest, resolving to find out where she belongs.

**Cilka's journey**  
Heather Morris

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
324 PAGES; PUB. 2019

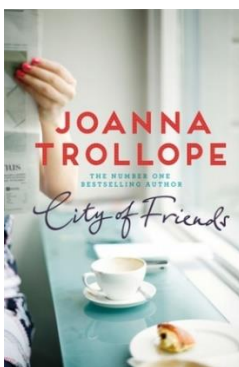


**The sequel to the International Number One Bestseller *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*, based on a true story of love and resilience.**

Her beauty saved her life - and condemned her. Cilka is just 16 years old when she is taken to Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp, in 1942. The Commandant at Birkenau, Schwarzhuber, notices her long beautiful hair, and forces her separation from the other women prisoners. Cilka learns quickly that power, even unwillingly given, equals survival.

**City of friends**  
Joanna Trollope

**CONTEMPORARY**  
336pp; Pub 2017



The story of four ambitious, well-to-do women in their forties confronting various life changes. For Stacey, it's being sacked from the job she's held for 16 years. For single mother Melissa, it's the new curiosity of her teenage son about his absent father. Beth's younger lesbian lover has left her, and Gaby is flung into an awkward professional predicament. Trollope's stylish but understated storytelling unrolls all these stories with empathy and energy, revealing a serious underlying preoccupation with the difficulties for women of combining family and career.

*From The Sydney Morning Herald*





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# BOOK CLUB

**Coconut children, The**  
Vivian Pham

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
304pp; Pub 2020



Growing up can feel like a death sentence.

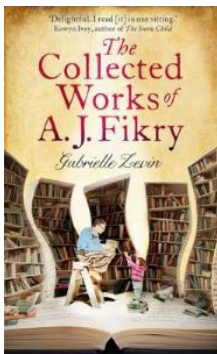
Life in a troubled neighbourhood demands too much too young. But Sonny wouldn't really know.

Watching the world from her bedroom window, she exists only in second-hand romance novels and falls for any fast-food employee who happens to spare her a glance.

Everything changes with the return of Vince, a boy who became a legend after he was hauled away in handcuffs at fourteen. Sonny and Vince used to be childhood friends. But with all that happened in-between, childhood seems so long ago. It will take two years of juvie, an inebriated grandmother and a porn stash for them to meet again.

**Collected works of A J Fikry**  
Gabrielle Zevin

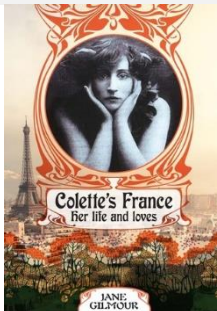
**CONTEMPORARY**  
243pp; Pub 2014



AJ Fikry owns a failing bookshop. His wife has just died, in tragic circumstances. His rare and valuable first edition has been stolen. His life is a wreck. Amelia is a book rep, with a big heart, and a lonely life Maya is the baby who ends up on AJ's bookshop floor with a note. What happens in the bookshop that changes the lives of these seemingly normal but extraordinary characters? This is the story of how unexpected love can rescue you and bring you back to real life, in a world that you won't want to leave, with characters that you will come to love.

**Colette's France**  
Jane Gilmour

**BIOGRAPHY**  
216pp; Pub 2017



French author Colette has a special place in French literary history, her life and writing novels Cheri, Gigli and the Claudine series spanned the renowned artistic period of Belle Epoque Paris, the art scene in the South of France and war time Paris. Her companions were all the great French writer, artists, actors and intellectuals and her life is told against a backdrop and atmosphere of great creativity and style, liberation and rebellion.

**Commonwealth**  
Ann Patchett

**CONTEMPORARY**  
322pp; Pub 2016



This is a powerful story of two families brought together by beauty and torn apart by tragedy. It is 1964: Bert Cousins shows up at Franny Keating's christening party uninvited and notices a heart-stoppingly beautiful woman. When he kisses Beverly Keating, his host's wife, he sets in motion the joining of two families whose shared fate will be defined on a day seven years later. In 1988, Franny Keating, now twenty-four, is working as a cocktail waitress in Chicago. When she meets the famous author Leon Posen one night at the bar, and tells him about her family, she unwittingly relinquishes control over their story.



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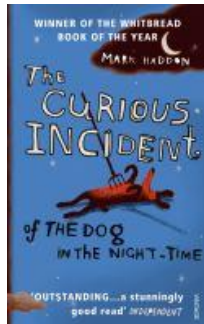
# BOOK CLUB

## Curious incident of the dog in the night time

Mark Haddon

**CONTEMPORARY  
MYSTERY**

224pp; Pub 2004



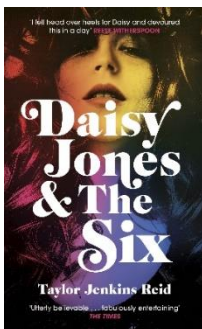
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time is a murder mystery novel like no other. The detective, and narrator, is Christopher Boone. Christopher is fifteen and has Asperger's Syndrome. He knows a very great deal about maths and very little about human beings. He loves lists, patterns and the truth. He hates the colours yellow and brown and being touched. He has never gone further than the end of the road on his own, but when he finds a neighbour's dog murdered he sets out on a terrifying journey which will turn his whole world upside down.

## Daisy Jones and The Six

Taylor Jenkins Reid

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**

355pp; Pub 2019



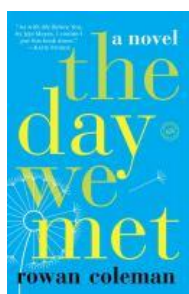
Daisy is a girl coming of age in L.A. in the late sixties, sneaking into clubs on the Sunset Strip, sleeping with rock stars, and dreaming of singing at the Whisky a Go-Go. The sex and drugs are thrilling, but it's the rock and roll she loves most. By the time she's twenty, her voice is getting noticed, and she has the kind of heedless beauty that makes people do crazy things. Another band getting noticed is The Six, led by the brooding Billy Dunne. On the eve of their first tour, his girlfriend Camila finds out she's pregnant, and with the pressure of impending fatherhood and fame, Billy goes a little wild on the road. Daisy and Billy cross paths when a producer realizes the key to supercharged success is to put the two together. What happens next will become the stuff of legend. The making of that legend is chronicled in this riveting and unforgettable novel, written as an oral history of one of the biggest bands of the seventies.

## Day we met, The

Rowan Coleman

**CONTEMPORARY**

334pp; Pub 2015



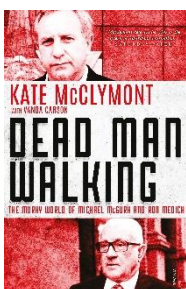
When Claire starts to write her Memory Book, she already knows that this scrapbook of mementoes will soon be all her daughters and husband have of her. In her mid-40s, Claire is scared and increasingly confused by the world around her, struggling to hold onto her identity as thoughts of her family grow fuzzier every day. Fearing what will happen if those memories fade altogether, her family's gift of a red sketchpad is her most treasured possession. As they fill it with scenes from a joyous life lived together, Claire again experiences the ecstatic highs and terrible lows of a life well lived: full of heartbreak and love, tears and laughter.

## Dead man walking

Kate McClymont

**NON FICTION**

400pp; Pub 2019



Rumour has it that Sydney is full of corruption and crime, but no one expected to read about a Sydney businessman being shot, in the back of his head, in his driveway, in Cremorne. Nor that, ultimately, a Point Piper millionaire would be convicted for ordering the hit. But this is not just a Sydney story. Its strands traverse Moscow, Brunei, Indonesia and Hawaii and involve property deals, fraud, conspiracy, false identities, kidnapping and a miniature Koran. There are bumbling criminals, turncoats, snitches, wealthy people brought down, and devastated families.

Just prior to his murder, Michael McGurk – who had a history of violence, threats, arson charges, intimidation and failed businesses – had informed Kate McClymont, Australia's best-known investigative journalist, that he believed there was a hit out on him. They agreed they would meet, and then he was shot.



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# BOOK CLUB

**Defending Jacob**  
William Landay

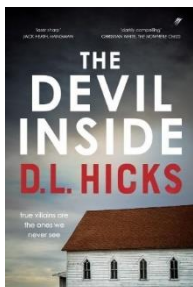
**SUSPENSE / THRILLER**  
505pp; Pub 2013



Andy Barber has been an assistant district attorney in his suburban Massachusetts county for more than twenty years. When a shocking crime shatters their New England town, Andy is blindsided by what happens next: his fourteen-year-old son is charged with the murder of a fellow student. As the crisis reveals how little a father knows about his son, Andy will face a trial of his own-- between loyalty and justice, between truth and allegation, between a past he's tried to bury and a future he cannot conceive.

**Devil inside, The**  
D.L. Hicks

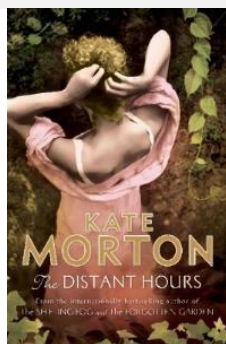
**CRIME & MYSTERY**  
319 PAGES; PUB. 2020



In a peaceful coastal town, a young woman is found brutally murdered, a piece of scripture held tightly in her hand. Local detective Charlotte Callaghan is put on the case, and she's glad for the distraction – Gull Bay can be a hard place to keep a secret, and she's holding on to a few.

**Distant hours, The**  
Kate Morton

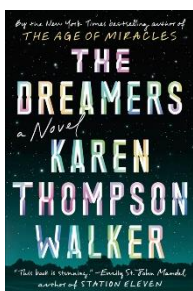
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
**MYSTERY**  
603pp; Pub 2010



A long lost letter arrives in the post and Edie Burchill finds herself on a journey to Milderhurst Castle, a great but mouldering old house, where the Blythe spinsters live and where her mother was billeted 50 years before as a 13 year old child during WWII. The elder Blythe sisters are twins and have spent most of their lives looking after the third and youngest sister, Juniper, who hasn't been the same since her fiance jilted her in 1941. Inside the decaying castle, Edie begins to unravel her mother's past.

**Dreamers, The**  
Karen Thompson Walker

**LITERARY FICTION**  
303pp; Pub 2019



One night in an isolated college town in the hills of Southern California, a first-year student stumbles into her dorm room, falls asleep—and doesn't wake up. She sleeps through the morning, into the evening. Her roommate, Mei, cannot rouse her. Neither can the paramedics, nor the perplexed doctors at the hospital. When a second girl falls asleep, and then a third, Mei finds herself thrust together with an eccentric classmate as panic takes hold of the college and spreads to the town.





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# BOOK CLUB

**Dressmaker, The**  
Rosalie Ham

**CONTEMPORARY**  
295pp; Pub 2015



Tilly Dunnage has come home to care for her mad old mother. She left the small Victorian town of Dungatar years before, and became an accomplished couturier in Paris. Now she earns her living making exquisite frocks for the people who drove her away when she was ten. Through the long Dungatar nights, she sits at her sewing machine, planning revenge.

**Dry, The**  
Jane Harper

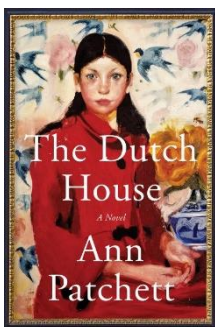
**MYSTERY  
THRILLER / SUSPENSE  
AUSTRALIAN**  
342pp; Pub 2016



Who really killed the Hadler family? Luke Hadler turns a gun on his wife and child, then himself. The farming community of Kiewarra is facing life and death choices daily. If one of their own broke under the strain, well then Federal Police investigator Aaron Falk returns to Kiewarra for the funerals, he is loath to confront the people who rejected him twenty years earlier. But when his investigative skills are called on, the facts of the Hadler case start to make him doubt this murder-suicide charge.

**Dutch house, The**  
Ann Patchett

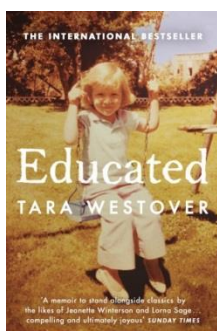
**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
337pp; Pub 2019



Set over the course of five decades, *The Dutch House* is a dark fairy tale about two smart people who cannot overcome their past. Despite every outward sign of success, Danny and Maeve are only truly comfortable when they're together. Throughout their lives they return to the well-worn story of what they've lost with humor and rage. But when at last they're forced to confront the people who left them behind, the relationship between an indulged brother and his ever-protective sister is finally tested.

**Educated**  
Tara Westover

**BIOGRAPHY**  
400pp; Pub 2018



Tara Westover and her family grew up preparing for the End of Days but, according to the government, she didn't exist. She hadn't been registered for a birth certificate. She had no school records because she'd never set foot in a classroom, and no medical records because her father didn't believe in hospitals.

As she grew older, her father became more radical and her brother more violent. At sixteen, Tara knew she had to leave home. In doing so she discovered both the transformative power of education, and the price she had to pay for it.



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# BOOK CLUB

**Eleanor Oliphant is completely fine**  
Gail Honeyman

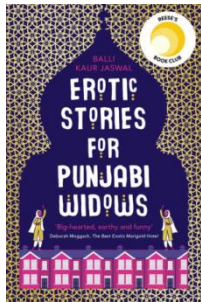
**CONTEMPORARY**  
386pp; Pub 2017



Eleanor Oliphant has learned how to survive, but not how to live. Eleanor Oliphant leads a simple life. She wears the same clothes to work every day, eats the same meal deal for lunch every day and buys the same two bottles of vodka to drink every weekend. Eleanor Oliphant is happy. Nothing is missing from her carefully timetabled life. Except, sometimes, everything. One simple act of kindness is about to shatter the walls Eleanor has built around herself. Now she must learn how to navigate the world that everyone else seems to take for granted, while searching for the courage to face the dark corners she's avoided all her life.

**Erotic stories for Punjabi widows**  
Balli Kaur Jaswal

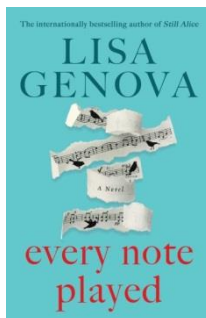
**CONTEMPORARY**  
304pp; Pub 2017



A lively, sexy, and thought-provoking East-meets-West story about community, friendship, and women's lives at all ages—a spicy and alluring mix of *Together Tea* and *Calendar Girls*.

**Every note played**  
Lisa Genova

**FICTION  
CARERS**  
320; Pub 2018



A once accomplished concert pianist, Richard now has ALS. As he becomes increasingly paralysed and is no longer able to live on his own, Karina becomes his reluctant caretaker. As Richard's muscles, voice, and breath fade, both he and Karina try to reconcile their past before it's too late. This is a masterful exploration of redemption and what it means to find peace inside of forgiveness.

**Everyone brave is forgiven**  
Chris Cleave

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
428pp; Pub 2016



When war is declared, Mary North leaves finishing school unfinished, goes straight to the War Office, and signs up. Tom Shaw decides to give it a miss - until his flatmate Alistair unexpectedly enlists, and the conflict can no longer be avoided. Young, bright and brave, Mary is certain she'd be a marvellous spy. When she is - bewilderingly - made a teacher, she instead finds herself defying prejudice to protect the children her country would rather forget. Tom, meanwhile, finds that he will do anything for Mary. And when Mary and Alistair meet, it is love, as well as war, that will test them in ways they could not have imagined.



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# BOOK CLUB

**Everything I never told you**  
Celeste Ng

**CONTEMPORARY  
SUSPENSE**  
297pp; Pub 2014



Lydia is the favourite child of Marilyn and James Lee; a girl who inherited her mother's bright blue eyes and her father's jet-black hair. Her parents are determined that Lydia will fulfil their dreams. But Lydia is under pressures that have nothing to do with growing up in 1970s small town Ohio. Her father is an American born of first-generation Chinese immigrants, and his ethnicity, and hers, make them conspicuous in any setting. When Lydia's body is found in the local lake, it's the youngest in the family - Hannah - who observes far more than anyone realises and who may be the only one who knows what really happened.

**Everywhere I look**  
Helen Garner

**MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY  
AUSTRALIAN**  
229pp; Pub 2016



Helen Garner is one of Australia's greatest writers. Her short non-fiction has enormous range. Spanning fifteen years of work, Everywhere I Look is a book full of unexpected moments, sudden shafts of light, piercing intuition, flashes of anger and incidental humour. It takes us from backstage at the ballet to the trial of a woman for the murder of her newborn baby. It moves effortlessly from the significance of moving house to the pleasure of re-reading Pride and Prejudice.

**Exit west**  
Mohsin Hamid

**CONTEMPORARY**  
231pp; Pub 2017



In a country teetering on the brink of civil war, two young people meet: sensual, fiercely independent Nadia and gentle, restrained Saeed. They embark on a furtive love affair, thrust into premature intimacy by the unrest roiling their city. When it explodes, turning familiar streets into a patchwork of checkpoints and bomb blasts, they begin to hear whispers about doors - doors that can whisk people far away, if perilously and for a price. As violence and the threat of violence escalate, Nadia and Saeed decide that they no longer have a choice. Leaving their homeland and their old lives behind, they find a door and step through.

**Extinctions**  
Josephine Wilson

**AUSTRALIAN FICTION**  
Miles Franklin Winner 2017  
281pp; Pub 2016



Professor Frederick Lothian, retired engineer, world expert on concrete and connoisseur of modernist design, has quarantined himself from life by moving to a retirement village. Surrounded and obstructed by the debris of his life - objects he has collected over many years and tells himself he is keeping for his daughter - he is determined to be miserable, but is tired of his existence and of the life he has chosen. When a series of unfortunate incidents forces him and his neighbour, Jan, together, he begins to realise the damage done by the accumulation of a lifetime's secrets and lies, and to comprehend his own shortcomings.



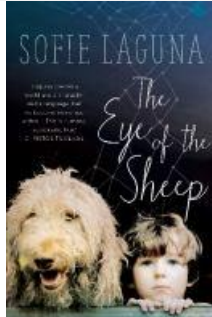


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# BOOK CLUB

## Eye of the sheep Sofie Laguna

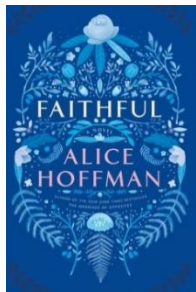
**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN AUTHOR**  
311pp; Pub 2014



Meet Jimmy Flick. He's not like other kids - he's both too fast and too slow. He sees too much, and too little. Jimmy's mother Paula is the only one who can manage him. She teaches him how to count sheep so that he can fall asleep. She holds him tight enough to stop his cells spinning. It is only Paula who can keep Jimmy out of his father's way. But when Jimmy's world falls apart, he has to navigate the unfathomable world on his own, and make things right.

## Faithful Alice Hoffman

**CONTEMPORARY**  
258pp; Pub 2016



Growing up on Long Island, Shelby Richmond is an ordinary girl until one night an extraordinary tragedy changes her fate. Her best friend's future is destroyed in an accident, while Shelby walks away with the burden of guilt.

## Fake Stephanie Wood

**MEMOIR**  
352pp; Pub 2019

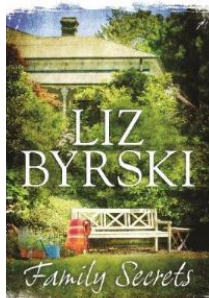


Women the world over are brought up to hope, even expect, to find the man of their dreams and live happily ever after. When Stephanie Wood meets a former architect turned farmer she embarks on an exhilarating romance with him. He seems compassionate, loving, truthful. They talk about the future. She falls in love. She also becomes increasingly beset by anxiety at his frequent cancellations, no-shows and bizarre excuses. She starts to wonder, who is this man?

When she ends the relationship Stephanie reboots her journalism skills and embarks on a romantic investigation. She discovers a story of mind-boggling duplicity and manipulation. She learns that the man she thought she was in love with doesn't exist. She also finds she is not alone; that the world is full of smart people who have suffered at the hands of liars, cheats, narcissists, fantasists and phonies, people enormously skilled in the art of deception.

## Family secrets Liz Byrski

**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN**  
416pp; Pub 2014



When patriarch Gerald Hawkins passes away in his Tasmanian home, after ten years of serious illness, his family experience a wave of grief and, admittedly, a surge of relief. Gerald's dominating personality has loomed large over his wife, Connie, their children. As the family adjusts to life after Gerald, they could not be more splintered. But there are surprises in store and secrets to unravel.



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# BOOK CLUB

## Fates and furies

Lauren Groff

**CONTEMPORARY**

389pp; Pub 2015



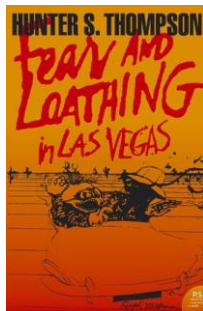
At age twenty-two, Lotto and Mathilde are tall, glamorous, madly in love, and destined for greatness. A decade later, their marriage is still the envy of their friends, but with an electric thrill we understand that things are even more complicated and remarkable than they have seemed. With stunning revelations and multiple threads, and in prose that is vibrantly alive and original, Groff delivers a deeply satisfying novel about love, art, creativity, and power that is unlike anything that has come before it.

## Fear and loathing in Las Vegas

Hunter S. Thompson

**CULT CLASSIC  
GONZO JOURNALISM**

204pp; Pub 1972



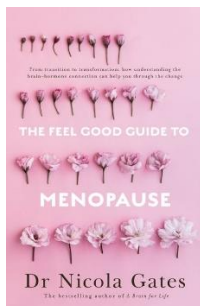
This cult classic of gonzo journalism is the best chronicle of drug-soaked, addle-brained, rollicking good times ever committed to the printed page. It is also the tale of a long weekend road trip that has gone down in the annals of American pop culture as one of the strangest journeys ever undertaken.

## Feel good guide to menopause, The

Dr Nicola Gates

**NON FICTION**

304pp; Pub 2019



How understanding the brain-hormone connection can help women to navigate menopause. Hormonal changes at this time affect not only the female body but also the brain and mind. Menopause can impact a woman's health, relationships, daily functioning, career, mood and emotions, and can profoundly impair her quality of life. Understanding the connection between hormones, brains and, indeed, the gut provides us with the fundamentals for transitioning through what can be a challenging - if not overwhelming - time for many women. By breaking the silence that surrounds this change, The Feel Good Guide to Menopause aims to reduce the potential for negative impact, build understanding, compassion and reassurance, and significantly improve the mental and physical wellbeing of women.

## Fence, The

Meredith Jaffe

**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN**

354pp; Pub 2016



Gwen Hill adores Green Valley Avenue. Here she has built friendships, raised her children and nurtured a thriving garden. So when the house next door is sold, Gwen wonders how the new family will settle into this cosy community. Francesca Desmarchelliers has high hopes for the house on Green Valley Avenue. More than a new home, it's a clean slate for Frankie, who has moved her brood in a bid to save her marriage. To maintain her privacy and corral her wandering children, Frankie proposes a fence between the properties that would destroy Gwen's picture-perfect front yard. To Gwen, this is an act of war.



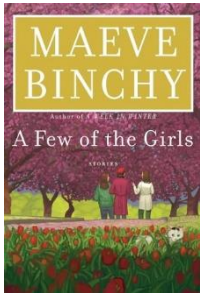
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# BOOK CLUB

**Few of the girls, A**  
Maeve Binchy

**LITERARY FICTION  
SHORT STORIES**

425pp Large Print; Pub 2015



*A Few of the Girls* brings together, for the first time, thirty-six of Maeve's very best stories—some published in magazines, others written for friends as gifts, many for charity benefits, all of them filled with her trademark warmth, wisdom, and humor. Written over a period of decades, these stories show that while times change, people often remain the same: they fall in love, sometimes unsuitably; they experience heartbreak, compassion and redemption; they hold to hopes and dreams; and they have friendships—some that fall apart, and a few special ones that endure. A foreword by her husband, Gordon Snell, offers a privileged, intimate glimpse into the writing process behind her extraordinary work.

**Fifth letter, The**  
Nicola Moriarty

**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN**

327pp; Pub 2017

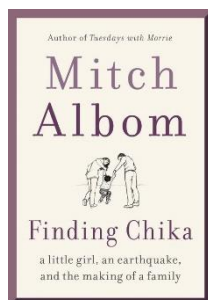


A lifelong friendship shared among four women is shattered when a wine-filled vacation game involving the confessions of dark secrets gives way to an anonymous rant about deeply held resentments.

**Finding Chika**  
Mitch Albom

**MEMOIR**

296pp Large Print; Pub 2019

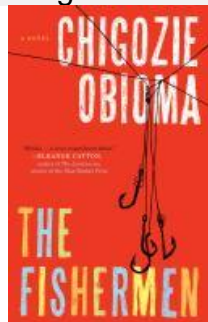


From the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Tuesdays With Morrie* comes Mitch Albom's most personal story to date: an intimate and heartwarming memoir about what it means to be a family and the young Haitian orphan whose short life would forever change his heart.

**Fishermen, The**  
Chigozie Obioma

**CONTEMPORARY**

297pp; Pub 2015



Told from the point of view of nine-year-old Benjamin, the youngest of four brothers, *The Fishermen* is the Cain and Abel-esque story of an unforgettable childhood in 1990s Nigeria. When their father has to travel to a distant city for work, the brothers take advantage of his extended absence to skip school and go fishing. At the forbidden nearby river, they encounter a madman who predicts that one of the brothers will kill another. What happens next is an almost mythic event whose impact--both tragic and redemptive--will transcend the lives and imaginations of *The Fishermen's* characters and its readers.

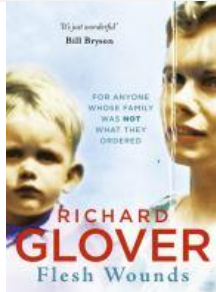


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# BOOK CLUB

**Flesh wounds**  
Richard Glover

**MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY**  
**AUSTRALIAN**  
285pp; Pub 2015



A mother who invented her past, a father who was often absent, a son who wondered if this could really be his family. Richard Glover's favourite dinner-party game is called 'Who's Got the Weirdest Parents?' It's a game he always wins.

**Flight behaviour**  
Barbara Kingsolver

**CONTEMPORARY**  
**SUSPENSE**  
436pp; Pub 2012



Dellarobia is a restless farm wife who gave up her own plans when she became pregnant at seventeen. Now, after a decade of domestic disharmony on a failing farm, she has settled for permanent disappointment but seeks momentary escape through an obsessive flirtation with a younger man. As she hikes up a mountain road behind her house to a secret tryst, but instead encounters a shocking sight: a silent, forested valley filled with what looks like a lake of fire. She can only understand it as a cautionary miracle, but it sparks a raft of other explanations from scientists, religious leaders and the media.

**Follow the rabbit-proof fence**  
Doris Pilkington

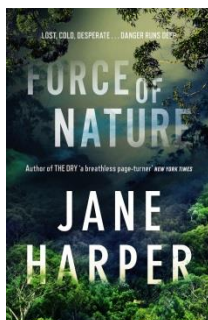
**NON FICTION**  
**AUSTRALIAN**  
133pp; Orig Pub 1996



Based on this true account of Doris Pilkington's mother Molly, who as a young girl led her two sisters on an extraordinary 1,600 kilometre walk home. Under Western Australia's invidious removal policy of the 1930s, the girls were taken from their Aboriginal families at Jigalong on the edge of the Little Sandy Desert, and transported halfway across the state to the Native Settlement at Moore River, north of Perth.

**Force of nature**  
Jane Harper

**CRIME & MYSTERY**  
400pp; Pub 2017



Five women reluctantly pick up their backpacks and start walking along the muddy track. Only four come out the other side.





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# BOOK CLUB

## Forgotten garden, The Kate Morton

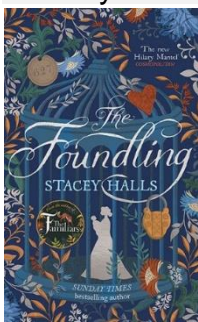
**HISTORICAL FICTION  
AUSTRALIAN**  
552pp; Pub 2016



A lost child. On the eve of the first world war, a little girl is found abandoned on a ship to Australia. A mysterious woman called the Authoress had promised to look after her but the Authoress has disappeared without a trace. A terrible secret. On the night of her twenty-first birthday, Nell O'Connor learns a secret that will change her life forever. Decades later, she embarks upon a search for the truth that leads her to the windswept Cornish coast and the strange and beautiful Blackhurst Manor, once owned by the aristocratic Mountrachet family.

## Foundling, The Stacey Halls

**HISTORICAL FICTION  
370 PAGES; PUB. 2020**



London, 1754. Six years after leaving her illegitimate daughter Clara at London's Foundling Hospital, Bess Bright returns to reclaim the child she has never known. Dreading the worst - that Clara has died in care - the last thing she expects to hear is that her daughter has already been reclaimed - by her. Her life is turned upside down as she tries to find out who has taken her little girl - and why.

Less than a mile from Bess' lodgings in the city, in a quiet, gloomy townhouse on the edge of London, a young widow has not left the house in a decade. When her close friend - an ambitious young doctor at the Foundling Hospital - persuades her to hire a nursemaid for her daughter, she is hesitant to welcome someone new into her home and her life. But her past is threatening to catch up with her and tear her carefully constructed world apart.

## Fourteen Shannon Molloy

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY**  
305pp; Pub 2020



This is a story about my fourteenth year of life as a gay kid at an all-boys rugby-mad Catholic school in regional Queensland. It was a year in which I started to discover who I was, and deeply hated what was revealed. It was a year in which I had my first crush and first devastating heartbreak. It was a year of torment, bullying and betrayal – not just at the hands of my peers, but by adults who were meant to protect me.

And it was a year that almost ended tragically.

## Freedom at midnight Larry Collins & Dominique Lapierre

**NON FICTION  
HISTORY**  
656pp; Pub 2017



Seventy years ago, at midnight on 14 August 1947, the Union Jack began its final journey down the flagstaff of Viceroy's House, New Delhi. A fifth of humanity claimed their independence from the greatest empire history has ever seen – but the price of freedom was high, as a nation erupted into riots and bloodshed, partition and war.

This is an electrifying and acclaimed account of the dying days of the British Raj and the drama played out between Lord Mountbatten, Mahatma Gandhi, Nehru and Jinnah, as an empire undertook a violent transformation into the new India and Pakistan

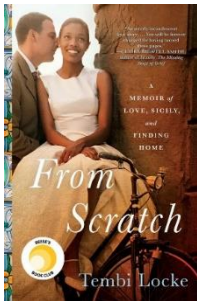


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# BOOK CLUB

## From scratch Tembi Locke

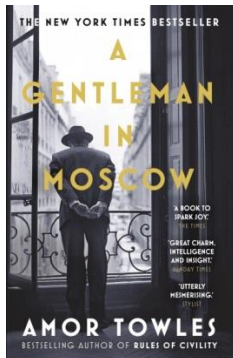
**MEMOIR**  
339pp; Pub 2019



It was love at first sight when Tembi met professional chef, Saro, on a street in Florence. There was just one problem: Saro's traditional Sicilian family did not approve of him marrying a black American woman, an actress no less. However, the couple, heartbroken but undeterred, forges on. They build a happy life in Los Angeles, with fulfilling careers, deep friendships and the love of their lives: a baby girl they adopt at birth. Eventually, they reconcile with Saro's family just as he faces a formidable cancer that will consume all their dreams.

## Gentleman in Moscow, A Amor Towles

**LITERARY FICTION  
HISTORICAL FICTION**  
480pp; Pub 2016



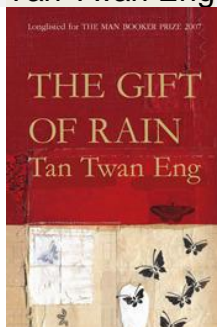
On 21 June 1922, Count Alexander Rostov – recipient of the Order of Saint Andrew, member of the Jockey Club, Master of the Hunt – is escorted out of the Kremlin, across Red Square and through the elegant revolving doors of the Hotel Metropol.

Deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, the Count has been sentenced to house arrest indefinitely. But instead of his usual suite, he must now live in an attic room while Russia undergoes decades of tumultuous upheaval.

Can a life without luxury be the richest of all?

## Gift of rain, The Tan Twan Eng

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
447pp; Pub 2007



Set in Penang, 1939, this book presents a story of betrayal, barbaric cruelty, steadfast courage and enduring love. Tan Twan Eng's debut novel casts a powerful spell. Set during the tumult of World War II, on the lush Malayan island of Penang, The Gift of Rain tells a riveting and poignant tale about a young man caught in the tangle of wartime loyalties and deceptions.



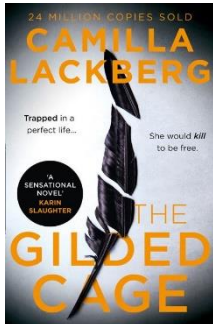


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# BOOK CLUB

**Gilded cage, The**  
Camilla Lackberg

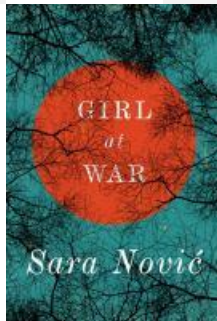
**THRILLER**  
352pp; Pub 2020



People would kill to have Faye Adelheim's life. She lives in an ultra-swanky apartment in the most exclusive area of Stockholm, she has a gorgeous husband who gives her everything she's ever wanted, and she has an adorable daughter who lights up her world. Faye's life is perfect. So how is it, then, that she now finds herself in a police station? The truth is that Faye's life is far from what it seems. The truth is that Faye isn't even her real name. And now she's been caught out. There's no way she's going to go down without a fight. The only question is – who will escape with their life?

**Girl at war**  
Sara Novic

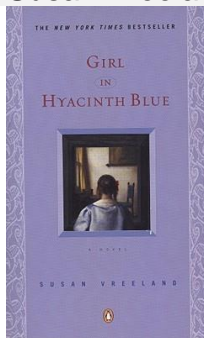
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
320pp; Pub 2015



Growing up in Zagreb in the summer of 1991, 10-year-old Ana Juric is a carefree tomboy; she runs the streets with her best friend, Luka, helps take care of her baby sister, Rahela, and idolizes her father. But when civil war breaks out across Yugoslavia, football games and school lessons are supplanted by sniper fire and air raid drills. The brutal ethnic cleansing of Croats and Bosnians tragically changes Ana's life, and she is lost to a world of genocide and child soldiers; a daring escape plan to America becomes her only chance for survival.

**Girl in hyacinth blue**  
Susan Vreeland

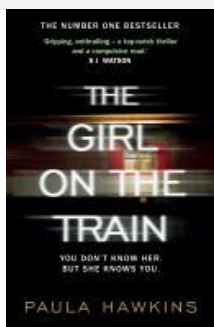
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
242pp; Pub 2000



A professor invites a colleague from the art department to his home to view a painting he has kept secret for decades in Susan Vreeland's powerful historical novel, *Girl in Hyacinth Blue*. The professor swears it's a Vermeer -- but why exactly has he kept it hidden so long? The reasons unfold in a gripping sequence of stories that trace ownership of the work back to Amsterdam during World War II and still further to the moment of the painting's inception.

**Girl on the train, The**  
Paula Hawkins

**MYSTERY  
THRILLER / SUSPENSE**  
316pp; Pub 2015



Rachel takes the same commuter train every morning. Every day she rattles down the track, flashes past a stretch of cozy suburban homes, and stops at the signal that allows her to watch the same couple breakfasting on their deck. She's even started to feel like she knows them ... Their life--as she sees it--is perfect. Not unlike the life she recently lost. And then she sees something shocking. It's only a minute until the train moves on, but it's enough. Now everything's changed. Unable to keep it to herself, Rachel offers what she knows to the police, and becomes inextricably entwined in what happens next, as well as in the lives of everyone involved. Has she done more harm than good?

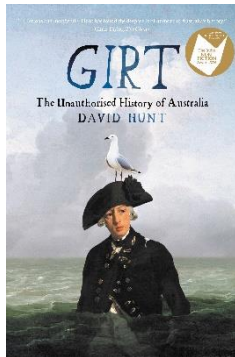


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# BOOK CLUB

**Girt**  
David Hunt

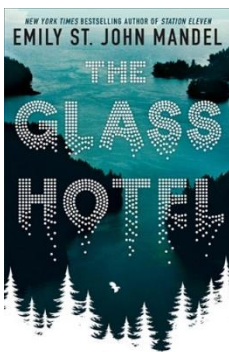
**NON FICTION**  
274pp; Pub 2013



*Girt*. No word could better capture the essence of Australia... In this hilarious history, David Hunt reveals the truth of Australia's past, from megafauna to Macquarie – the cock-ups and curiosities, the forgotten eccentrics and Eureka moments that have made us who we are. *Girt* introduces forgotten heroes like Mary McLoughlin, transported for the crime of “felony of sock”, and Trim the cat, who beat a French monkey to become the first animal to circumnavigate Australia. It recounts the misfortunes of the escaped Irish convicts who set out to walk from Sydney to China, guided only by a hand-drawn paper compass, and explains the role of the coconut in Australia's only military coup. Our nation's beginnings are steeped in the strange, the ridiculous and the frankly bizarre. *Girt* proudly reclaims these stories for all of us. Not to read it would be un-Australian.

**Glass hotel, The**  
Emily St John Mandel

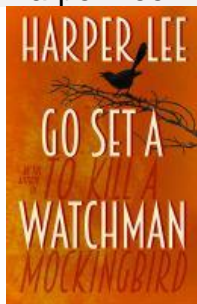
**LITERARY FICTION**  
301pp; Pub 2020



Vincent is a bartender at the Hotel Caiette, a five-star lodging on the northernmost tip of Vancouver Island. On the night she meets Jonathan Alkaitis, a hooded figure scrawls a message on the lobby's glass wall: “Why don't you swallow broken glass.” High above Manhattan, a greater crime is committed: Alkaitis is running an international Ponzi scheme, moving imaginary sums of money through clients' accounts. When the financial empire collapses, it obliterates countless fortunes and devastates lives. Vincent, who had been posing as Jonathan's wife, walks away into the night. Years later, a victim of the fraud is hired to investigate a strange occurrence: a woman has seemingly vanished from the deck of a container ship between ports of call.

**Go set a watchman**  
Harper Lee

**CLASSIC**  
278pp; Pub 2015



This book is an historic literary event: the publication of a newly discovered novel, the earliest known work from Harper Lee, the beloved, bestselling author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning classic, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Originally written in the mid-1950s, *Go Set a Watchman* was the novel Harper Lee first submitted to her publishers before *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Assumed to have been lost, the manuscript was discovered in late 2014. *Go Set a Watchman* features many of the characters from *To Kill a Mockingbird* some twenty years later.

**Golden age, The**  
Joan London

**CONTEMPORARY**  
242pp; Pub 2014



It is 1954 and thirteen-year-old Frank Gold, refugee from wartime Hungary, is learning to walk again after contracting polio in Australia. At the Golden Age Children's Polio Convalescent Hospital in Perth, he sees Elsa, a fellow-patient, and they form a forbidden, passionate bond. The Golden Age becomes the little world that reflects the larger one, where everything occurs, love and desire, music, death, and poetry. Where children must learn that they are alone, even within their families.



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# BOOK CLUB

**Golden boys**  
Sonya Hartnett

**CONTEMPORARY**  
238pp; Pub 2014



With their father, there is always a catch. Colt Jenson and his younger brother Bastian have moved to a new, working-class suburb. The Jensons are different. Their father, Rex, showers them with gifts, toys, bikes, all that glitters most and makes them the envy of the neighbourhood. To Freya Kiley and the other local kids, the Jensons are a family from a magazine, and Rex a hero, successful, attentive, attractive, always there to lend a hand. But to Colt he is an impossible figure in a different way: unbearable, suffocating. Has Colt got Rex wrong, or has he seen something in his father that will destroy their fragile new lives?

**Golden child, The**  
Wendy James

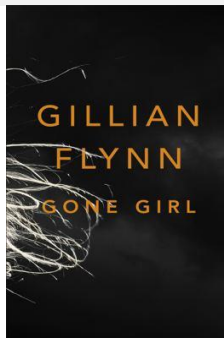
**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN**  
338pp; Pub 2017



Blogger Lizzy's life is buzzing, happy, normal. Two gorgeous children, a handsome husband, destiny under control. For her real-life alter-ego Beth, things are unravelling. Tensions are simmering with her husband, mother-in-law and even her own mother. Then a classmate of one of her daughters is callously bullied and the finger of blame is pointed at Beth's clever, beautiful child. Shattered, shamed and frightened, two families must negotiate worlds of cruelty they are totally ill-equipped for.

**Gone girl**  
Gillian Flynn

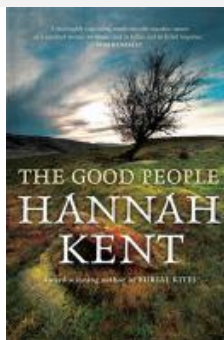
**MYSTERY  
SUSPENSE / THRILLER**  
475pp; Pub 2012



Who are you? What have we done to each other? These are the questions Nick Dunne finds himself asking on the morning of his fifth wedding anniversary, when his wife Amy suddenly disappears. The police suspect Nick. Amy's friends reveal that she was afraid of him, that she kept secrets from him. He swears it isn't true. A police examination of his computer shows strange searches. He says they weren't made by him. And then there are the persistent calls on his mobile phone. So what really did happen to Nick's beautiful wife?

**Good people, The**  
Hannah Kent

**HISTORICAL  
AUSTRALIAN AUTHOR**  
386pp; Pub 2016



In the year 1825, in a remote village in the mountains of south-west Ireland, three women are brought together by strange and troubling event. Nora Leahy has lost her daughter and her husband in the same year, and is now burdened with the care of her four-year-old grandson, Micheal. The boy cannot walk or speak, and Nora, mistrustful of the tongues of gossips, has kept the child hidden from those who might see in his deformity evidence of otherworldly interference.

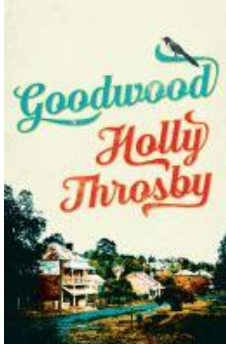


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# BOOK CLUB

**Goodwood**  
Holly Throsby

**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN**  
378pp; Pub 2016



It wasn't just one person who went missing, it was two people. Two very different people. They were there, and then they were gone, as if through a crack in the sky. After that, in a small town like Goodwood, where we had what Nan called 'a high density of acquaintanceship', everything stopped. Or at least it felt that way. The normal feeling of things stopped.

**Gossip**  
Beth Gutcheon

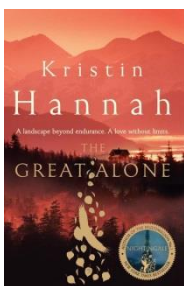
**CONTEMPORARY  
SUSPENSE**  
278pp; Pub 2013



The owner of a high-end dress shop on Manhattan's Upper East Side, Loviah "Lovie" French must find a way to bridge the chilly gulf between her two closest friends, which was the result of a perceived slight from decades ago that led to tragedy.

**great alone, The**  
Kristin Hannah

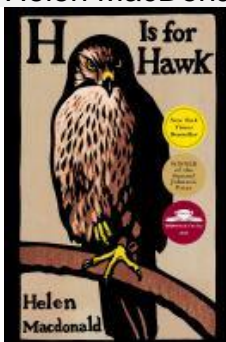
**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
448pp; Pub 2018



Lenora Allbright is 13 when her father convinces her mother, Cora, to forgo their inauspicious existence in Seattle and move to Kaneq, AK. It's 1974, and the former Vietnam POW sees a better future away from the noise and nightmares that plague him. Having been left a homestead by a buddy who died in the war, Ernt is secure in his beliefs, but never was a family less prepared for the reality of Alaska, the long, cold winters and isolation. Locals want to help out, especially classmate Matthew Walker, who likes everything about Leni. Yet the harsh conditions bring out the worst in Ernt, whose paranoia takes over their lives and exacerbates what Leni sees as the toxic relationship between her parents. The Allbrights are as green as greenhorns can be, and even first love must endure unimaginable hardship and tragedy as the wilderness tries to claim more victims.

**H is for Hawk**  
Helen MacDonal

**MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY**  
300pp; Pub 2014



As a child Helen Macdonald was determined to become a falconer. She learned the arcane terminology and read all the classic books, including T.H. White's tortured masterpiece, *The Goshawk*, which describes White's struggle to train a hawk as a spiritual contest. When her father dies and she is knocked sideways by grief, she becomes obsessed with the idea of training her own goshawk.





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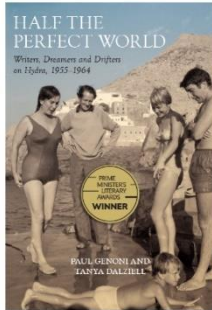
# BOOK CLUB

## Half the perfect world

Paul Genomi & Tanya Dalziel

**MEMOIR**

425pp; Pub 2018



Half the Perfect World tells the story of the post-war international artist community that formed on the Greek island of Hydra. Most famously, it included renowned singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen and his partner Marianne Ihlen, as well as many other artists and writers including the Australian literary couple, Charmian Clift and George Johnston, who fostered this fabled colony.

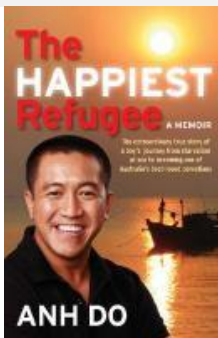
## Happiest refugee, The

Ahn Do

**MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY**

**AUSTRALIAN**

229pp; Pub 2010



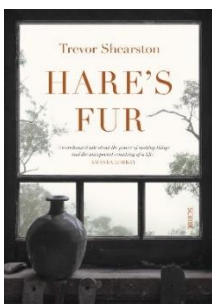
Anh Do nearly didn't make it to Australia. His entire family came close to losing their lives on the sea as they escaped from war-torn Vietnam in an overcrowded boat. This book tells the incredible, uplifting and inspiring life story of one of our favourite personalities. Tragedy, humour, heartache and unswerving determination - a big life with big dreams. Anh's story will move and amuse all who read it.

## Hare's fur

Trevor Shearston

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**

208pp; Pub 2019



Russell Bass is a potter living on the edge of Katoomba, in the Blue Mountains. His wife has been dead less than a year and, although he has a few close friends, he is living a mostly solitary life. Each month he hikes into the valley below his house to collect rock for glazes from a remote creek bed. One autumn morning, he finds a chocolate wrapper on the path. His curiosity leads him to a cave where three siblings — two young children and a teenage girl — are camped out, hiding from social services and the police. Although they bolt at first, Russell slowly gains their trust, and, little by little, this unlikely group of outsiders begin to form a fragile bond.

## Hazel wood, The

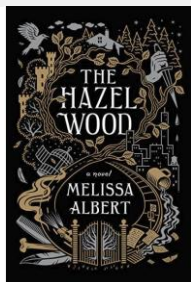
Melissa Albert

**SUPERNATURAL**

**FAMILY**

**CONTEMPORARY**

368pp; Pub 2018



Seventeen year old Alice and her mother have spent most of Alice's life on the road, always a step ahead of the strange bad luck at their heels. But when Alice's grandmother, the reclusive author of a book of pitch-dark fairy tales, dies alone on her estate – the Hazel Wood – Alice learns how bad her luck can really get. Her mother is stolen away – by a figure who claims to come from the cruel supernatural world where her grandmother's stories are set. Alice's only lead is the message her mother left behind: STAY AWAY FROM THE HAZEL WOOD.

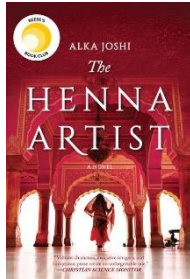


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# BOOK CLUB

**Henna artist, The**  
Alka Joshi

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
384pp; Pub 2020



Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi makes her way alone to the vibrant 1950s pink city of Jaipur. There she becomes the most highly requested henna artist-and confidante-to the wealthy women of the upper class. But trusted with the secrets of the wealthy, she can never reveal her own...

Known for her original designs and sage advice, Lakshmi must tread carefully to avoid the jealous gossips who could ruin her reputation and her livelihood. As she pursues her dream of an independent life, she is startled one day when she is confronted by her husband, who has tracked her down these many years later with a high-spirited young girl in tow-a sister Lakshmi never knew she had. Suddenly the caution that she has carefully cultivated as protection is threatened. Still she perseveres, applying her talents and lifting up those that surround her as she does.

**Hidden figures**  
Margot Lee Shetterly

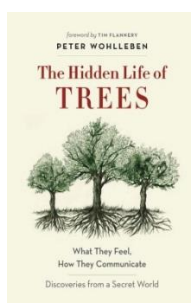
**NON FICTION**  
265pp; Pub 2016



Set amid the civil rights movement, the never-before-told true story of NASA's African-American female mathematicians who played a crucial role in America's space program.

**Hidden life of trees, The**  
Peter Wohlleben

**NON FICTION**  
**SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY**  
**FORESTS**  
288pp; Pub 2017



Peter Wohlleben spent over twenty years working for the forestry commission in Germany before leaving to put his ideas of ecology into practice. He now runs an area of environmentally-friendly woodland in Germany, where he is working for the return of primeval forests. He is the author of numerous books about trees.



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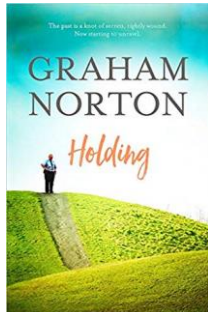
# BOOK CLUB

## Holding

Graham Norton

**IRISH FICTION  
DETECTIVE/MURDER**

312pp; Pub 2016



The remote Irish village of Duneen has known little drama, and yet its inhabitants are troubled: Sergeant P.J. Collins hasn't always been this overweight; Brid Riordan, a mother of two, hasn't always been an alcoholic; and elegant Evelyn Ross hasn't always felt that her life was a total waste.

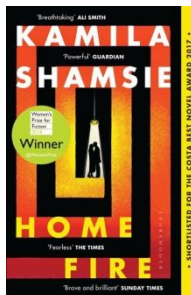
So when human remains—suspected to be those of Tommy Burke, a former lover of both Brid and Evelyn—are discovered on an old farm, the village's dark past begins to unravel. As a frustrated P.J. struggles to solve a genuine case for the first time in his professional life, he unearths a community's worth of anger and resentments, secrets and regrets.

## Home fire

Kamila Shamsie

**CONTEMPORARY**

264pp; Pub 2017



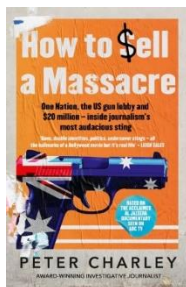
A contemporary reimagining of Sophocles' *Antigone*, *Home Fire* is an urgent, fiercely compelling story of loyalties torn apart when love and politics collide – confirming Kamila Shamsie as a master storyteller of our times.

## How to sell a massacre

Peter Charley

**NON FICTION**

320pp; Pub 2020



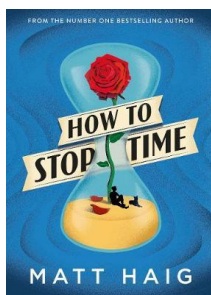
Set during the period of Donald Trump's rise to power and the US's worst mass shootings, including Las Vegas and Orlando, *How to Sell a Massacre* reads like a pacey spy thriller with a deadly truth at its heart: that an Australian political party would seek foreign money in a bid to seize power and destroy the gun laws that keep Australians safe.

## How to stop time

Matt Haig

**FANTASY  
ROMANCE**

325pp; Pub 2017



A love story across the ages – and for the ages – about a man lost in time, the woman who could save him, and the lifetimes it can take to learn how to live.

*How to Stop Time* is a bighearted, wildly original novel about losing and finding yourself, the inevitability of change, and how with enough time to learn, we just might find happiness.

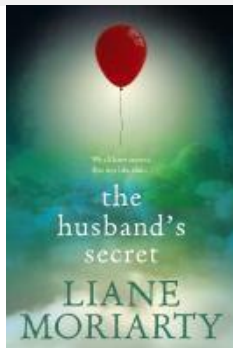


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# BOOK CLUB

## Husband's secret, The Liane Moriarty

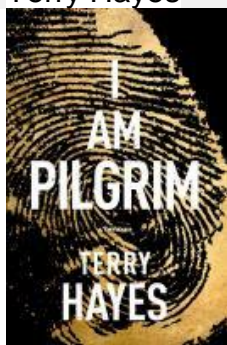
CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN  
406pp; Pub 2013



When her husband announces he's in love with her best friend, painfully shy Tess picks up her son and returns to her mother's house. Rachel is a woman in her sixties consumed by grief and anger at the loss of her daughter twenty years earlier. When her son announces he is taking her grandson overseas, Rachel begins a descent into deeper bitterness. Cecilia is a devoted mother, runs her household like clockwork, is President of the P&C, owns a successful business and is happy in her marriage. Until she discovers a letter in their attic labelled: "To my wife Cecilia, to be opened in the event of my death"... Her husband's secret is a bombshell beyond all imagining with repercussions across the lives of all three women.

## I am Pilgrim Terry Hayes

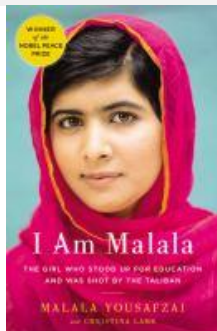
SUSPENSE / THRILLER  
612pp; Pub 2014



The astonishing story of one man's breakneck race against time ... and an implacable enemy. An anonymous young woman murdered in a run-down hotel, all identifying characteristics dissolved by acid. A father publicly beheaded in the blistering heat of a Saudi Arabian public square. A notorious Syrian biotech expert found eyeless in a Damascus junkyard. Smouldering human remains on a remote mountainside in Afghanistan. A flawless plot to commit an appalling crime against humanity. One path links them all, and only one man can make the journey. Pilgrim.

## I am Malala Malala Yousafzai

MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY  
276pp; Pub 2013



On Tuesday, 9 October, 2012, a fifteen-year-old Pakistani girl was shot in the face at point-blank range because she had the temerity to stand up to the Taliban. That girl, Malala Yousafzai, survived the attack and the shocking story made headlines around the world. Overnight, Malala became a global symbol of peaceful protest and education for all.





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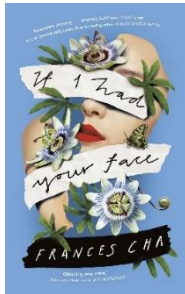
# BOOK CLUB

## If I had your face

Frances Cha

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

288pp; Pub 2020



*If I Had Your Face* plunges us into the mesmerizing world of contemporary Seoul - a place where extreme plastic surgery is as routine as getting a haircut, where women compete for spots in secret 'room salons' to entertain wealthy businessmen after hours, where K-Pop stars are the object of all-consuming obsession, and ruthless social hierarchies dictate your every move. Navigating this cut-throat city are four young women balancing on the razor-edge of survival: Kyuri, an exquisitely beautiful woman whose hard-won status at an exclusive 'room salon' is threatened by an impulsive mistake with a client; her flatmate Miho, an orphan who wins a scholarship to a prestigious art school in New York, where her life becomes tragically enmeshed with the super-wealthy offspring of the Korean elite; Wonna, their neighbour, pregnant with a child that she and her husband have no idea how they will afford to raise in a fiercely competitive economy; and Ara, a hair stylist living down the hall, whose infatuation with a fresh-faced K-Pop star drives her to violent extremes.

## If only I could tell you

Hannah Beckerman

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

496pp Large Print; Pub 2019



Audrey's family has fallen apart. Her two grown-up daughters, Jess and Lily, are estranged, and her two teenage granddaughters have never been allowed to meet. A secret that echoes back thirty years has splintered the family in two, but is also the one thing keeping them connected.

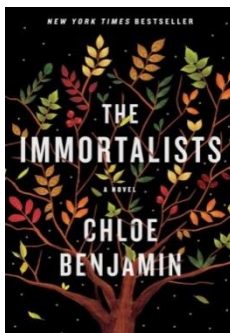
As tensions reach breaking point, the irrevocable choice that one of them made all those years ago is about to surface. After years of secrets and silence, how can one broken family find their way back to each other?

## Immortalists, The

Chloe Benjamin

DOMESTIC FICTION

409pp; Pub 2018



A sweeping novel of remarkable ambition and depth, *The Immortalists* probes the line between destiny and choice, reality and illusion, this world and the next. It is a deeply moving testament to the power of story, the nature of belief, and the unrelenting pull of familial bonds.



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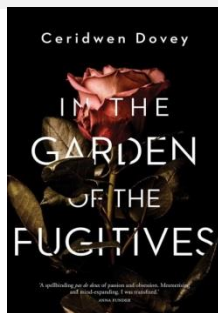
# BOOK CLUB

## In the garden of the fugitives

Ceridwen Dovey

AUSTRALIAN HUMOUR  
PIONEER LIFE AUSTRALIA  
HISTORY

433pp; Pub 2016

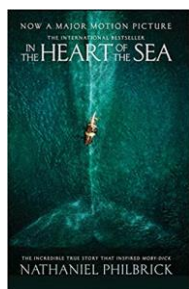


From the award-winning author of *Only the Animals*, comes an unputdownable novel of obsession, guilt, and the power of the past to possess the present. Almost twenty years after forbidding him to contact her, Vita receives an email from her old benefactor, Royce. Once she was one of his brightest protégées; now her career has stalled and Royce is ailing, and each has a need to settle accounts.

## In the heart of the sea

Nathaniel Philbrick

NON-FICTION  
302pp; Pub 2015



When the whaleship Essex set sail from Nantucket in 1819, the unthinkable happened. A mere speck in the vast Pacific ocean - and powerless against the forces of nature - Essex was rammed and sunk by an enraged sperm whale, and her twenty crewmen were forced to take to the open sea in three small boats. Ninety days later only a handful of survivors were rescued - and a terrifying story of desperation, cannibalism and courage was revealed. One of the greatest sea yarns ever spun, 'In the Heart of the Sea' is the true story of the extraordinary events that inspired Herman Melville's masterpiece 'Moby-Dick'.

## Inaugural meeting of the Fairvale ladies book club, The

Sophie Green

CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN  
418pp; Pub 2017



1978 in the Northern Territory: life is hard and people are isolated, but they find ways to connect. Sybil is the matriarch of Fairvale Station, Rita works for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, and Ben's English wife, Kate, is finding it difficult to adjust to life at Fairvale. Sybil comes up with a way to give them all companionship and purpose: they all love to read, and she forms a book club.

## Instructions for a heatwave

Maggie O'Farrell

CONTEMPORARY  
289pp; Pub 2013



It's July 1976. In London, it hasn't rained for months, gardens are filled with aphids, water comes from a standpipe, and Robert Riordan tells his wife Gretta that he's going round the corner to buy a newspaper. He doesn't come back. The search for Robert brings Gretta's children - two estranged sisters and a brother on the brink of divorce - back home, each with different ideas as to where their father might have gone. None of them suspects that their mother might have an explanation that even now she cannot share.

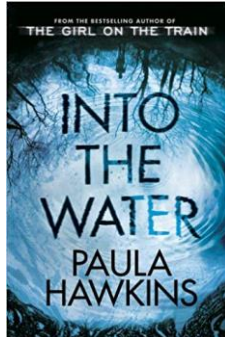


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# BOOK CLUB

**Into the water**  
Paula Hawkins

**THRILLER  
PSYCHOLOGICAL**  
359pp; Pub 2017

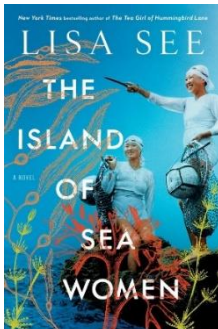


Just days before her sister plunged to her death, Jules ignored her call. Now Nel is dead. They say she jumped. And Jules must return to her sister's house to care for her daughter, and to face the mystery of Nel's death.

But Jules is afraid. Of her long-buried memories, of the old Mill House, of this small town that is drowning in secrecy . . .  
And of knowing that Nel would never have jumped.

**Island of sea women, The**  
Lisa See

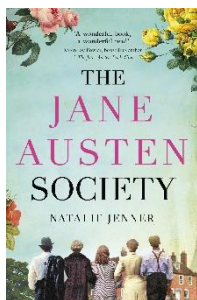
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
374pp; Pub 2019



Mi-ja and Young-sook, two girls living on the Korean island of Jeju, are best friends that come from very different backgrounds. When they are old enough, they begin working in the sea with their village's all-female diving collective, led by Young-sook's mother. As the girls take up their positions as baby divers, they know they are beginning a life of excitement and responsibility but also danger.

**Jane Austen society, The**  
Natalie Jenner

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
309pp; Pub 2020

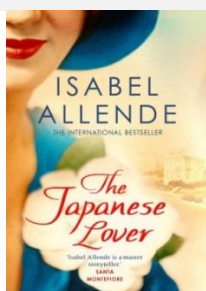


Only a few months after the end of the Second World War, a new battle is beginning in the little village of Chawton. Once the final home of Jane Austen, the Chawton estate is dwindling, and the last piece of Austen's heritage is at risk of being sold to the highest bidder...

Drawn together by their love of her novels, eight very different people - from a local farmer to a glamorous film star - must unite to attempt something remarkable. As new friendships form, and the griefs of the past begin to fade, they rally together to create the Jane Austen Society, and to save the beloved novelist's home and legacy. But can her words change all their lives in return?

**Japanese lover, The**  
Isabel Allende

**World War 2 Fiction  
Japanese/American  
Family**  
336pp; Pub 2015



From internationally bestselling author Isabel Allende comes an exquisitely crafted love story and multigenerational epic that sweeps from present-day San Francisco to Poland and the United States during WWII.

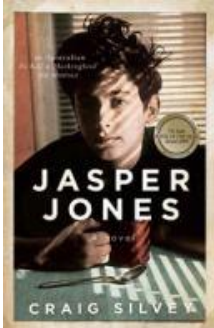


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# BOOK CLUB

**Jasper Jones**  
Craig Silvey

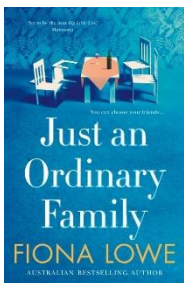
**CONTEMPORARY  
MYSTERY  
AUSTRALIAN**  
299pp; Pub 2009



Late on a hot summer night in 1965, Charlie Bucktin is startled by an urgent knock on the window of his sleep-out. His visitor is Jasper Jones. Rebellious, mixed-race and solitary, Jasper is a distant figure of danger and intrigue for Charlie. So when Jasper begs for his help, Charlie eagerly steals into the night by his side, terribly afraid but desperate to impress. Jasper takes him to his secret glade in the bush, and it's here that Charlie bears witness to Jasper's horrible discovery.

**Just an ordinary family**  
Fiona Lowe

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
528pp; Pub 2020



*Every family has its secrets...*

Alice Hunter is smarting from the raw deal life has thrown her way: suddenly single, jobless and forced to move home to her parents' tiny seaside town. And now she faces an uncomfortable truth. She wants her twin sister Libby's enviable life.

Libby's closest friend Jess Dekic has been around the Hunter family for so long she might as well be blood. She's always considered herself a sister closer to Libby than Alice ever could be...

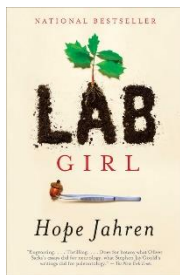
Libby Hunter has all of life's boxes ticked: prominent small-town doctor, gorgeous husband and two young daughters. But when she is betrayed by those she loves most, it reveals how tenuous her world is...

For Karen Hunter, her children are a double-edged sword of pain and pride. She's always tried to guide her girls through life's pitfalls, but how do you protect your children when they're adults?

*As the family implodes, the fallout for these four women will be inescapable...*

**Lab girl**  
Hope Jahren

**BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR  
SCIENCE**  
304pp; Pub 2017



Geobiologist Hope Jahren has spent her life studying trees, flowers, seeds, and soil. *Lab Girl* is her revelatory treatise on plant life—but it is also a celebration of the lifelong curiosity, humility, and passion that drive every scientist. In these pages, Hope takes us back to her Minnesota childhood, where she spent hours in unfettered play in her father's college laboratory. She tells us how she found a sanctuary in science, learning to perform lab work "with both the heart and the hands." She introduces us to Bill, her brilliant, eccentric lab manager. And she extends the mantle of *scientist* to each one of her readers, inviting us to join her in observing and protecting our environment. Warm, luminous, compulsively readable, *Lab Girl* vividly demonstrates the mountains that we can move when love and work come together.

**Lake house, The**  
Kate Morton

**HISTORICAL FICTION  
MYSTERY**  
595pp; Pub 2015



The morning after the Edevane's exclusive Midsummer Eve party in Cornwall in 1933, their youngest child, Theo, is nowhere to be found. After months of futile searching, the family pack up and leave their beautiful country home, never to return. Until, in 2003, a young female police officer stumbles into the lost gardens surrounding the abandoned house and determines to find out what happened.



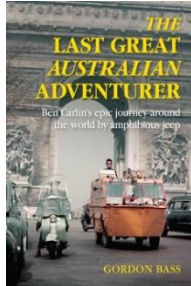


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# BOOK CLUB

**Last great Australian adventurer, The**  
Gordon Bass

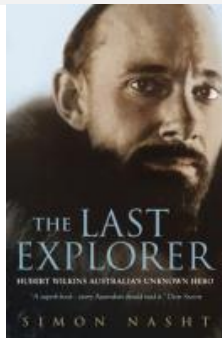
**NON-FICTION  
BIOGRAPHY**  
384pp; Pub 2017



In 1948, Ben Carlin set out from New York City with an audacious, lunatic plan to circumnavigate the world in an army surplus amphibious jeep called *Half-Safe*.

**Last explorer, The**  
Simon Nasht

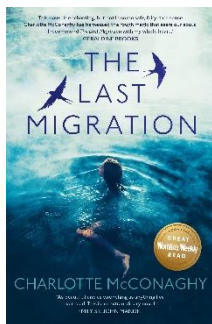
**BIOGRAPHY / MEMOIR  
AUSTRALIAN**  
316pp; Pub 2006



Hubert Wilkins was one of our greatest ever explorers. Born in South Australia, he spent much of his life outside the country, but always remained an Australian. He travelled through every continent and was a pioneer of aviation.

**Last migration, The**  
Charlotte McConaghy

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
260pp; Pub 2020

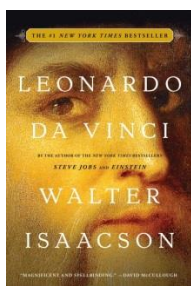


How far would you go for love? Franny Stone is determined to go to the end of the earth, following the last of the Arctic terns on what may be their final migration to Antarctica.

As animal populations plummet and commercial fishing faces prohibition, Franny talks her way onto one of the few remaining boats heading south. But as she and the eccentric crew travel further from shore and safety, the dark secrets of Franny's life begin to unspool. A daughter's yearning search for her mother. An impulsive, passionate marriage. A shocking crime. Haunted by love and violence, Franny must confront what she is really running towards – and from.

**Leonardo Da Vinci**  
Walter Isaacson

**NON-FICTION**  
576pp; Pub 2018



The #1 *New York Times* bestseller from Walter Isaacson brings Leonardo da Vinci to life in this exciting new biography that is “a study in creativity: how to define it, how to achieve it...Most important, it is a powerful story of an exhilarating mind and life” (*The New Yorker*).

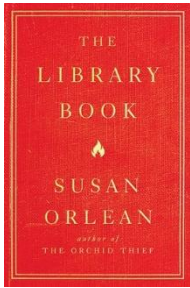


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# BOOK CLUB

## Library book, The Susan Orlean

**NON FICTION**  
336pp; Pub 2018



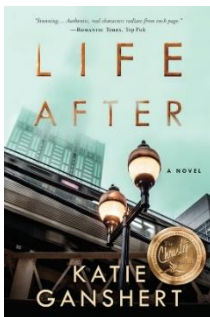
After moving to Los Angeles, Susan Orlean became fascinated by a mysterious local crime that has gone unsolved since it was carried out on the morning of 29 April 1986: who set fire to the Los Angeles Public Library, ultimately destroying more than 400,000 books, and perhaps even more perplexing, why?

With her characteristic humour, insight and compassion, Orlean uses this terrible event as a lens through which to tell the story of all libraries - their history, their meaning and their uncertain future as they adapt and redefine themselves in a digital world.

Filled with heart, passion and extraordinary characters, *The Library Book* discusses the larger, crucial role that libraries play in our lives.

## Life after Katie Ganshert

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
352pp; Pub 2017



*It could have been me.*

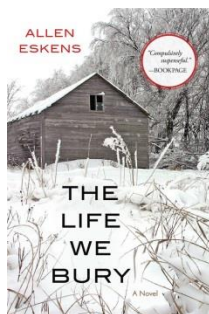
Snow whirls around an elevated train platform in Chicago. A distracted woman boards the train, takes her seat, and moments later a fiery explosion rips through the frigid air, tearing the car apart in a horrific attack on the city's transit system. One life is spared. Twenty-two are lost.

A year later, Autumn Manning can't remember the day of the bombing and she is tormented by grief—by guilt. Twelve months of the question constantly echoing. Why? Why? Searching for answers, she haunts the lives of the victims, unable to rest.

Paul Elliott lost his wife in the train bombing and wants to let the dead rest in peace, undisturbed and unable to cause more pain for his loved ones. He wants normalcy for his twelve-year-old daughter and young son, to see them move beyond the heartbreak. But when the Elliots and Autumn are unexpectedly forced together, he fears she'll bring more wreckage in her wake.

## Life we bury, The Allen Eskens

**AWARD WINNER  
THRILLER**  
303pp; Pub 2014

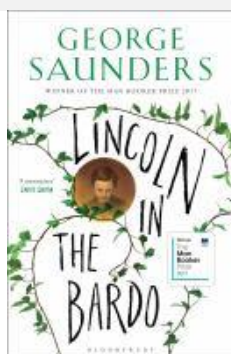


College student Joe Talbert has the modest goal of completing a writing assignment for an English class. His task is to interview a stranger and write a brief biography of the person. With deadlines looming, Joe heads to a nearby nursing home to find a willing subject. There he meets Carl Iverson, and soon nothing in Joe's life is ever the same.

Carl is a dying Vietnam veteran—and a convicted murderer. With only a few months to live, he has been medically paroled to a nursing home, after spending thirty years in prison for the crimes of rape and murder.

## Lincoln in the bardo George Saunders

**HISTORICAL FICTION  
SUPERNATURAL**  
**WINNER MAN BOOKER PRIZE 2017**  
341pp; Pub 2017



The American Civil War rages while President Lincoln's beloved eleven-year-old son lies gravely ill. In a matter of days, Willie dies and is laid to rest in a Georgetown cemetery. Newspapers report that a grief-stricken Lincoln returns to the crypt several times alone to hold his boy's body. From this seed of historical truth, George Saunders spins an unforgettable story of familial love and loss that breaks free of realism, entering a thrilling, supernatural domain both hilarious and terrifying.



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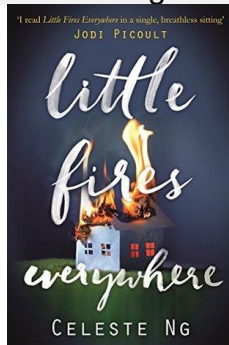
# BOOK CLUB

## Little fires everywhere

Celeste Ng

CONTEMPORARY

338pp; Pub 2017



The intertwined stories of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the mother and daughter who upend their lives. Mia carries with her a mysterious past and a disregard for the status quo that threatens to upend the carefully ordered Shaker Heights community.

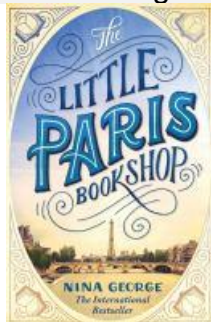
*Little Fires Everywhere* explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, and the ferocious pull of motherhood – and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster.

## Little Paris bookshop, The

Nina George

CONTEMPORARY

359pp; Pub 2015



On a beautifully restored barge moored on the Seine, Jean Perdu runs a bookshop, or more accurately a 'literary apothecary' -- for this bookseller has a rare gift for sensing precisely which book will soothe the troubled souls of each and every customer. The only person he is unable to cure, it seems, is himself. He has been nursing a broken heart ever since the fateful night, twenty-one years ago, when the love of his life fled Paris, leaving behind her only a letter that he has never dared open.

## Longbourn

Jo Baker

HISTORICAL FICTION

AUSTRALIAN

447pp; Pub 2014



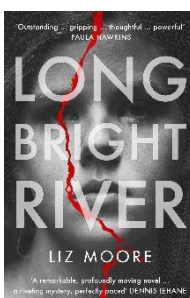
It is wash-day for the housemaids at Longbourn House, and Sarah's hands are chapped and raw. Domestic life below stairs, ruled with a tender heart and an iron will by Mrs Hill the housekeeper, is about to be disturbed by the arrival of a new footman, bearing secrets and the scent of the sea.

## Long bright river

Liz Moore

CRIME & MYSTERY

450pp; Pub 2020



Mickey Fitzpatrick has been patrolling the 24th District for years. She knows most of the working women by name. She knows what desperation looks like and what people will do when they need a fix. She's become used to finding overdose victims: their numbers are growing every year. But every time she sees someone sprawled out, slumped over, cold to the touch, she has to pray it's not her sister, Kacey. When the bodies of murdered sex workers start turning up on the Ave, the Chief of Police is keen to bury the news. They're not the kind of victims that generate a whole lot of press anyway. But Mickey is obsessed, dangerously so, with finding the perpetrator - before Kacey becomes the next victim.

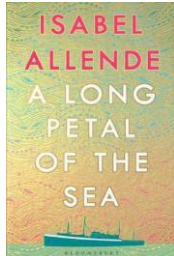


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# BOOK CLUB

**Long petal of the sea, A**  
Isabel Allende

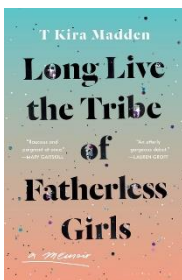
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
318pp; Pub 2020



In the late 1930s, civil war grips Spain. When General Franco and his Fascists succeed in overthrowing the government, hundreds of thousands are forced to flee in a treacherous journey over the mountains to the French border. Among them is Roser, a pregnant young widow, who finds her life intertwined with that of Victor Dalmau, an army doctor and the brother of her deceased love. In order to survive, the two must unite in a marriage neither of them desires. Together with two thousand other refugees, they embark on the SS *Winnipeg*, a ship chartered by the poet Pablo Neruda, to Chile: “the long petal of sea and wine and snow.” As unlikely partners, they embrace exile as the rest of Europe erupts in world war. Starting over on a new continent, their trials are just beginning, and over the course of their lives, they will face trial after trial. But they will also find joy as they patiently await the day when they will be exiles no more. Through it all, their hope of returning to Spain keeps them going. Destined to witness the battle between freedom and repression as it plays out across the world, Roser and Victor will find that home might have been closer than they thought all along.

**Long live the tribe of fatherless girls**  
T Kira Madden

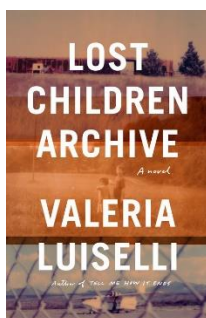
**MEMOIR**  
309pp; Pub 2019



As a child, Madden lived a life of extravagance, from her exclusive private school to her equestrian trophies and designer shoe-brand name. But under the surface was a wild instability. The only child of parents continually battling drug and alcohol addictions, Madden confronted her environment alone. Facing a culture of assault and objectification, she found lifelines in the desperately loving friendships of fatherless girls.

**Lost children archive**  
Valeria Luiselli

**LITERARY FICTION**  
400pp; Pub 2019



A mother and father set out with their two children, a boy and a girl, driving from New York to Arizona in the heat of summer. Their destination: Apacheria, the place the Apaches once called home.

In their car, they play games and sing along to music. But on the radio, there is news about an “immigration crisis”: thousands of kids trying to cross the southwestern border into the United States, but getting detained—or lost in the desert along the way.

As the family drives—through Virginia to Tennessee, across Oklahoma and Texas—we sense they are on the brink of a crisis of their own. A fissure is growing between the parents, one the children can almost feel beneath their feet. They are led, inexorably, to a grand, harrowing adventure—both in the desert landscape and within the chambers of their own imaginations.



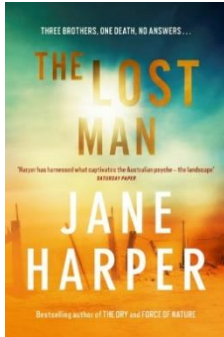


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# BOOK CLUB

## Lost man, The Jane Harper

**CRIME FICTION**  
384pp; Pub 2018



*The man lay still in the centre of a dusty grave under a monstrous sky.*

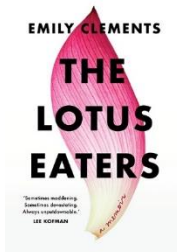
Two brothers meet at the border of their vast cattle properties under the unrelenting sun of outback Queensland.

They are at the stockman's grave, a landmark so old, no one can remember who is buried there. But today, the scant shadow it casts was the last chance for their middle brother, Cameron.

The Bright family's quiet existence is thrown into grief and anguish. Something had been troubling Cameron. Did he lose hope and walk to his death? Because if he didn't, the isolation of the outback leaves few suspects...

## Lotus eaters, The Emily Clements

**MEMOIR**  
320 PAGES; PUB. 2020



Since childhood, Emily Clements' sense of self had always been shaped by the opinions of others and the need to be liked.

When a stand-off with her best friend sees nineteen-year-old Emily stranded in Vietnam, she is alone for the first time and adrift in a new environment. With seemingly nothing to lose, she makes the biggest decision of her life – to stay. But Emily's attempts to bridge a yawning loneliness spur a downward spiral of recklessness,

as she hurtles from one sexual encounter to the next. It will take a truly terrifying experience for her to understand that sex is both a weapon and a wound in her battle for self-worth and empowerment.

## Love song of Miss Queenie Hennessy, The Rachel Joyce

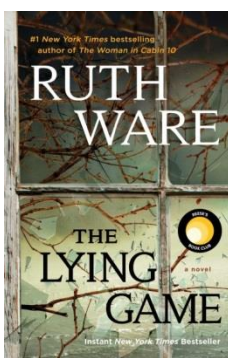
**CONTEMPORARY**  
351pp; Pub 2014



When Queenie Hennessy is told she has days to live she sends a letter on pink paper in which she bids goodbye to Harold Fry. It is a letter that inspires an unlikely walk, a cast of well-wishers and the examination of many lives unlived. But there is a second letter, a longer, quieter more complicated letter which she will never send. It is this letter, the one we did not know about in *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, which reveals the shocking and beautiful truth of Queenie's life.

## Lying game, The Ruth Ware

**LITERARY FICTION  
THRILLER**  
416pp; Pub 2018



On a cool June morning, a woman is walking her dog in the idyllic coastal village of Salten along a tidal estuary known as the Reach. Before she can stop him, the dog charges into the water to retrieve what first appears to be a wayward stick, but to her horror, turns out to be a human bone.

The next morning, three women in and around London—Fatima, Thea, and Isa—receive the text they had always hoped would never come, from the fourth in their formerly inseparable clique, Kate. It says only “I need you.”

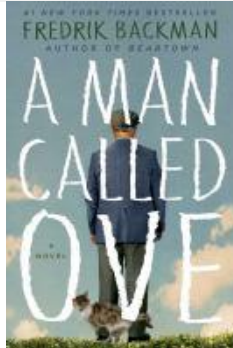


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# BOOK CLUB

## Man called Ove, A Fredrik Backman

**CONTEMPORARY**  
337pp; Pub 2014



At first sight, Ove is almost certainly the grumpiest man you will ever meet, a curmudgeon with staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. Ove's well-ordered, solitary world gets a shake-up one morning with the appearance of new neighbours. What follows is a funny and heartwarming tale of unkempt cats, unlikely friendships, and a community's unexpected reassessment of the one person they thought they had all figured out.

## Manhattan Beach Jennifer Egan

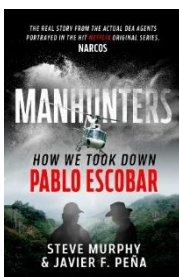
**HISTORICAL FICTION  
DOMESTIC FICTION  
LITERARY FICTION**  
438pp; Pub 2017



With the atmosphere of a noir thriller, Egan's first historical novel follows Anna and Styles into a world populated by gangsters, sailors, divers, bankers, and union men. *Manhattan Beach* is a deft, dazzling, propulsive exploration of a transformative moment in the lives and identities of women and men, of America and the world.

## Manhunters Steve Murphy & Javier F. Pena

**MEMOIR**  
345pp; Pub 2019



Javier Peña and Steve Murphy risked their lives hunting large and small drug traffickers in the decades they spent working for the US Drug Enforcement Administration. But their biggest challenge was the hunt for Pablo Escobar in Colombia. The partners, who began their careers as small-town cops, have been immortalised in Netflix's 'Narcos', a fictionalised account of their hunt for Escobar. Now, for the first time, they tell the real story of how they brought down the world's first narco-terrorist and ended the reign of terror of the world's most wanted criminal.

## Me Elton John

**MEMOIR**  
512 PAGES; PUB. 2019



A multiple Grammy-winning legend and flamboyant superstar, **Elton** is the most enduringly successful singer/songwriter of all time. Fans have been eagerly waiting for him to tell his story. Now the wait is (almost) over. Coming in October 2019, the first and only official autobiography of a much-loved global icon.

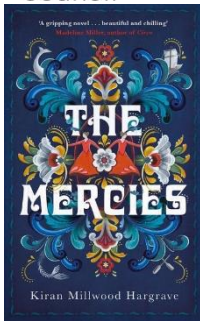
## Mercies, The Kiran Millwood Hargrave

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
341 PAGES; PUB. 2020



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# BOOK CLUB



Winter, 1617. The sea around the remote Norwegian island of Vardø is thrown into a reckless storm. A young woman, Maren, watches as the men of the island, out fishing, perish in an instant. Vardø is now a place of women.

Eighteen months later, a sinister figure arrives. Summoned from Scotland to take control of a place at the edge of the civilized world, Absalom Cornet knows what he needs to do to bring the women of the island to heel. With him travels his young wife, Ursa. In her new home, and in Maren, Ursa finds something she has never seen before: independent women. But Absalom sees only a place flooded with a terrible

evil, one he must root out at all costs . . .

## Milkman

Anna Burns

**AWARD WINNER  
PSYCHOLOGICAL FICTION**

360pp; Pub 2018



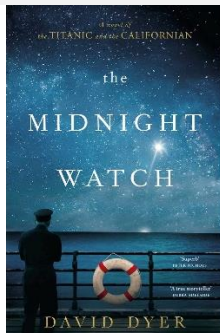
In this unnamed city, to be interesting is dangerous. Middle sister, our protagonist, is busy attempting to keep her mother from discovering her maybe-boyfriend and to keep everyone in the dark about her encounter with Milkman. But when first brother-in-law sniffs out her struggle, and rumours start to swell, middle sister becomes 'interesting'. The last thing she ever wanted to be. To be interesting is to be noticed and to be noticed is dangerous...

## Midnight watch, The

David Dyer

**HISTORICAL FICTION  
AUSTRALIAN**

323pp; Pub 2016



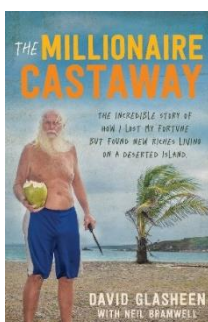
As the Titanic was sinking slowly in the wretchedly cold North Atlantic, she could see the lights of another ship on the horizon. She called for help by Morse lamp and the new Marconi telegraph machine, but there was no response. Just after midnight the Titanic began firing distress rockets. The other ship, the Californian, saw these rockets but didn't come. Why not? When the story of the disaster begins to emerge, it's a question that Boston American reporter John Steadman cannot let go.

## Millionaire castaway, The

David Glasheen

**MEMOIR**

336pp; Pub 2019



Dave Glasheen's life began spiralling out of control after he lost his family's vast fortune in the stock market crash of 1987. After a series of catastrophes, he needed to take drastic measures to restore himself. Opting out of the rat race, he cast himself away to a deserted island off the north-east tip of Australia, as far off the grid as was humanly possible. He has lived there ever since.

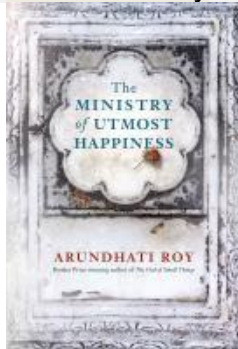


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# BOOK CLUB

## Ministry of utmost happiness, The Arundhati Roy

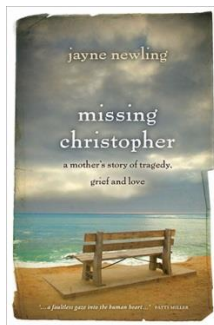
CONTEMPORARY  
445pp; Pub 2017



In a graveyard outside the walls of Old Delhi, a resident unrolls a threadbare Persian carpet. On a concrete sidewalk, a baby suddenly appears, just after midnight. In a snowy valley, a bereaved father writes a letter to his five-year-old daughter about the people who came to her funeral. In a second-floor apartment, a lone woman chain-smokes as she reads through her old notebooks. At the Jannat Guest House, two people who have known each other all their lives sleep with their arms wrapped around each other, as though they have just met.

## Missing Christopher Jayne Newling

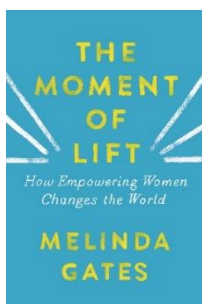
MEMOIR  
AWARD WINNER  
288pp; Pub 2014



The story of a mother's journey through inconsolable grief after the death of her teenage son. Powerfully written, it's an eloquent reminder that our hold on life is tenuous, and communication, love and togetherness are the key to surviving such a tragedy.

## Moment of lift, The Melinda Gates

NON-FICTION  
288pp; Pub 2019

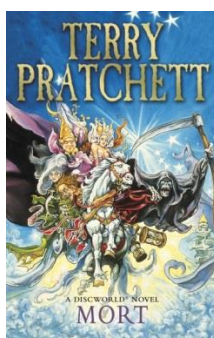


*How can we summon a moment of lift for human beings - and especially for women? Because when you lift up women, you lift up humanity.*

In this moving and compelling *New York Times* bestseller, Melinda shares lessons she's learned from the inspiring people she's met during her work and travels around the world. As she writes in the introduction, 'That is why I had to write this book - to share the stories of people who have given focus and urgency to my life. I want all of us to see ways we can lift women up where we live.'

## Mort Terry Pratchett

HUMOUR  
SATIRE  
320pp; Pub 1987



Death comes to us all. When he came to Mort, he offered him a job. Henceforth, Death is no longer going to be the end, merely the means to an end. It's an offer Mort can't refuse. As Death's apprentice he'll have free board, use of the company horse - and being dead isn't compulsory. It's a dream job - until he discovers that it can be a killer on his love life...



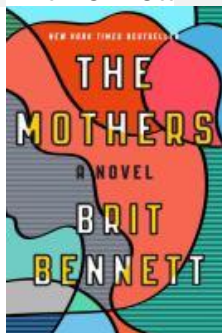


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# BOOK CLUB

**Mothers, The**  
Brit Bennett

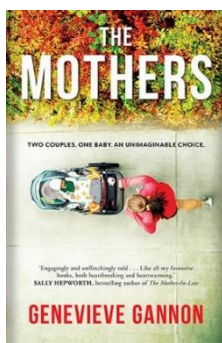
**CONTEMPORARY**  
278pp; Pub 2016



It is the last season of high school life for Nadia Turner, a rebellious, grief-stricken beauty. Mourning her mother's recent suicide, she takes up with the local pastor's son. Luke Sheppard is twenty-one, a former football star whose injury has reduced him to waiting tables at a diner. It's not serious-- until the pregnancy. As years move by, Nadia, Luke, and her friend Aubrey are living in debt to the choices they made that one seaside summer, caught in a love triangle they must carefully manoeuvre, and dogged by the constant, nagging question: What if they had chosen differently?

**Mothers, The**  
Genevieve Gannon

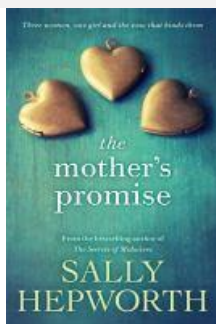
**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
384pp; Pub 2020



What if you gave birth to someone else's child? A gripping family drama inspired by a real-life case of an IVF laboratory mix-up.

**Mother's Promise, The**  
Sally Hepworth

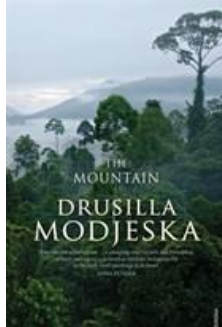
**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN**  
374pp; Pub 2017



Alice and her daughter Zoe have been a team of two all their lives. With no family to speak of, and the identity of Zoe's father shrouded in mystery, they've never needed anyone else - until Alice gets sick. Desperate to find stability for Zoe, Alice reaches out to two near-strangers: Kate, her oncology nurse, and Sonja, her social worker. As the lives of the three women become inextricably tied, a chain of events is set into motion, forcing them to confront their deepest fears and secrets.

**Mountain, The**  
Drusilla Modjeska

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
448pp; Pub 2012



In 1968, Papua New Guinea is on the brink of independence, and everything is about to change. Amidst the turmoil filmmaker Leonard arrives from England with his Dutch wife, Rika, to study and film an isolated village high in the mountains. This sweeping novel takes us deep into this fascinating, complex country, whose culture and people cannot escape the march of modernity that threatens to overwhelm them. It is a riveting story of love, loss, grief, and betrayal.

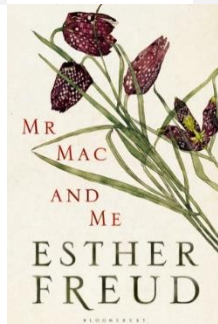


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# BOOK CLUB

## Mr Mac and me Esther Freud

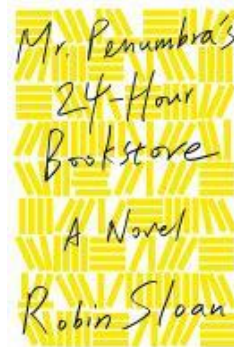
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
293pp; Pub 2014



It is 1914, and Thomas Maggs, the son of the local publican, lives with his parents and sister in a village on the Suffolk coast. Life is quiet - shaped by the seasons, fishing and farming, the summer visitors ... Then one day a mysterious Scotsman arrives. He is the great Glaswegian artist Charles Rennie Mackintosh. In this compelling story of an unlikely friendship, Esther Freud paints a vivid portrait of a home front community during the First World War, and of a man who was one of the most brilliant and misunderstood artists of his generation.

## Mr Penumbra's 24-hour book store Robin Sloan

**MYSTERY**  
288pp; Pub 2012



Clay Jannon, twenty-six and unemployed, reads books about vampire policemen and teenage wizards. Familiar, predictable books. Books that fit neatly into a section at the bookstore. But he is about to encounter a new species of book entirely: secret, strange, and frantically sought-after.

## Murder in Mississippi John Safran

**NON FICTION**  
368pp; Pub 2013



When filming his TV series Race Relations, John Safran spent an uneasy couple of days with one of Mississippi's most notorious white supremacists. A year later, he heard that the man had been murdered - and what was more, the killer was black. At first the murder seemed a twist on the old Deep South race crimes. But then more news rolled in. Maybe it was a dispute over money, or most intriguingly, over sex. Could the infamous racist actually have been secretly gay, with a thing for black men? Did Safran have the last footage of him alive? Could this be the story of a lifetime?

## My brilliant friend Elana Ferrante

**HISTORICAL**  
331pp; Pub 2012



### Book 1 of The Neapolitan novels

The story begins in the 1950s, in a poor but vibrant neighbourhood on the outskirts of Naples. Growing up on these tough streets the two girls learn to rely on each other ahead of anyone or anything else. As they grow, as their paths repeatedly diverge and converge, Elena and Lila remain best friends whose respective destinies are reflected and refracted in the other. Through the lives of these two women, Ferrante tells the story of a neighbourhood, a city, and a country as it is transformed in ways that, in turn, also transform the relationship between her protagonists, the unforgettable Elena and Lila.



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# BOOK CLUB

## **My brother Jack** George Johnston

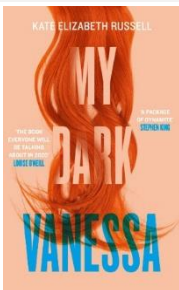
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
**AUSTRALIAN CLASSIC**  
364pp; Orig Pub 1964



David and Jack Meredith grow up in a patriotic suburban Melbourne household during the First World War, and go on to lead lives that could not be more different. Through the story of the two brothers, George Johnston created an enduring exploration of two Australian myths: that of the man who loses his soul as he gains worldly success, and that of the tough, honest Aussie battler, whose greatest ambition is to serve his country during the war.

## **My dark Vanessa** Kate Elizabeth Russell

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
**372 PAGES; PUB. 2020**



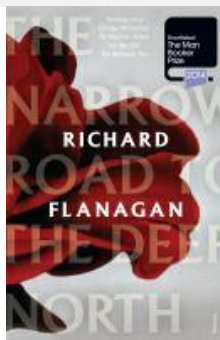
Vanessa Wye was fifteen-years-old when she first had sex with her English teacher. She is now thirty-two and in the storm of allegations against powerful men in 2017, the teacher, Jacob Strane, has just been accused of sexual abuse by another former student.

Vanessa is horrified by this news, because she is quite certain that the relationship she had with Strane wasn't abuse. It was love. She's sure of that.

Forced to rethink her past, to revisit everything that happened, Vanessa has to redefine the great love story of her life – her great sexual awakening – as rape. Now she must deal with the possibility that she might be a victim, and just one of many.

## **Narrow road to the deep north, The** Richard Flanagan

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
**AUSTRALIAN**  
Winner Man Booker Prize  
467pp; Pub 2013



The story, of Dorrigo Evans, an Australian doctor haunted by a love affair with his uncle's wife, journeys from the caves of Tasmanian trappers in the early twentieth century to a crumbling pre-war beachside hotel; from a Thai jungle prison to a Japanese snow festival; from the Changi gallows to a chance meeting of lovers on the Sydney Harbour Bridge. At the story's heart is one day in a Japanese slave labour camp in August 1943. As the day builds to its horrific climax, Dorrigo Evans battles and fails in his quest to save the lives of his fellow POWs, a man is killed for no reason, and a love story unfolds.

## **Natural way of things, The** Charlotte Wood

**SUSPENSE**  
**AUSTRALIAN**  
**STELLA PRIZE**  
315pp; Pub 2015



Two women awaken from a drugged sleep to find themselves imprisoned in a broken-down property in the middle of a desert. Strangers to each other, they have no idea where they are or how they came to be there with eight other girls, forced to wear strange uniforms, their heads shaved, guarded by two inept yet vicious armed jailers and a 'nurse'. Doing hard labour under a sweltering sun, the prisoners soon learn what links them: in each girl's past is a sexual scandal with a powerful man.



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# BOOK CLUB

**Nickel boys, The**  
Colson Whitehead

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
211pp; Pub 2019



In this bravura follow-up to the Pulitzer Prize, and National Book Award-winning #1 New York Times bestseller *The Underground Railroad*, Colson Whitehead brilliantly dramatizes another strand of American history through the story of two boys sentenced to a hellish reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida.

Based on the real story of a reform school in Florida that operated for one hundred and eleven years and warped the lives of thousands of children, *The Nickel Boys* is a devastating, driven narrative that showcases a great American novelist writing at the height of his powers.

**Nightingale**  
Fiona McIntosh

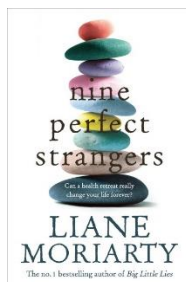
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
**AUSTRALIAN**  
385pp; Pub 2015



Amidst the carnage of Gallipoli, British nurse Claire Nightingale falls in love with Australian Light Horseman Jamie Wren. Their flame burns bright, even when war tears them apart. Come peacetime, Claire's desperate search to find Jamie takes her all the way to Istanbul, and deep into the heart of a Turkish family. Cultures come together, enemies embrace and forbidden passions helplessly ignite.

**Nine perfect strangers**  
Liane Moriarty

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
512pp; Pub 2018



The retreat at health and wellness resort Tranquillum House promises total transformation. Nine stressed city dwellers are keen to drop their literal and mental baggage, and absorb the meditative ambience while enjoying their hot stone massages.

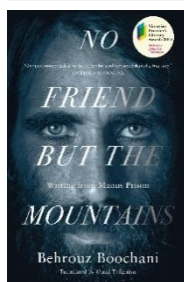
Watching over them is the resort's director, a woman on a mission to reinvigorate their tired minds and bodies.

These nine perfect strangers have no idea what is about to hit them.

With her wit, compassion and uncanny understanding of human behaviour, Liane Moriarty explores the depth of connection that can be formed when people are thrown together in... unconventional circumstances.

**No friend but the mountains**  
Behrouz Boochani

**AWARD WINNER**  
**BIOGRAPHY**  
374pp; Pub 2018



In 2013, Kurdish journalist Behrouz Boochani was illegally detained on Manus Island. He has been there ever since.

This book is the result. Laboriously tapped out on a mobile phone and translated from the Farsi. It is a voice of witness, an act of survival. A lyric first-hand account. A cry of resistance. A vivid portrait through five years of incarceration and exile.



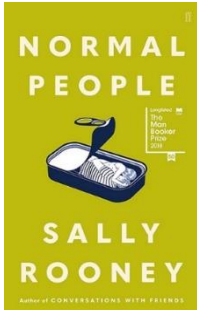


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# BOOK CLUB

## Normal people Sally Rooney

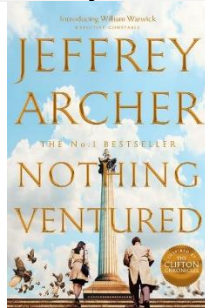
**AWARD WINNER  
CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
288pp; Pub 2018



Connell and Marianne grow up in the same small town in rural Ireland. The similarities end there; they are from very different worlds. When they both earn places at Trinity College in Dublin, a connection that has grown between them lasts long into the following years. This is an exquisite love story about how a person can change another person's life - a simple yet profound realisation that unfolds beautifully over the course of the novel. It tells us how difficult it is to talk about how we feel and it tells us - blazingly - about cycles of domination, legitimacy and privilege. Alternating menace with overwhelming tenderness, Sally Rooney's second novel breathes fiction with new life.

## Nothing ventured Jeffrey Archer

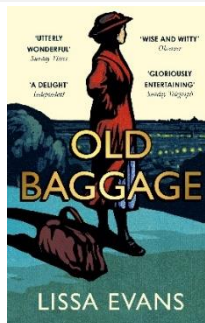
**CRIME FICTION**  
511pp Large Print; Pub 2019



Much to his father's dismay, William Warwick rejects a career in law to join London's Metropolitan Police Force. He advances from a beat cop to a detective in Scotland Yard's arts and antiquities squad. Investigating the theft of a priceless Rembrandt painting, William meets and falls in love with Beth Rainsford, a gallery research assistant. As William searches for the missing masterpiece, he comes up against art collector Miles Faulkner and his brilliant lawyer, who are willing to bend the law to stay one step ahead of William. Meanwhile, Faulkner's wife, Christina, befriends William, but whose side is she really on?

## Old baggage Lissa Evans

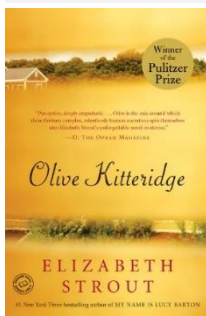
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
315pp Large Print; Pub 2018



It is 1928. Matilda Simpkin, rooting through a cupboard, comes across a small wooden club – an old possession of hers, unseen for more than a decade. Mattie is a woman with a thrilling past and a chafingly uneventful present. During the Women's Suffrage Campaign she was a militant. Jailed five times, she marched, sang, gave speeches, smashed windows and heckled Winston Churchill, and nothing – nothing – since then has had the same depth, the same excitement. Now in middle age, she is still looking for a fresh mould into which to pour her energies. Giving the wooden club a thoughtful twirl, she is struck by an idea – but what starts as a brilliantly idealistic plan is derailed by a connection with Mattie's militant past, one which begins to threaten every principle that she stands for.

## Olive Kitteridge Elizabeth Strout

**AWARD WINNER  
LITERARY FICTION**  
288 PAGES; PUB. 2008



Olive Kitteridge might be described by some as a battle axe or as brilliantly pushy, by others as the kindest person they had ever met. Olive herself has always been certain that she is 100% correct about everything - although, lately, her certitude has been shaken.



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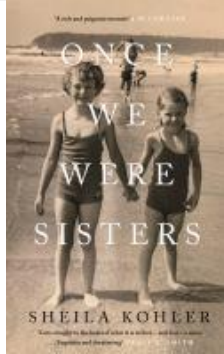
# BOOK CLUB

## Once we were sisters

Sheila Kohler

MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY

244pp; Pub 2017



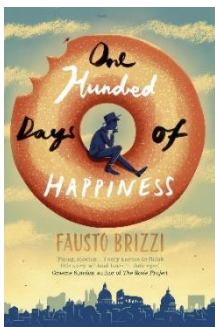
A heartrending literary memoir of the tragic death of Kohler's older sister describes how in the aftermath of a fatal car accident, the author investigated their unusual shared childhood and her brother-in-law's violent history. After learning that her sister Maxine was killed when her husband drove them off a deserted road in Johannesburg, Kohler flew back to the country where she was born, determined to reckon with the tragedy and her family's history of choosing unsuitable men. Flashing back to their childhood at the family estate, Crossways, Kohler tells of the death of her father and being raised by their mother, at turns distant and suffocating. She shows how the bond between sisters changes but never breaks, even after death.

## One hundred days of happiness

Fausto Brizzi

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

384pp; Pub 2015



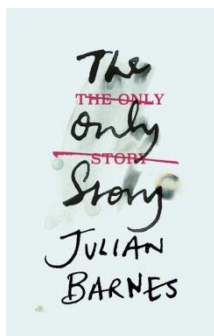
Womanizing, imperfect, but loveable, Lucio Battistini has been thrown out of the house by his wife and is sleeping in the stock room of his father-in-law's bombolini bakery when he learns he has inoperable cancer. So begins the last hundred days of Lucio's life, as he attempts to care for his family, win back his wife (the love of his life and afterlife), and spend the next three months enjoying every moment with a zest he hasn't felt in years. From helping his hopelessly romantic, widowed father-in-law find love, discovering comfort in enduring friendships, and finding new ones, Lucio becomes, at last, the man he's always meant to be.

## Only story, The

Julian Barnes

CONTEMPORARY

212pp; Pub 2018



*Would you rather love the more, and suffer the more; or love the less, and suffer the less? That is, I think, finally, the only real question.*

First love has lifelong consequences, but Paul doesn't know anything about that at nineteen. At nineteen, he's proud of the fact his relationship flies in the face of social convention.

As he grows older, the demands placed on Paul by love become far greater than he could possibly have foreseen.



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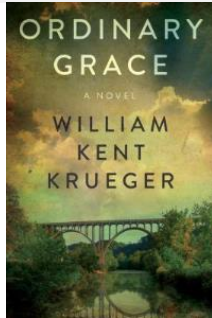
# BOOK CLUB

## Ordinary Grace

William Kent Kreuger

**MYSTERY**

307pp; Pub 2014



Looking back at a tragic event that occurred during his thirteenth year, Frank Drum explores how a complicated web of secrets, adultery, and betrayal shattered his Methodist family and their small 1961 Minnesota community.

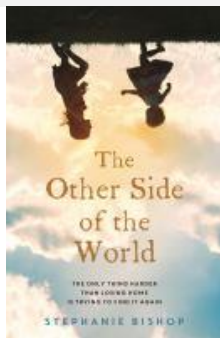
## Other side of the world, The

Stephanie Bishop

**CONTEMPORARY**

**AUSTRALIAN**

283pp; Pub 2015



Cambridge, 1963. Charlotte is struggling. With motherhood, with the changes marriage and parenthood bring, with losing the time and the energy to paint. Her husband, Henry, wants things to be as they were and can't face the thought of another English winter. A brochure slipped through the letterbox slot brings him the answer: Australia brings out the best in you. Despite wanting to stay in the place that she knows, Charlotte is too worn out to fight. Before she has a chance to realise what it will mean, she is travelling to the other side of the world.

## Our souls at night

Kent Haruf

**CONTEMPORARY**

179pp; Pub 2015



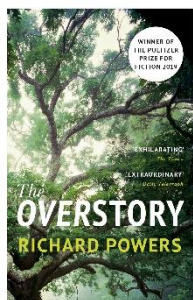
A story about growing old with grace. Addie Moore and Louis Waters have been neighbours for years. Now they both live alone, their houses empty of family, their quiet nights solitary. Then one evening Addie pays Louis a visit.

## Overstory, The

Richard Powers

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**

640pp; Pub 2019



An artist inherits a hundred years of photographic portraits, all of the same doomed American chestnut. A hard-partying undergraduate in the late 1980s electrocutes herself, dies, and is sent back into life by creatures of air and light. A hearing- and speech-impaired scientist discovers that trees are communicating with one another. An Air Force crewmember in the Vietnam War is shot out of the sky, then saved by falling into a banyan.

This is the story of these and five other strangers, each summoned in different ways by the natural world, who are brought together in a last stand to save it from catastrophe.

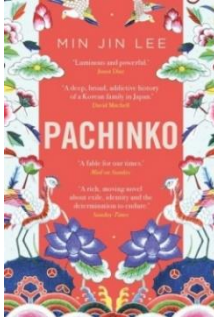


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# BOOK CLUB

**Pachinko**  
Min Jin Lee

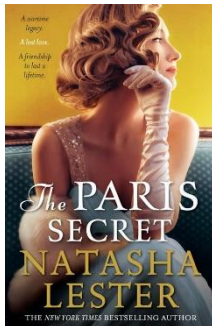
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
**JAPANESE/KOREAN FICTION**  
**FAMILY FICTION**  
560pp; Pub 2017



PACHINKO follows one Korean family through the generations, beginning in early 1900s Korea with Sunja, the prized daughter of a poor yet proud family, whose unplanned pregnancy threatens to shame them all. Deserted by her lover, Sunja is saved when a young tubercular minister offers to marry and bring her to Japan. So begins a sweeping saga of an exceptional family in exile from its homeland and caught in the indifferent arc of history. Through desperate struggles and hard-won triumphs, its members are bound together by deep roots as they face enduring questions of faith, family, and identity.

**Paris secret, The**  
Natasha Lester

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
452pp; Pub 2020



**England, 1939** Talented pilot Skye Penrose joins the British war effort where she encounters her estranged sister, Liberty, and childhood soulmate Nicholas Crawford, now engaged to enigmatic Frenchwoman Margaux Jourdan.

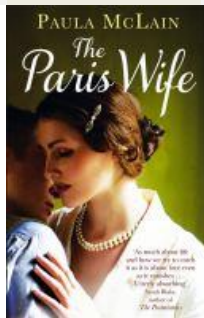
**Paris, 1947** Designer Christian Dior unveils his extravagant first collection to a world weary of war and grief. He names his debut fragrance, Miss Dior, in tribute to his sister, Catherine, who worked for the French Resistance.

**Present day** Australian fashion conservator Kat Jourdan discovers a secret wardrobe filled with priceless Dior gowns in her grandmother's vacant cottage. As she delves into the mystery, Kat begins to doubt everything she thought she knew about her beloved grandmother.

An unspeakable betrayal will entwine all of their fates.

**Paris wife, The**  
Paula McLain

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
392pp; Pub 2011



Chicago, 1920: Hadley Richardson is a shy twenty-eight-year-old who has all but given up on love and happiness when she meets Ernest Hemingway and is captivated by his energy, intensity and burning ambition to write. After a whirlwind courtship and wedding, the pair set sail for France. But glamorous Jazz Age Paris, full of artists and writers, fuelled by alcohol and gossip, is no place for family life and fidelity.



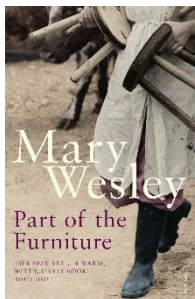


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# BOOK CLUB

## Part of the furniture Mary Wesley

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
286pp; Pub 1997

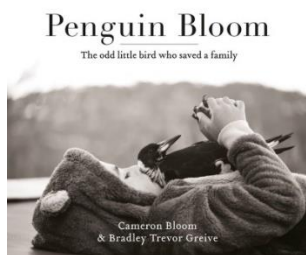


Early in 1941, having just seen off at Euston Station the two young men whom she has loved for the best part of her seventeen years, Juno Marlowe is hurrying down a London street with her ill-fitting shoes in her hands. Aeroplanes thunder overhead; a battery of guns opens up. When a stick of bombs falls she cowers, then takes to her heels in flight. She is rescued from this nightmare by a gaunt stranger, frail and older than his years; guiding her up his front steps, he offers her the protection of his house.

Given this respite from the bleakness of an existence where she has no home and family to turn to, Juno encounters first tragedy, then a series of events that take her to a house in the West Country and the blossoming of an English Spring into which war only occasionally intrudes. Here she may find peace, here she will no longer just be part of the furniture.

## Penguin Bloom Cameron Bloom

**MEMOIR**  
208pp; Pub 2016



This is a true story of hope and courage. It begins with a shocking accident, in which Cameron's wife, Sam, suffers a near fatal fall that leaves her paralysed and deeply depressed. Into their lives comes Penguin, an injured magpie chick abandoned after she fell from her nest.

## Persuasion Jane Austen

**CLASSIC**  
260pp; Orig Pub 1817



Eight years ago Anne Elliot bowed to pressure from her family and made the decision not to marry the man she loved, Captain Wentworth. Now circumstances have conspired to bring him back into her social circle and Anne finds her old feelings for him reignited. However, when they meet again Wentworth behaves as if they are strangers and seems more interested in her friend Louisa.



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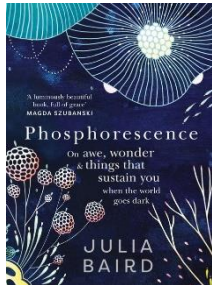
# BOOK CLUB

## Phosphorescence

Julia Baird

**MEMOIR  
SELF-ACTUALISATION**

310pp; Pub 2020



Over the last decade, we have become better at knowing what brings us contentment, well-being and joy. We know, for example, that there are a few core truths to science of happiness. We know that being kind and altruistic makes us happy, that turning off devices, talking to people, forging relationships, living with meaning and delving into the concerns of others offer our best chance at achieving happiness. But how do we retain happiness? It often slips out of our hands as quickly as we find it. So, when we are exposed to, or learn, good things, how do we continue to burn with them?

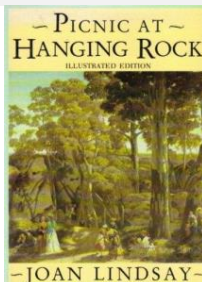
And more than that, when our world goes dark, when we're overwhelmed by illness or heartbreak, loss or pain, how do we survive, stay alive or even bloom? In the muck and grit of a daily existence full of disappointments and a disturbing lack of control over many of the things that matter most - finite relationships, fragile health, fraying economies, a planet in peril - how do we find, nurture and carry our own inner, living light - a light to ward off the darkness?

## Picnic at Hanging Rock

Joan Lindsay

**MYSTERY  
CLASSIC  
HISTORICAL FICTION  
AUSTRALIAN**

189pp; Orig Pub 1967



It was a cloudless summer day in the year nineteen hundred. Everyone at Appleyard College for Young Ladies agreed it was just right for a picnic at Hanging Rock. After lunch, a group of three of the girls climbed into the blaze of the afternoon sun, pressing on through the scrub into the shadows of Hanging Rock. Further, higher, till at last they disappeared. They never returned.

## Picnic at Hanging Rock (stage version)

Joan Lindsay/Tom Wright

**PLAYS  
MYSTERY & CRIME**

80pp; Pub 2017

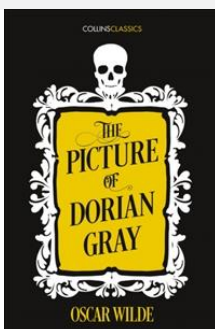


On a summer's day in 1900, three Australian schoolgirls on a picnic expedition to the remote Hanging Rock abscond from their group. They are last seen heading towards the beckoning Rock...

## Picture of Dorian Gray, The

Oscar Wilde

**GOTHIC HORROR  
CLASSIC**  
224pp; Orig Pub 1890



A truly classic gothic horror novel for the ages. A Picture of Dorian Gray has captivated generations of readers with its ethical and artistic questions. What are the true costs of excess? What happens when an artist cares more for his artistic vision than his fellow man? What price should one pay for beauty? A story of duplicity and indulgence, the sacred and the profane. Oscar Wilde at his very best.

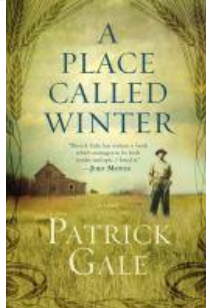


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# BOOK CLUB

## Place called winter, A Patrick Gale

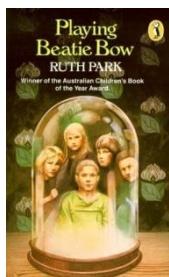
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
368pp; Pub 2016



To find yourself, sometimes you must lose everything. A privileged elder son, and stammeringly shy, Harry Cane has followed convention at every step. Even the beginnings of an illicit, dangerous affair do little to shake the foundations of his muted existence - until the shock of discovery and the threat of arrest cost him everything. Forced to abandon his wife and child, Harry signs up for emigration to the newly colonised Canadian prairies.

## Playing Beatie Bow Ruth Park

**CLASSIC FICTION**  
208pp; Pub 1982



The game is called Beatie Bow and the children play it for the thrill of scaring themselves. But when Abigail is drawn in, the game is quickly transformed into an extraordinary, sometimes horrifying, adventure as she finds herself transported to a place that is foreign yet strangely familiar ...

## Postmistress, The Sarah Blake

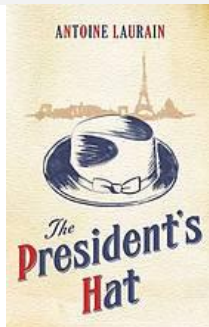
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
322pp Orig Pub 2010



It is 1940, and bombs fall nightly on London. In the thick of the chaos is young American radio reporter Frankie Bard. She huddles close to terrified strangers in underground shelters, and later broadcasts stories about survivors in rubble-strewn streets. But for her listeners, the war is far from home. Listening to Frankie are a Cape Cod postmistress and a doctor's wife. But one night in London the fates of all three women entwine when Frankie finds a letter - a letter she vows to deliver...

## President's hat, The Antoine Laurain

**CONTEMPORARY**  
208pp; Pub 2013



Dining alone in an elegant Parisian brasserie, accountant Daniel Mercier can hardly believe his eyes when President Francois Mitterrand sits down to eat at the table next to him. After the presidential party has gone, Daniel discovers that Mitterrand's black felt hat has been left behind. Daniel decides to keep the hat as a souvenir, and as he leaves the restaurant, he begins to feel somehow different.

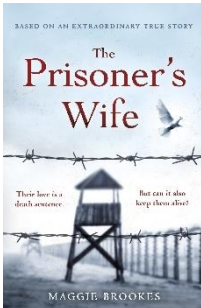


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# BOOK CLUB

## Prisoner's wife, The Maggie Brookes

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
416pp; Pub 2020



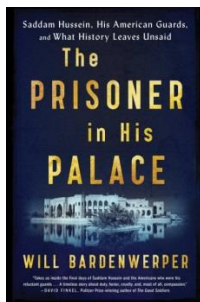
Their love is a death sentence. But can it keep them alive? Czechoslovakia, 1944. In the dead of night, a farm girl and a British soldier creep through abandoned villages. Secretly married and on the run, Bill and Izabela are searching for Izabela's brother and father, who are fighting for the Czech resistance. They know their luck will not last.

Captured by the German army, it seems they must be separated - but they have prepared for this moment. By cutting her hair and pretending to be mute, Izabela successfully disguises herself as a British soldier. Together, they face the terrible conditions of a POW camp, reliant on the help of their fellow POWs to maintain their fragile deception.

Their situation is beyond dangerous. If Izabela is discovered, she and Bill - and all the men who helped them - will face lethal consequences.

## Prisoner in his palace, The Will Bardenwerper

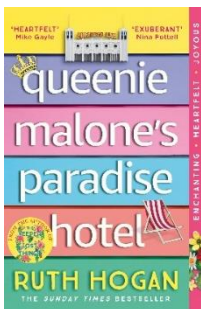
**NON-FICTION**  
246pp; Pub 2017



In the haunting tradition of *In Cold Blood* and *The Executioner's Song*, this remarkably insightful and surprisingly intimate portrait of Saddam Hussein lifts away the top layer of a dictator's evil and finds complexity beneath as it invites us to take a journey with twelve young American soldiers in the summer of 2006. Trained to aggressively confront the enemy in combat, the men learn, shortly after being deployed to Iraq, that fate has assigned them a different role. It becomes their job to guard the country's notorious leader in the months leading to his execution.

## Queenie Malone's Paradise Hotel Ruth Hogan

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
336pp; Pub 2019



Tilly was a bright, outgoing little girl who liked playing with ghosts and matches. She loved fizzy drinks, swear words, fish fingers and Catholic churches, but most of all she loved living in Brighton in Queenie Malone's magnificent Paradise Hotel with its endearing and loving family of misfits - staff and guests alike. But Tilly's childhood was shattered when her mother sent her away from the only home she'd ever loved to boarding school with little explanation and no warning. Now, Tilda has grown into an independent woman still damaged by her mother's unaccountable cruelty. Wary of people, her only friend is her dog, Eli. But when her mother dies, Tilda goes back to Brighton and with the help of her beloved Queenie sets about unravelling the mystery of her exile from The Paradise Hotel and discovers that her mother was not the woman she thought she knew at all.





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# BOOK CLUB

**Questions of travel**  
Michelle de Kretser

**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN**

Miles Franklin Literary Award Winner 2013  
517pp; Pub 2013

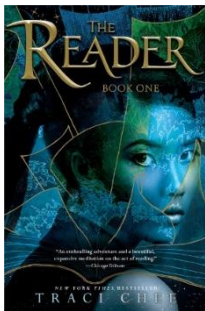


A mesmerising literary novel, Questions of Travel charts two very different lives. Laura travels the world before returning to Sydney, where she works for a publisher of travel guides. Ravi dreams of being a tourist until he is driven from Sri Lanka by devastating events.

**Reader, The**  
Traci Chee

**YOUNG ADULT  
FANTASY**

**480 PAGES; PUB. 2017**



Sefia knows what it means to survive. After her father is brutally murdered, she flees into the wilderness with her aunt Nin, who teaches her to hunt, track, and steal. But when Nin is kidnapped, leaving Sefia completely alone, none of her survival skills can help her discover where Nin's been taken, or if she's even alive. The only clue to both her aunt's disappearance and her father's murder is the odd rectangular object her father left behind, an object she comes to realize is a book—a marvelous item unheard of in her otherwise illiterate society. With the help of this book, and the aid of a mysterious stranger with dark secrets of his own, Sefia sets out to rescue her aunt and find out what really happened the day her father was killed—and punish

the people responsible.

**Reckoning**  
Magda Szubanski

**MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY  
AUSTRALIAN**

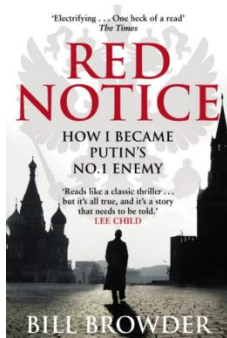
374pp; Pub 2015



Reckoning is the book where Magda Szubanski, one of Australia's most beloved performers, tells her story. In this extraordinary memoir, Magda describes her journey of self-discovery from a suburban childhood, haunted by the demons of her father's espionage activities in wartime Poland and by her secret awareness of her sexuality, to the complex dramas of adulthood and her need to find out the truth about herself and her family.

**Red notice: How I became Putin's no.1 enemy**  
Bill Browder

**NON-FICTION**  
480pp; Pub 2016



In November 2009, the young lawyer Sergei Magnitsky was beaten to death by eight police officers in a freezing cell in a Moscow prison. His crime? Testifying against Russian officials who were involved in a conspiracy to steal \$230 million of taxes.

Corruption, dirty politics and murder in Russia - told by one of Putin's Most Wanted.

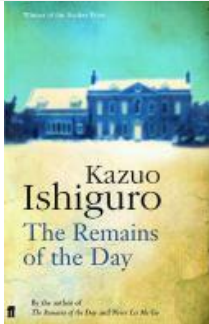


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# BOOK CLUB

## Remains of the day, The Kazuo Ishiguro

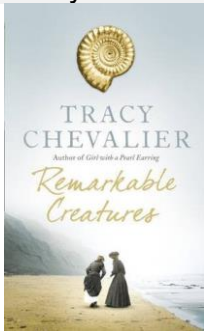
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
Man Booker Prize Winner  
258pp Orig Pub 1989



In the summer of 1956, Stevens, the ageing butler of Darlington Hall, embarks on a leisurely holiday that will take him deep into the countryside and into his past...A contemporary classic, *The Remains of the Day* is Kazuo Ishiguro's beautiful and haunting evocation of life between the wars in a Great English House, of lost causes and lost love.

## Remarkable creatures Tracy Chevalier

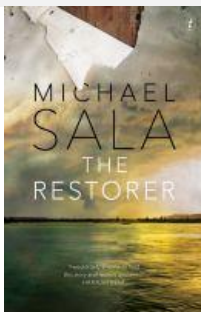
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
352pp; Orig Pub 2009



In 1810, a sister and brother uncover the fossilized skull of an unknown animal in the cliffs on the south coast of England. With its long snout and prominent teeth, it might be a crocodile – except that it has a huge, bulbous eye. *Remarkable Creatures* is the story of Mary Anning, who has a talent for finding fossils, and whose discovery of ancient marine reptiles such as that ichthyosaur shakes the scientific community and leads to new ways of thinking about the creation of the world.

## Restorer, The Michael Sala

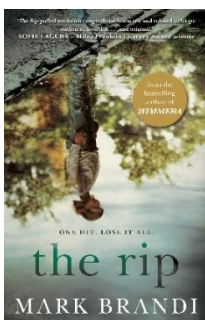
**CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIAN**  
342pp; Pub 2017



After a year apart, Maryanne returns to her husband, Roy, bringing their eight-year-old son Daniel and his teenage sister Freya with her. The family move from Sydney to Newcastle, where Roy has bought a derelict house on the coast. As Roy painstakingly patches the holes in the floorboards and plasters over cracks in the walls, Maryanne believes that they can rebuild a life together. But Freya doesn't want a fresh start, she just wants out and Daniel drifts around the sprawling house in a dream, infuriating his father, who soon forgets his promises. Some cracks can never be smoothed over, and tension grows between Roy and Maryanne until their uneasy peace is ruptured with devastating consequences.

## Rip, The Mark Brandi

**AUSTRALIAN FICTION**  
272pp; Pub 2019



A young woman living on the street has to keep her wits about her. Or her friends. But when the drugs kick in that can be hard. Anton has been looking out for her. She was safe with him. But then Steve came along. He had something over Anton. Must have. But he had a flat they could crash in. And gear in his pocket. And she can't stop thinking about it. A good hit makes everything all right. But the flat smells weird. There's a lock on Steve's bedroom door. And the guy is intense. The problem is, sometimes you just don't know you are in too deep, until you are drowning.



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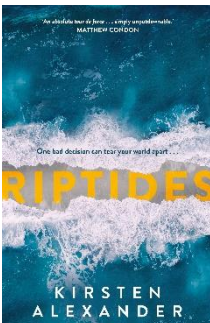
# BOOK CLUB

## Riptides

Kirsten Alexander

**THRILLER**

352pp; Pub 2020



*One bad decision can tear your world apart . . .*

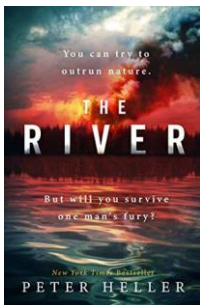
December 1974. Abby Campbell and her brother Charlie are driving to their father's farm on a dark country road when they swerve into the path of another car, forcing it into a tree. The pregnant driver is killed instantly. In the heat of the moment, Abby and Charlie make a fateful decision. They flee, hoping heavy rain will erase the fact they were there. They both have too much to lose.

But they have no idea who they've just killed or how many lives will be affected by her death. Soon the truth is like a rip tide they can't escape, as their terrible secret pulls them down deeper by the day.

## River, The Peter Heller

**SUSPENSE & THRILLER**

272pp; Pub 2019

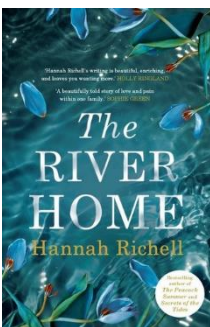


From the best-selling author of *The Dog Stars*, the story of two college students on a wilderness canoe trip—a gripping tale of a friendship tested by fire, white water, and violence

## River home, The Hannah Richell

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**

359pp; Pub 2020



Margot Sorrell didn't want to go home. She had spent all her adult life trying not to look behind. But a text from her sister Lucy brought her back to Somerset. 'I need you.'

As Margot, Lucy and their eldest sister, Eve, reunite in the house they grew up in beside the river, the secrets they keep from each other, and from themselves, refuse to stay hidden. A wedding brings them together but long-simmering resentments threaten to tear the family apart. No one could imagine the way this gathering would change them all forever. And through the sorrow they are forced to confront, there is a chance that healing will also come. But only if the truth is told.

## River house, The Janita Cunnington

**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN**

414pp; Pub 2016



It is the late 1940s and for four year old Laurie Carlyle the River House, an old weatherboard box on stumps where the Carlyle family take their holidays, fires the imagination. But when a squabble between Laurie and her older brother Tony takes an unexpected turn, she detects the first hints of family discord. As the years pass, The River House holidays seem to shine a light on the undercurrents in the family: the secret from her mother's past, the bitterness between Tony and their father Doug, and her sister Miranda's increasingly erratic and dangerous behaviour.



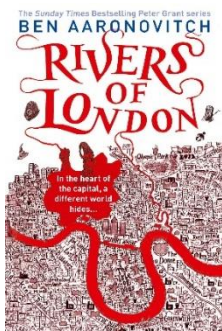


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# BOOK CLUB

**Rivers of London**  
Ben Aaronovitch

**CRIME & MYSTERY  
FANTASY**  
432 PAGES; PUB. 2011



My name is Peter Grant and until January I was just another probationary constable in that mighty army for justice known to all right-thinking people as the Metropolitan Police Service, and as the Filth to everybody else.

**Room made of leaves, A**  
Kate Grenville

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
322pp; Pub 2020



What if Elizabeth Macarthur—wife of the notorious John Macarthur, wool baron in the earliest days of Sydney—had written a shockingly frank secret memoir? And what if novelist Kate Grenville had miraculously found and published it? That's the starting point for *A Room Made of Leaves*, a playful dance of possibilities between the real and the invented. Marriage to a ruthless bully, the impulses of her heart, the search for power in a society that gave women none: this Elizabeth Macarthur manages her complicated life with spirit and passion, cunning and sly wit. Her memoir lets us hear—at last!—what one of those seemingly demure women from history might really have thought.

**Rosie effect, The**  
Graeme Simsion

**CONTEMPORARY**  
415pp; Pub 2014



GREETINGS. My name is Don Tillman. I am forty-one years old. I have been married to Rosie Jarman, world's most perfect woman, for ten months and ten days. Marriage added significant complexity to my life. When we relocated to New York City, Rosie brought three maximum-size suitcases. We abandoned the Standardised Meal System and agreed that sex should not be scheduled in advance.

**Rosie project, The**  
Graeme Simsion

**CONTEMPORARY**  
329pp; Pub 2013



Don Tillman, professor of genetics, has never been on a second date. Then a chance encounter gives him an idea. He will design a questionnaire—a sixteen-page, scientifically researched document—to find the perfect partner. She will most definitely not be a barmaid, a smoker, a drinker or a late-arriver. Rosie Jarman is all these things. She is strangely beguiling, fiery and intelligent. And she is also on a quest of her own. She's looking for her biological father, a search that a certain DNA expert might just be able to help her with—even if he does wear quick-dry clothes and eat lobster every single Tuesday night.



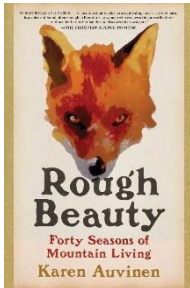


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# BOOK CLUB

**Rough beauty**  
Karen Auvinen

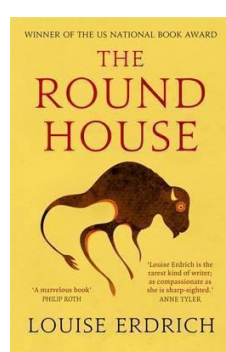
**Memoir**  
320pp; Pub 2019



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.

**Round house, The**  
Louise Erdrich

**LITERARY FICTION  
THRILLER/SUSPENSE  
NATIVE AMERICAN**  
369pp; Pub 2012



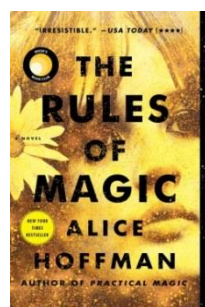
*The Round House* won the National Book Award for fiction.

One of the most revered novelists of our time—a brilliant chronicler of Native-American life—Louise Erdrich returns to the territory of her bestselling, Pulitzer Prize finalist *The Plague of Doves* with *The Round House*, transporting readers to the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. It is an exquisitely told story of a boy on the cusp of manhood who seeks justice and understanding in the wake of a terrible crime that upends and forever transforms his family.

Riveting and suspenseful, arguably the most accessible novel to date from the creator of *Love Medicine*, *The Beet Queen*, and *The Bingo Palace*, Erdrich's *The Round House* is a page-turning masterpiece of literary fiction—at once a powerful coming-of-age story, a mystery, and a tender, moving novel of family, history, and culture

**Rules of magic, The**  
Alice Hoffman

**LITERARY FICTION**  
400pp; Pub 2018



For the Owens family, love is a curse that began in 1620, when Maria Owens was charged with witchery for loving the wrong man.

Hundreds of years later, in New York City at the cusp of the sixties, when the whole world is about to change, Susanna Owens knows that her three children are dangerously unique. Difficult Franny, with skin as pale as milk and blood red hair, shy and beautiful Jet, who can read other people's thoughts, and charismatic Vincent, who began looking for trouble on the day he could walk.

**Ruin, The**  
Dervla McTiernan

**CRIME/MYSTERY  
IRISH FICTION**  
400pp; Pub 2018



It's been twenty years since Cormac Reilly discovered the body of Hilaria Blake in her crumbling Georgian home. But he's never forgotten the two children she left behind...

When Aisling Conroy's boyfriend Jack is found in the freezing black waters of the river Corrib, the police tell her it was suicide. A surgical resident, she throws herself into study and work, trying to forget--until Jack's sister Maude shows up. Maude suspects foul play, and she is determined to prove it. This unsettling small-town noir draws us deep into the dark heart of Ireland, where corruption, desperation, and crime run rife. A gritty look at trust and betrayal where the written law isn't the only one, *The Ruin* asks who will protect you when the authorities can't--or won't.



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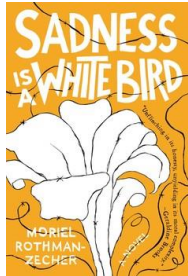
# BOOK CLUB

## Sadness is a white bird

Moriel Rothman-Zecher

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

256pp; Pub 2018



When Jonathan moves back to Israel after high school, he is eager to join the army and defend the Jewish state that his grandfather helped establish. But Jonathan is also conflicted about the possibility of having to monitor the occupied Palestinian territories, a concern that only grows more urgent when he meets Nimreen and Laith, the twin daughter and son of his mother's friend.

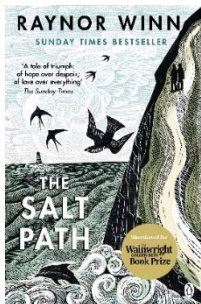
From that winter morning on, the three become inseparable, caught in a whirlwind of passion and connection. Jonathan is forced to confront the suffering of his Palestinian friends and their families under Israeli rule, leading him to question his loyalties. As he is pulled in different directions, he must grapple with what it means to be just one person in an epic historical struggle with so much at stake. And then that fateful day arrives, the one that lands Jonathan in prison and changes all three lives forever.

## Salt path, The

Raynor Winn

BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR

304pp; Pub 2019



Just days after Raynor learns that Moth, her husband of 32 years is terminally ill, their home is taken away and they lose their livelihood. With nothing left and little time, they make the brave and impulsive decision to walk the 630 miles of the sea-swept South West Coast Path, from Somerset to Dorset via Devon and Cornwall. Carrying only the essentials for survival on their backs, together they live wild in the ancient, weathered landscape of cliffs, sea and sky. Yet through every step, every encounter, and every test along the way, their walk becomes a remarkable journey.

## Sarah Thornhill

Kate Grenville

HISTORICAL FICTION

AUSTRALIAN

307pp Pub 2011



Sarah Thornhill is the youngest child of William Thornhill, convict-turned-landowner on the Hawkesbury River. She grows up in the fine house her father is so proud of, a strong-willed young woman who's certain where her future lies. She's known Jack Langland since she was a child, and always loved him. But the past is waiting in ambush with its dark legacy. There's a secret in Sarah's family, a piece of the past kept hidden from the world and from her. A secret Jack can't live with...

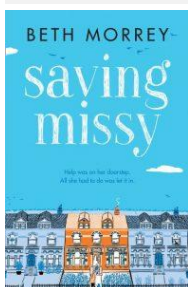
## Saving Missy

Beth Morrey

CONTEMPORARY

FICTION

372 PAGES; PUB. 2020



The world has changed around Missy Carmichael. At seventy-nine, she's estranged from her daughter, her son and only grandson live across the world in Australia, and her great love is gone. Missy spends her days with a sip of sherry, scrubbing the kitchen in her big empty house and reliving her past--though it's her mistakes, and secrets, that she allows to shine brightest. The last thing Missy expects is for two perfect strangers and one spirited dog to break through her prickly exterior and show Missy just how much love she still has to give.



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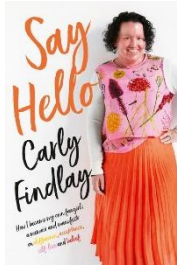
# BOOK CLUB

## Say hello

Carly Findlay

**BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR**

336pp; Pub 2019



A forthright, honest and rousing triumphant memoir from a woman who has to live with a highly visible different appearance due to a rare skin condition. Say hello to Carly.

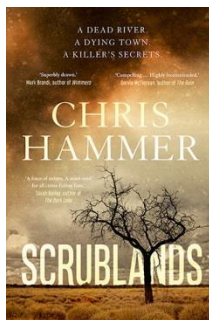
*'In fairytales, the characters who look different are often cast as the villain or monsters. It's only when they shed their unconventional skin that they are seen as "good" or less frightening. There are very few stories where the character that looks different is the hero of the story ... I've been the hero of my story - telling it on my own terms, proud about my facial difference and disability, not wanting a cure for my rare, severe and sometimes confronting skin condition, and knowing that I am beautiful even though I don't have beauty privilege.'*

## Scrublands

Chris Hammer

**CRIME & MYSTERY**

496pp; Pub 2018



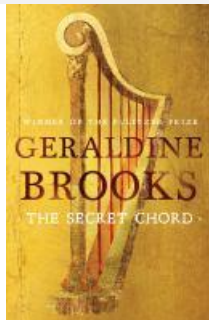
Set in a fictional Riverina town at the height of a devastating drought, *Scrublands* is one of the most powerful, compelling and original crime novels to be written in Australia.

## Secret chord, The

Geraldine Brooks

**HISTORICAL FICTION  
AUSTRALIAN**

386pp; Pub 2015



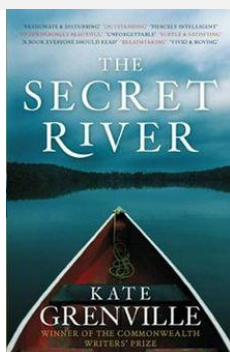
This novel traces the arc of King David's journey from obscurity to fame, from shepherd to soldier, from hero to traitor, from beloved king to murderous despot and into his remorseful and diminished dotage.

## Secret river, The

Kate Grenville

**HISTORICAL FICTION  
AUSTRALIAN**

ABIA BOOK OF THE YEAR & COMMONWEALTH WRITERS PRIZE  
334pp Pub 2005



After a childhood of poverty and petty crime in the slums of London, William Thornhill is transported to New South Wales for the term of his natural life. With his wife Sal and children in tow, he arrives in a harsh land that feels at first like a death sentence. But among the convicts there is a whisper that freedom can be bought, an opportunity to start afresh. As Thornhill stakes his claim on a patch of ground by the Hawkesbury River, the battle lines between the old and new inhabitants are drawn.



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# BOOK CLUB

**Secrets we kept, The**  
Lara Prescott

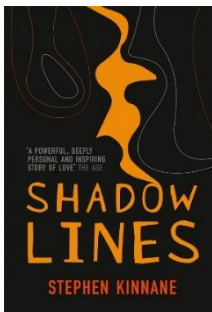
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
459pp; Pub 2019



A thrilling tale of secretaries turned spies, of love and duty, and of sacrifice—inspired by the true story of the CIA plot to infiltrate the hearts and minds of Soviet Russia, not with propaganda, but with the greatest love story of the twentieth century: Doctor Zhivago.

**Shadow lines**  
Stephen Kinnane

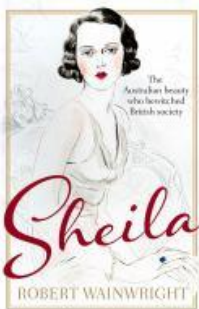
**AWARD WINNER**  
**BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR**  
**384 PAGES; PUB. 2020**



*Shadow Lines* is the story of Jessie Argyle, born in the remote East Kimberley and taken from her Aboriginal family at the age of five, and Edward Smith, a young Englishman escaping the rigid structures of London who fell in love and married. Despite unrelenting surveillance and harassment, the Smith home was a centre for Aboriginal cultural and social life for over thirty years. A deeply personal story of two remarkable people.

**Sheila: The Australian beauty who bewitched British society**  
Robert Wainwright

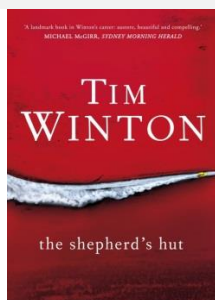
**MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY**  
**AUSTRALIAN**  
410pp Pub 2014



Sheila wedded earls and barons, befriended literary figures and movie stars, bedded a future king, was feted by London and New York society for forty years and when she died was a Russian princess. Vivacious, confident and striking, Sheila Chisholm. An extraordinary woman unknown to most Australians, Sheila is a spellbinding story of a unique time and a place and an utterly fascinating life.

**Shepherd's hut, The**  
Tim Winton

**Australian Fiction**  
**Survival**  
266pp; Pub 2018



A rifle-shot of a novel – crisp, fast, shocking – *The Shepherd's Hut* is an urgent masterpiece about solitude, unlikely friendship, and the raw business of survival.



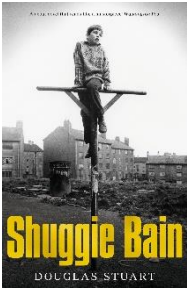


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# BOOK CLUB

**Shuggie Bain**  
Douglas Stuart

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
430pp; Pub 2020

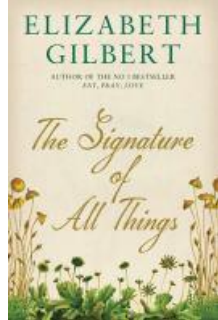


It is 1981. Glasgow is dying and good families must grift to survive. Agnes Bain has always expected more from life. She dreams of greater things: a house with its own front door and a life bought and paid for outright (like her perfect, but false, teeth). But Agnes is abandoned by her philandering husband, and soon she and her three children find themselves trapped in a decimated mining town. As she descends deeper into drink, the children try their best to save her, yet one by one they must abandon her to save themselves. It is her son Shuggie who holds out hope the longest.

Shuggie is different. Fastidious and fussy, he shares his mother's sense of snobbish propriety. The miners' children pick on him and adults condemn him as *no' right*. But Shuggie believes that if he tries his hardest, he can be normal like the other boys and help his mother escape this hopeless place.

**Signature of all things, The**  
Elizabeth Gilbert

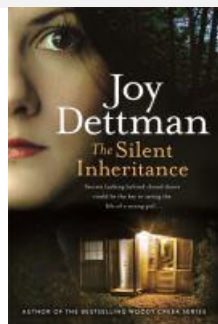
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
501pp; Pub 2013



Spanning much of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, the novel follows the fortunes of the extraordinary Whittaker family as led by the enterprising Henry Whittaker who eventually becoming the richest man in Philadelphia. Born in 1800, Henry's daughter, Alma, ultimately becomes a botanist of considerable gifts herself. The story is peopled with unforgettable characters: missionaries, abolitionists, adventurers, astronomers, sea captains, geniuses, and the quite mad.

**Silent inheritance, The**  
Joy Dettman

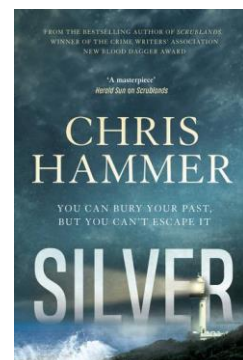
**MYSTERY  
AUSTRALIAN**  
405pp; Pub 2016



Sarah Carter, mother of twelve-year-old Marni, is raising her daughter alone in a small granny flat in suburban Melbourne. A serial killer, dubbed The Freeway Killer, is headline news and when Marni's classmate is abducted from the mall where Sarah and Marni shop, their city no longer feels safe.

**Silver**  
Chris Hammer

**THRILLER**  
576pp; Pub 2019



For half a lifetime, journalist Martin Scarsden has run from his past. But now there is no escaping.

He'd vowed never to return to his hometown, Port Silver, and its traumatic memories. But now his new partner, Mandy Blonde, has inherited an old house in the seaside town and Martin knows their chance of a new life together won't come again. Martin arrives to find his best friend from school days has been brutally murdered, and Mandy is the chief suspect. With the police curiously reluctant to pursue other suspects, Martin goes searching for the killer. And finds the past waiting for him. He's making little progress when a terrible new crime starts to reveal the truth. The media descend on Port Silver, attracted by a story that has it all: sex, drugs, celebrity and religion. Once again, Martin finds himself in the front line of reporting. Yet the demands of deadlines and his desire to clear Mandy are not enough: the past is ever present.



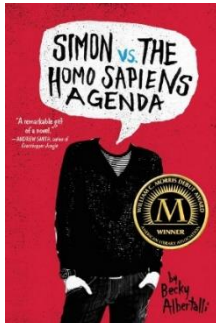
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# BOOK CLUB

## Simon vs the Homo sapiens agenda

Becky Albertali

YOUNG ADULT  
300 PAGES; PUB. 2015



Sixteen-year-old and not-so-openly gay Simon Spier prefers to save his drama for the school musical. But when an email falls into the wrong hands, his secret is at risk of being thrust into the spotlight. Now change-averse Simon has to find a way to step out of his comfort zone before he's pushed out—without alienating his friends, compromising himself, or fumbling a shot at happiness with the most confusing, adorable guy he's never met.

## Small great things

Jodi Picoult

CONTEMPORARY  
470pp; Pub 2016

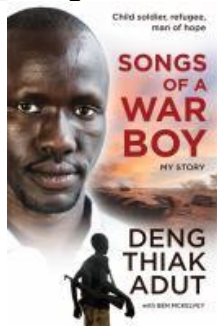


Ruth Jefferson is a labor and delivery nurse at a Connecticut hospital with more than twenty years' experience. During her shift, Ruth begins a routine checkup on a newborn, only to be told a few minutes later that she's been reassigned to another patient. The parents are white supremacists and don't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

## Songs of a war boy: My story

Deng Thiak Adut

MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY  
294pp; Pub 2016

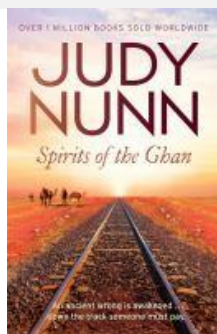


Deng Adut's family were farmers in South Sudan when a brutal civil war altered his life forever. At six years old, his mother was told she had to give him up to fight. At the age most Australian children are starting school, Deng was conscripted into the Sudan People's Liberation Army. He began a harsh, relentless military training that saw this young boy trained to use an AK-47 and sent into battle. He lost the right to be a child.

## Spirits of the Ghan

Judy Nunn

CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN  
381pp; Pub 2015



It is 2001 and a century-old dream is about to be realised in the Red Centre of Australia: the completion of the mighty Ghan railway that will finally link Adelaide with the Top End. Much of the construction of the final leg between Alice Springs and Darwin will cross Aboriginal land. Hired as a negotiator, Jessica Manning must walk a delicate line to reassure the Elders their sacred sites will be protected. It's not easy to keep the peace when Matthew Witherton and his survey team are quite literally blasting through the timeless land. When the paths of Jessica and Matthew cross, their respective cultures collide to reveal a mystery. An ancient wrong is awakened and calls hauntingly across the vastness of the outback...

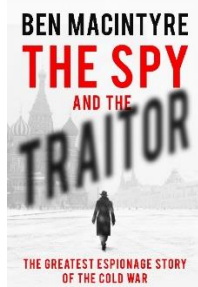


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# BOOK CLUB

**Spy and the traitor, The**  
Ben Macintyre

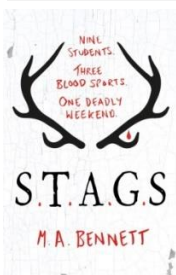
**NON FICTION**  
366pp; Pub 2018



On a warm July evening in 1985, a middle-aged man stood on the pavement of a busy avenue in the heart of Moscow, holding a plastic carrier bag. In his grey suit and tie, he looked like any other Soviet citizen. The bag alone was mildly conspicuous, printed with the red logo of Safeway, the British supermarket. The man was a spy. A senior KGB officer, for more than a decade he had supplied his British spymasters with a stream of priceless secrets from deep within the Soviet intelligence machine. No spy had done more to damage the KGB. The Safeway bag was a signal: to activate his escape plan to be smuggled out of Soviet Russia. So began one of the boldest and most extraordinary episodes in the history of spying. Ben Macintyre reveals a tale of espionage, betrayal and raw courage that changed the course of the Cold War forever . . .

**S.T.A.G.S**  
M.A. Bennett

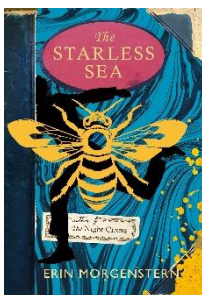
**YOUNG ADULT  
SURVIVAL  
BOARDING SCHOOL**  
304pp; Pub 2017



Nine students. Three blood sports. One deadly weekend. A twisting thriller for fans of gothic literature and *The Hunger Games*.

**Starless sea, The**  
Erin Morgenstern

**FANTASY FICTION**  
498pp; Pub 2019



When Zachary Rawlins stumbles across a strange book hidden in his university library it leads him on a quest unlike any other. Its pages entrance him with their tales of lovelorn prisoners, lost cities and nameless acolytes, but they also contain something impossible: a recollection from his own childhood. Determined to solve the puzzle of the book, Zachary follows the clues he finds on the cover – a bee, a key and a sword. They guide him to a masquerade ball, to a dangerous secret club, and finally through a magical doorway created by the fierce and mysterious Mirabel. This door leads to a subterranean labyrinth filled with stories, hidden far beneath the surface of the earth. When the labyrinth is threatened, Zachary must race with Mirabel, and Dorian, a handsome barefoot man with shifting alliances, through its twisting tunnels and crowded ballrooms, searching for the end of his story.

**Stars are fire, The**  
Anita Shreve

**CONTEMPORARY**  
241pp; Pub 2017



October 1947. After a summer long drought, fires break out all along the Maine coast and are soon racing out of control. Five months pregnant, Grace Holland is left alone to protect her two toddlers when her husband, Gene, joins the volunteer firefighters. Along with her best friend, Rosie, and Rosie's two young children, Grace watches helplessly as their houses burn to the ground, the flames finally forcing them all into the ocean as a last resort. Awaiting news of their husbands' fate, facing an uncertain future in a town that no longer exists, Grace discovers joys and triumphs she could never have expected her narrow life with Gene could contain.

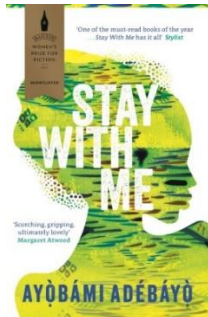


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# BOOK CLUB

**Stay with Me**  
Ayòbámi Adébáyò

**WOMEN'S FICTION**  
**LITERARY FICTION**  
272pp; Pub 2018



Yejide is hoping for a miracle, for a child. It is all her husband wants, all her mother-in-law wants, and she has tried everything. But when her relatives insist upon a new wife, it is too much for Yejide to bear.

Unravelling against the social and political turbulence of 1980s Nigeria, *Stay With Me* is a story of the fragility of married love, the undoing of family, the power of grief, and the all-consuming bonds of motherhood. It is a tale about the desperate attempts we make to save ourselves, and those we love, from heartbreak.

**Stoner**  
John Williams

**CLASSIC**  
278pp; Orig Pub 1965



William Stoner enters the University of Missouri at nineteen to study agriculture. A seminar on English literature changes his life, and he never returns to work on his father's farm. Stoner becomes a teacher. He marries the wrong woman. His life is quiet, and after his death his colleagues remember him rarely. Yet with truthfulness, compassion and intense power, this novel uncovers a story of universal value. "Stoner" tells of the conflicts, defeats and victories of the human race that pass unrecorded by history, and reclaims the significance of an individual life.

**Such a fun age**  
Kiley Reid

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
240 PAGES; PUB. 2020

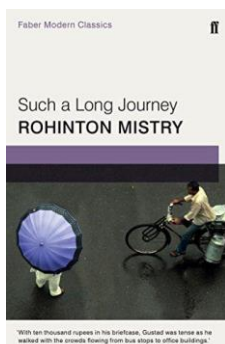


Alix Chamberlain is a woman who gets what she wants and has made a living, with her confidence-driven brand, showing other women how to do the same. So she is shocked when her babysitter, Emira Tucker, is confronted while watching the Chamberlains' toddler one night, walking the aisles of their local high-end supermarket. The store's security guard, seeing a young black woman out late with a white child, accuses Emira of kidnapping two-year-old Briar. A small crowd gathers, a bystander films everything, and Emira is furious and humiliated. Alix resolves to make things right.

But Emira herself is aimless, broke, and wary of Alix's desire to help. At twenty-five, she is about to lose her health insurance and has no idea what to do with her life. When the video of Emira unearths someone from Alix's past, both women find themselves on a crash course that will upend everything they think they know about themselves, and each other.

**Such a long journey**  
Rohinton Mistry

**LITERARY FICTION**  
339pp; Pub 1991



*Such a Long Journey* is set in Bombay against the backdrop of war in the Indian subcontinent and the birth of Bangladesh, telling the story of the peculiar way in which the conflict impinges on the lives of Gustad Noble, an ordinary man, and his family.





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# BOOK CLUB

## Summer book, The Tove Jansson

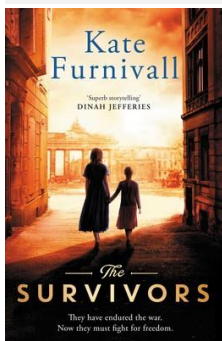
CONTEMPORARY  
172pp; Orig Pub 1974



An elderly artist and her six-year-old granddaughter while away a summer together on a tiny island in the gulf of Finland. Gradually, the two learn to adjust to each other's fears, whims and yearnings for independence, and a fierce yet understated love emerges - one that encompasses not only the summer inhabitants but the island itself.

## Survivors, The Kate Furnivall

HISTORICAL FICTION  
400 PAGES; PUB. 2019



*'Directly I saw him, I knew he had to die.'*

**Germany, 1945.** Klara Janowska and her daughter Alicja have walked for weeks to get to Graufeld Displaced Persons camp. In the cramped, dirty, dangerous conditions they, along with 3,200 others, are the lucky ones. They have survived and will do anything to find a way back home.

But when Klara recognises a man in the camp from her past, a deadly game of cat and mouse begins.

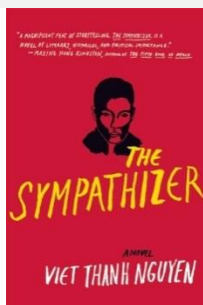
He knows exactly what she did during the war to save her daughter.

She knows his real identity.

What will be the price of silence? And will either make it out of the camp alive?

## Sympathizer, The Viet Thanh Nguyen

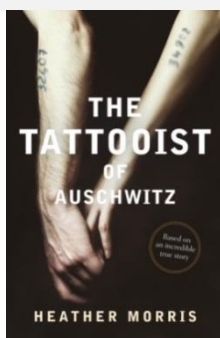
PULITZER PRIZE WINNER 2016  
VIETNAM WAR FICTION  
371pp; Pub 2015



A profound, startling, and beautifully crafted debut novel, *The Sympathizer* is the story of a man of two minds, someone whose political beliefs clash with his individual loyalties. In dialogue with but diametrically opposed to the narratives of the Vietnam War that have preceded it, this novel offers an important and unfamiliar new perspective on the war: that of a conflicted communist sympathizer.

## Tattooist of Auschwitz, The Heather Morris

AUSTRALIAN FICTION  
POST-WAR FICTION  
228pp; Pub 2018



This novel is based on the true story of Lale and Gita Sokolov, two Slovakian Jews, who survived Auschwitz and eventually made their home in Australia. In that terrible place, Lale was given the job of tattooing the prisoners marked for survival - literally scratching numbers into his fellow victims' arms in indelible ink to create what would become one of the most potent symbols of the Holocaust. Lale used the infinitesimal freedom of movement that this position awarded him to exchange jewels and money taken from murdered Jews for food to keep others alive. If he had been caught he would have been killed; many owed him their survival.

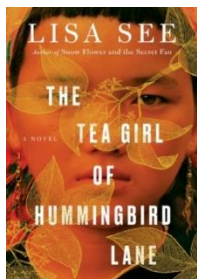


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# BOOK CLUB

**Tea girl of Hummingbird Lane, The**  
Lisa See

**CHINA - TEA TRADE - FICTION**  
**IDENTITY**  
**MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS FICTION**  
371pp; Pub 2017

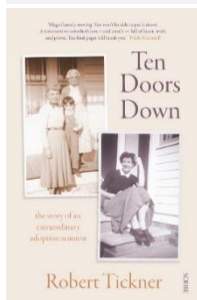


In this stirring coming-of-age novel, a young Chinese woman finds purpose, passion, and the key to a new life in the tea-growing traditions of her ancestors.

A story of family, identity, and motherhood, Lisa See's *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* is a moving journey through a little-known world.

**Ten doors down**  
Robert Tickner

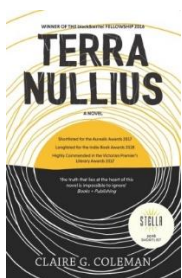
**MEMOIR**  
**256 PAGES; PUB. 2020**



The story of a federal minister's remarkable reunion with his birth parents. This deeply moving memoir is a testament to the significance of all forms of family in shaping us and to the potential for love to heal great harm

**Terra nullius**  
Claire G. Coleman

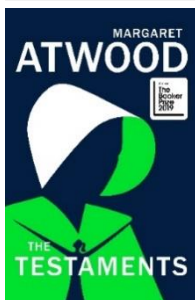
**CONTEMPORARY**  
294pp; Pub 2017



In the near future Australia is about to experience colonisation once more. What have we learned from our past? A daring debut novel from the winner of the 2016 black&write! writing fellowship.

**Testaments, The**  
Margaret Atwood

**DYSTOPIAN**  
**FICTION**  
432pp; Pub  
2019



More than fifteen years after the events of *The Handmaid's Tale*, the theocratic regime of the Republic of Gilead maintains its grip on power, but there are signs it is beginning to rot from within. At this crucial moment, the lives of three radically different women converge, with potentially explosive results. Two have grown up as part of the first generation to come of age in the new order. The testimonies of these two young women are joined by a third voice: a woman who wields power through the ruthless accumulation and deployment of secrets. As Atwood unfolds *The Testaments*, she opens up the innermost workings of Gilead as each woman is forced to come to terms with who she is, and how far she will go for what she believes.

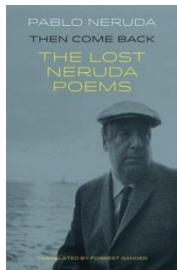


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# BOOK CLUB

**Then come back**  
Pablo Neruda

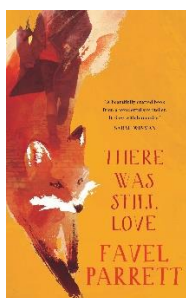
**POETRY**  
192pp; Pub  
2016



Pablo Neruda's lost poems—recently discovered in his archive to the delight of readers and scholars—comprise this remarkable and essential volume. Originally composed on napkins, playbills, receipts, and notebooks, Neruda's lost poems are full of eros and heartache, complex wordplay and deep wonder. Presented with the Spanish text, full-color reproductions of handwritten poems, and dynamic English translations, *Then Come Back: The Lost Neruda Poems* simultaneously completes and advances the oeuvre of the world's most beloved poet.

**There was still love**  
Favel Parrett

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
214pp; Pub 2019



Favel Parrett's deep emotional insight and stellar literary talent shine through in this love letter to the strong women who bind families together, despite dislocation and distance. It is a tender and beautifully told story of memory, family and love. Because there is still love. No matter what.

**Third hotel, The**  
Laura van den Berg

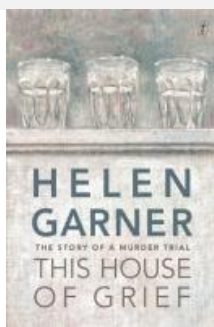
**THRILLER**  
224 PAGES; PUB. 2019



Clare, recently widowed, arrives in Havana, Cuba, to attend the 36th annual Festival of New Latin American Cinema, which her horror-loving film-professor husband, Richard, had purchased tickets for. The day after the screening of the movie Richard wanted most to see, Clare finds him standing outside the Museum of the Revolution. He's wearing a white linen suit she's never seen before, and he's supposed to be dead.

**This house of grief: the story of a murder trial**  
Helen Garner

**NON FICTION  
AUSTRALIAN**  
300pp; Pub  
2014



On the evening of 4 September 2005, Father's Day, Robert Farquharson, a separated husband, was driving his three sons home to their mother, Cindy, when his car left the road and plunged into a dam. The boys, aged ten, seven and two, drowned. Was this an act of revenge or a tragic accident? The court case became Helen Garner's obsession. She followed it on its protracted course until the final verdict.

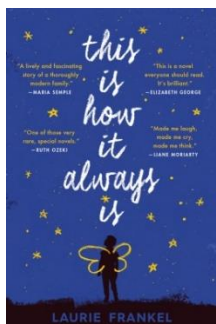
**This is how it always is**  
Laurie Frankel

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
472pp; Pub 2017



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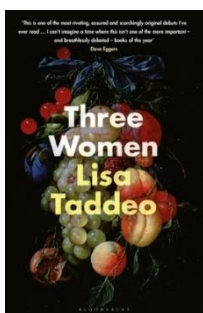
# BOOK CLUB



Rosie and Penn always wanted a daughter. Four sons later, they decide to try one last time - and their beautiful little boy Claude is born. Life continues happily for this big, loving family until the day when Claude says that, when he grows up, he wants to be a girl. As far as Rosie and Penn are concerned, bright, funny and wonderful Claude can be whoever he or she wants. But as problems begin at school and in the community, the family faces a seemingly impossible dilemma: should Claude change, or should they and Claude try to change the world?

## Three women Lisa Taddeo

**NON FICTION**  
306pp; Pub 2019

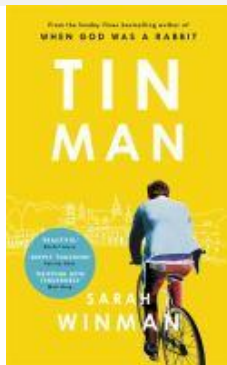


Desire as we've never seen it before: a riveting true story about the sex lives of three real American women, based on nearly a decade of reporting.

It thrills us and torments us. It controls our thoughts, destroys our lives, and it's all we live for. Yet we almost never speak of it. And as a buried force in our lives, desire remains largely unexplored—until now. Over the past eight years, journalist Lisa Taddeo has driven across the country six times to embed herself with ordinary women from different regions and backgrounds. The result, *Three Women*, is the deepest nonfiction portrait of desire ever written and one of the most anticipated books of the year.

## Tin man Sarah Winman

**CONTEMPORARY**  
195pp; Pub 2017



It begins with a painting won in a raffle: fifteen sunflowers, hung on the wall by a woman who believes that men and boys are capable of beautiful things.

And then there are two boys, Ellis and Michael, who are inseparable. And the boys become men, and then Annie walks into their lives, and it changes nothing and everything.

## Travelling to infinity: the true story behind *The theory of everything* Jane Hawking

**MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY**  
487pp; Pub 2014



Stephen Hawking's first wife, Jane, relates the inside story of their extraordinary marriage. As Stephen's academic renown soared, his body was collapsing under the assaults of motor neurone disease, and Jane's candid account of trying to balance his 24-hour care with the needs of their growing family will be inspirational to anyone dealing with family illness. The marriage finally ends in a high-profile meltdown, with Stephen leaving Jane for one of his nurses, while Jane goes on to marry an old family friend.



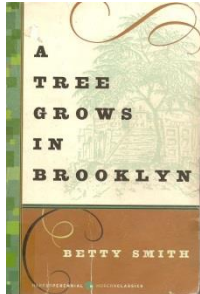


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## Tree grows in Brooklyn, A Betty Smith

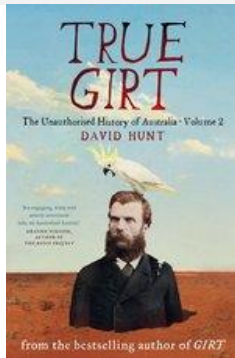
CLASSIC FICTION  
493pp; Pub 1943



Young Francie Nolan, having inherited both her father's romantic and her mother's practical nature, struggles to survive and thrive growing up in the slums of Brooklyn in the early twentieth century.

## True Girt David Hunt

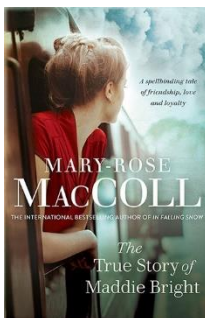
AUSTRALIAN HUMOUR  
PIONEER LIFE AUSTRALIA  
HISTORY  
433pp; Pub 2016



First there was Girt. Now comes True Girt In this side-splitting sequel to his best-selling history, David Hunt transports us to the Australian frontier. This was the Wild South, home to hardy pioneers, gun-slinging bushrangers, directionally challenged explorers, nervous indigenous people, Caroline Chisholm and sheep. Lots of sheep.

## True story of Maddie Bright, The Mary-Rose MacColl

CONTEMPORARY FICTION  
504pp; Pub 2019



In 1920, seventeen-year-old Maddie Bright gratefully accepts a job as a serving girl on the royal tour of Australia by Edward, Prince of Wales. Maddie's talents soon earn her the respect of Helen Burns, the prince's vivacious press secretary, and Rupert Waters, his most loyal man, and Maddie is in awe of Edward himself, the 'people's' prince. Decades later, Maddie Bright is living in a ramshackle house in Paddington, Brisbane. She has Ed, her drunken and devoted neighbour, to talk to, the television news to shout at, and door-knocker religions to join. But when London journalist Victoria Byrd gets the sniff of a story that might lead to the true identity of a famously reclusive writer, Maddie's version of her own story may change.

## Truganini Cassandra Pybus

BIOGRAPHY  
315pp; Pub 2020



Hardly more than a child, Truganini managed to survive the devastation of the 1820s, when the clans of south-eastern Tasmania were all but extinguished. She spent five years on a journey around Tasmania, across rugged highlands and through barely penetrable forests, with George Augustus Robinson, the self-styled missionary who was collecting the survivors to send them into exile on Flinders Island. She has become an international icon for a monumental tragedy - the so-called extinction of the original people of Tasmania.

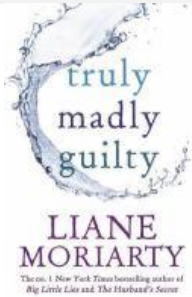


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# BOOK CLUB

**Truly, madly, guilty**  
Liane Moriarty

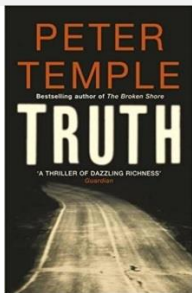
**CONTEMPORARY  
AUSTRALIAN**  
511pp; Pub 2016



Clementine is haunted by regret. It was just a barbeque. They did not even know their hosts that well, they were friends of friends. They could so easily have said no. But she and her husband Sam said yes, and now they can never change what they did and did not do that Sunday afternoon. Six responsible adults. Three cute kids. One playful dog. It is an ordinary weekend in the suburbs. What could possibly go wrong?

**Truth**  
Peter Temple

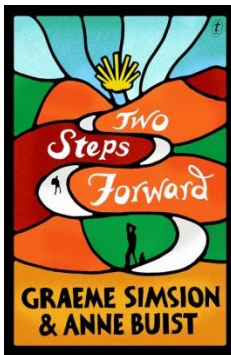
**AUSTRALIAN  
MILES FRANKLIN AWARD WINNER  
DETECTIVE FICTION**  
387pp; Pub 2010



Truth is a novel about a man, a family, a city. It is about violence, murder, love, corruption, honour and deceit. And it is about truth

**Two steps forward**  
Graeme Simsion & Anne Buist

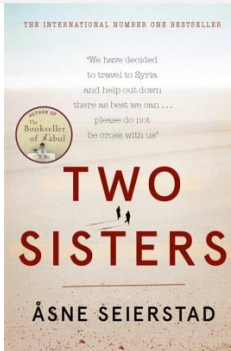
**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
368pp; Pub 2018



Each looking to make a new start, Zoe and Martin set out independently to walk two thousand kilometres from Cluny in France to Santiago in Spain, in the footsteps of pilgrims who have walked the Camino—The Way—for centuries. The Camino changes you, it's said. It's a chance to find a new version of yourself. But will these two very different people find each other?

**Two Sisters**  
Åsne Seierstad

**NON-FICTION  
THRILLER**  
455pp; Pub 2018



The riveting story of two sisters' journey to the Islamic State and the father who tries to bring them home. Åsne Seierstad puts the problem of radicalization into painfully human terms, using instant messages and other primary sources to reconstruct a family's crisis from the inside. Eventually, she takes us into the hellscape of the Syrian civil war, as Sadiq risks his life in pursuit of his daughters, refusing to let them disappear into the maelstrom. This is a relentless thriller and a feat of reporting with profound lessons about belief, extremism, and the meaning of devotion.



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# BOOK CLUB

## Unbreakable

Jelena Dokic with Jessica Halloran

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

310pp; Pub 2017



unbreakable  
**JELENA DOKIC**  
with Jessica Halloran

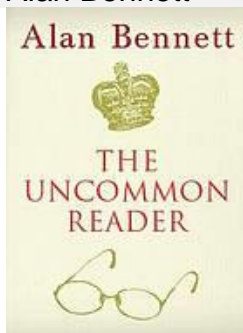
This is a story of Jelena Dokic's survival. How she survived as a refugee, twice. How she survived on the tennis court to become world No. 4. But, most importantly, how she survived her father, Damir Dokic, the tennis dad from hell.

## Uncommon reader

Alan Bennett

**CONTEMPORARY**

124pp; Pub 2007



Alan Bennett  
**THE UNCOMMON READER**

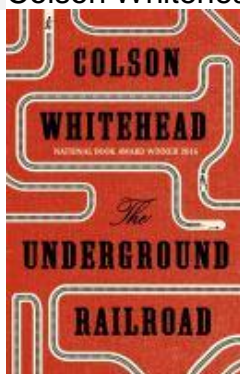
The Queen of England comes across a travelling library and ends up taking out a novel. One read leads to another and a passion awakes, resulting in a decline of her public duties.

## Underground railroad, The

Colson Whitehead

**HISTORICAL FICTION**

306pp; Pub 2016



COLSON  
WHITEHEAD  
NATIONAL BOOK AWARD WINNER 2015  
*The*  
**UNDERGROUND  
RAILROAD**

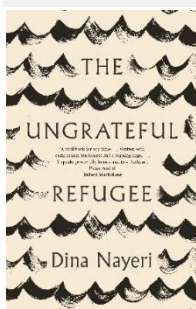
Cora is a slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. Life is hellish for all the slaves, but Cora is an outcast even among her fellow Africans, and she is coming into womanhood; even greater pain awaits. Caesar, a recent arrival from Virginia, tells her about the Underground Railroad, and they plot their escape. Matters do not go as planned - Cora kills a young white boy who tries to capture her - but they manage to find a station and head north. In Whitehead's ingenious conception, the Underground Railroad is not a metaphor - a secret network of tracks and tunnels has been built beneath the Southern soil.

## Ungrateful refugee, The

Dina Nayeri

**BIOGRAPHY & TRUE  
STORIES**

384 PAGES; PUB. 2019



THE  
UNGRATEFUL  
REFUGEE  
Dina Nayeri

*The Ungrateful Refugee* offers a new, complete narrative of resettlement, and recalibrates the conversation around the refugee experience. But above all here are the real human stories of what it is like to be forced to flee your home, to journey in hope of a better, safer life, and, for the lucky few, the struggle to start afresh in a new culture.

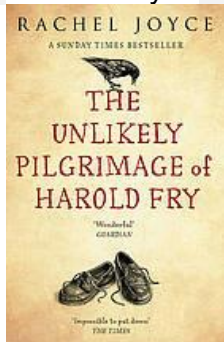


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# BOOK CLUB

## Unlikely pilgrimage of Harold Fry, The Rachel Joyce

**CONTEMPORARY**  
295pp; Pub 2012



When Harold Fry leaves home one morning to post a letter, with his wife hoovering upstairs, he has no idea that he is about to walk from one end of the country to the other. He has no hiking boots or map, let alone a compass, waterproof or mobile phone. All he knows is that he must keep walking. To save someone else's life.

## Unsheltered Barbara Kingsolver

**HISTORICAL  
FICTION**  
464pp; Pub 2018



Unsheltered is the compulsively readable story of two families, in two centuries, who live at the corner of Sixth and Plum in Vineland, New Jersey, navigating what seems to be the end of the world as they know it. With history as their tantalizing canvas, these characters paint a startlingly relevant portrait of life in precarious times when the foundations of the past have failed to prepare us for the future.

## Vanishing half, The Brit Bennett

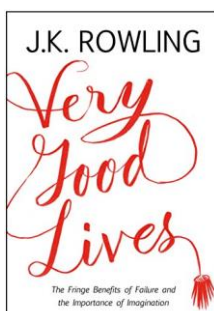
**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
343pp; Pub 2020



The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern black community and running away at age sixteen, it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Many years later, one sister lives with her black daughter in the same southern town she once tried to escape. The other secretly passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Still, even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation, when their own daughters' storylines intersect?

## Very good lives J. K. Rowling

**SELF-HELP**  
80pp; Pub 2015



In 2008, J.K. Rowling delivered a deeply affecting commencement speech at Harvard University. Now published for the first time in book form, Very good lives presents J.K. Rowling's words of wisdom for anyone at a turning point in life. How can we embrace failure? And how can we use our imagination to better both ourselves and others?





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# BOOK CLUB

## Victoria, the Queen

Julia Baird

**NON FICTION**  
696pp; Pub 2016

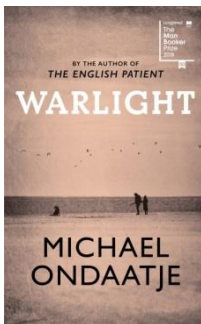


A magnificent biography of Queen Victoria by International New York Times columnist Julia Baird. Drawing on previously unpublished papers, 'Victoria: The Queen' is a stunning new portrait of the real woman behind the myth - a story of love and heartbreak, of devotion and grief, of strength and resilience.

## Warlight

Michael Ondaatje

**LITERARY FICTION**  
304pp; Pub 2018



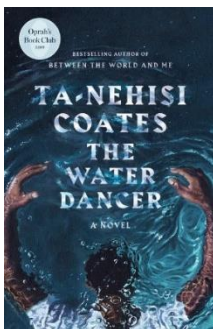
An elegiac, dreamlike novel set in post-WW2 London about memory, family secrets and lies, from the internationally acclaimed author of *The English Patient*.

## Water dancer, The

Ta-Nehisi Coates

**HISTORICAL FICTION  
FANTASY**

403pp; Pub 2019



Young Hiram Walker was born into bondage. When his mother was sold away, Hiram was robbed of all memory of her—but was gifted with a mysterious power. Years later, when Hiram almost drowns in a river, that same power saves his life. This brush with death births an urgency in Hiram and a daring scheme: to escape from the only home he's ever known.

So begins an unexpected journey that takes Hiram from the corrupt grandeur of Virginia's proud plantations to desperate guerrilla cells in the wilderness, from the coffin of the Deep South to dangerously idealistic movements in the North. Even as he's enlisted in the underground war between slavers and the enslaved, Hiram's resolve to rescue the family he left behind endures.

## We need to talk about Kevin

Lionel Shriver

**SUSPENSE / THRILLER**  
468pp; Orig Pub 2006



Two years ago, Eva Khatchadourian's son, Kevin, murdered seven of his fellow students, a cafeteria worker and a teacher. Now, in a series of letters to her absent husband, Eva recounts the story of how Kevin came to be Kevin. Fearing that her own shortcomings may have shaped what her son has become, she confesses to a deep, long-standing ambivalence about both motherhood in general and Kevin in particular. How much is her fault?



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## We never asked for wings Vanessa Diffenbaugh

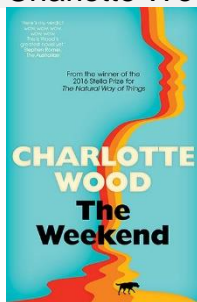
CONTEMPORARY  
310pp; Pub 2016



For fourteen years, Letty Espinosa has worked three jobs around San Francisco to make ends meet while her mother raised her children-- Alex, now fifteen, and Luna, six--in their tiny apartment on a forgotten spit of wetlands near the bay. But now Letty's parents are returning to Mexico, and Letty must step up and become a mother for the first time in her life. Navigating this new terrain is challenging for Letty, especially as Luna desperately misses her grandparents and Alex, who is falling in love with a classmate, is unwilling to give his mother a chance.

## Weekend, The Charlotte Wood

CONTEMPORARY  
272pp Large Print; Pub 2019



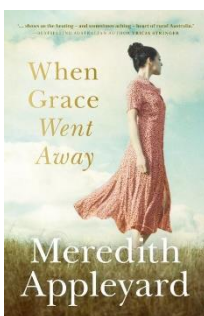
Four older women have a lifelong friendship of the best kind: loving, practical, frank and steadfast. But when Sylvie dies, the ground shifts dangerously for the remaining three. Can they survive together without her?

They are Jude, a once-famous restaurateur, Wendy, an acclaimed public intellectual, and Adele, a renowned actress now mostly out of work. Struggling to recall exactly why they've remained close all these years, the grieving women gather for Christmas at Sylvie's old beach house - not for festivities, but to clean the place out before it is sold.

Without Sylvie to maintain the group's delicate equilibrium, frustrations build and painful memories press in. Fraying tempers, an elderly dog, unwelcome guests and too much wine collide in a storm that brings long-buried hurts to the surface - and threatens to sweep away their friendship for good.

## When Grace went away Meredith Appleyard

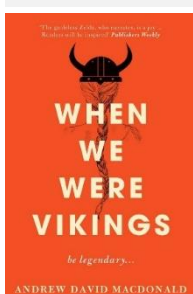
CONTEMPORARY FICTION  
448pp; Pub 2020



Sarah Fairley, Grace's mother, fled Miners Ridge and her embittered husband eight years ago. Now, in the absence of Grace, she finds herself pulled back to the small town where her estranged children and grandchildren live. Drawn into the local community, and trying to rebuild family relationships, she uncovers a long-kept secret that could change her world ...

## When we were Vikings Andrew David MacDonald

CONTEMPORARY  
FICTION  
326 PAGES; PUB. 2020



For Zelda, a twenty-one-year-old Viking enthusiast who lives with her older brother, Gert, life is best lived with some basic rules:

1. A smile means "thank you for doing something small that I liked."
2. Fist bumps and dabs = respect.
3. Strange people are not appreciated in her home.
4. Tomatoes must go in the middle of the sandwich and not get the bread wet.
5. Sometimes the most important things don't fit on lists.

But when Zelda finds out that Gert has resorted to some questionable—and dangerous—methods to make enough money to keep them afloat, Zelda decides to launch her own quest.



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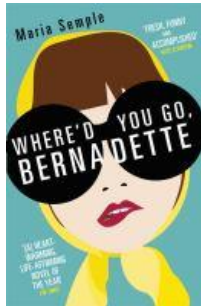
# BOOK CLUB

Her mission: to be legendary. It isn't long before Zelda finds herself in a battle that tests the reach of her heroism, her love for her brother, and the depth of her Viking strength.

## Where'd you go Bernadette?

Maria Semple

CONTEMPORARY  
332pp; Pub 2013

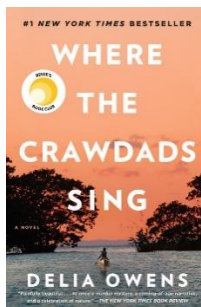


Bernadette Fox is notorious. To Elgie Branch, a Microsoft wunderkind, she's his hilarious, volatile, talented, troubled wife. To fellow mothers at the school gate, she's a menace. To design experts, she's a revolutionary architect. And to 15-year-old Bee, she is a best friend and, quite simply, mum. Then Bernadette disappears.

## Where the crowdads sing

Delia Owens

LITERARY FICTION  
384pp; Pub 2019

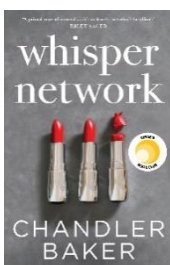


For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life—until the unthinkable happens.

## Whisper network

Chandler Baker

CONTEMPORARY FICTION  
352pp; Pub 2019



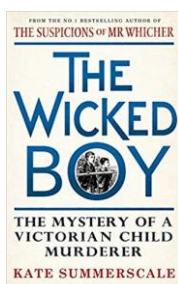
*If only you'd listened to us, none of this would have happened.*

Sloane, Ardie, Grace, and Rosalita have worked at Truviv, Inc. for years. The sudden death of Truviv's CEO means their boss, Ames, will likely take over the entire company. Each of the women has a different relationship with Ames, who has always been surrounded by whispers about how he treats women. Those whispers have been ignored, swept under the rug, hidden away by those in charge. But the world has changed, and the women are watching this promotion differently. This time, when they find out Ames is making an inappropriate move on a colleague, they aren't willing to let it go. This time, they've decided enough is enough. Sloane and her colleagues' decision to take a stand sets in motion a catastrophic shift in the office. Lies will be uncovered. Secrets will be exposed. And not everyone will survive.

## Wicked boy, The

Kate Summerscale

AWARD WINNER  
NON-FICTION  
400pp; Pub 2016



In *The Wicked Boy*, Kate Summerscale has uncovered a fascinating true story of murder and morality - it is not just a meticulous examination of a shocking Victorian case, but also a compelling account of its aftermath, and of man's capacity to overcome the past.

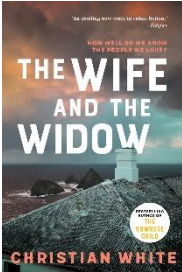


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## Wife and the widow, The Christian White

**THRILLER**  
353pp; Pub 2019

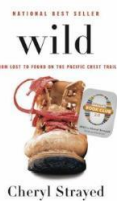


Set against the backdrop of an eerie island town in the dead of winter, **The Wife and the Widow** is a mystery/thriller told from two perspectives: Kate, a widow whose grief is compounded by what she learns about her dead husband's secret life; and Abby, an island local whose world is turned upside down when she's forced to confront the evidence that her husband is a murderer. But nothing on this island is quite as it seems, and only when these women come together can they discover the whole story about the men in their lives.

Brilliant and beguiling, **The Wife and the Widow** takes you to a cliff edge and asks the question: how well do we really know the people we love?

## Wild: A journey from lost to found on the Pacific Crest Trail Cheryl Strayed

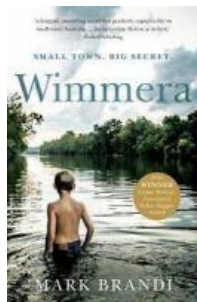
**MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY**  
315pp; Pub 2012



At twenty-six, Cheryl Strayed thought she had lost everything. In the wake of her mother's rapid death from cancer, her family disbanded and her marriage crumbled. With nothing to lose, she made the most impulsive decision of her life: to walk eleven-hundred miles of the west coast of America - from the Mojave Desert, through California and Oregon, and into Washington state - and to do it alone. She had no experience of long-distance hiking and the journey was nothing more than a line on a map. But it held a promise - a promise of piecing together a life that lay in ruins at her feet.

## Wimmera Mark Brandi

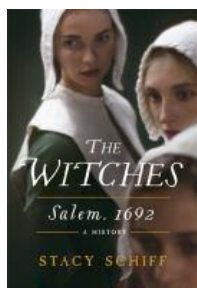
**SUSPENSE / THRILLER**  
**AUSTRALIAN**  
263pp; Pub 2017



In the long, hot summer of 1989, Ben and Fab are best friends. Growing up in a small country town, they spend their days playing cricket, yabbing in local dams, wanting a pair of Nike Air Maxes and not talking about how Fab's dad hits him or how the sudden death of Ben's next-door neighbour unsettled him. Almost teenagers, they already know some things are better left unsaid. Then a newcomer arrived in the Wimmera. Twenty years later, Fab is still stuck in town, going nowhere but hoping for somewhere better. Then a body is found in the river, and Fab can't ignore the past any more.

## Witches: Salem 1692, The Stacy Schiff

**NONFICTION**  
498pp; Pub 2015



It began in 1692, over an exceptionally raw Massachusetts winter, when a minister's daughter started to scream and convulse. It ended less than a year later, but not before nineteen men and women had been hanged and an elderly man crushed to death. The panic spread quickly, involving the most educated men and prominent politicians in the colony. Neighbours accused neighbours, parents accused children, husbands accused wives, children accused their parents, and siblings each other. Vividly capturing the dark, unsettled atmosphere of seventeenth-century America, Stacy Schiff's magisterial history draws us into this anxious time.



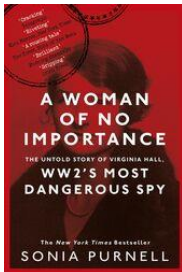


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**Woman of no importance, A**  
Sonia Purnell

**BIOGRAPHY**  
399 PAGES; PUB. 2019



In 1942, the Gestapo sent out an urgent transmission: “She is the most dangerous of all Allied spies. We must find and destroy her.”

The target in their sights was Virginia Hall, a Baltimore socialite who talked her way into Special Operations Executive, the spy organization dubbed Winston Churchill’s “Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare.” She became the first Allied woman deployed behind enemy lines and—despite her prosthetic leg—helped to light the flame of the French Resistance, revolutionizing secret warfare as we know it.

**Wonder, The**  
Emma Donoghue

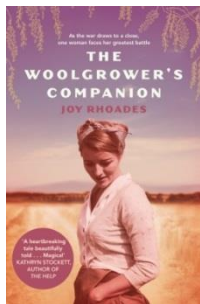
**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
291pp; Pub 2016



An eleven-year-old girl stops eating, but remains miraculously alive and well. A nurse, sent to investigate whether she is a fraud, meets a journalist hungry for a story. Set in the Irish Midlands in the 1850s, *The Wonder* is inspired by numerous European and North American cases of 'fasting girls' between the sixteenth century and the twentieth is a psychological thriller about a child's murder threatening to happen in slow motion before our eyes. Pitting all the seductions of fundamentalism against sense and love, it is a searing examination of what nourishes us, body and soul.

**Woolgrower’s companion, The**  
Joy Rhoades

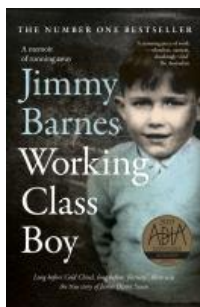
**AUSTRALIAN FICTION**  
**RURAL FICTION**  
410pp; Pub 2017



Set over ten tumultuous months in 1945, *The Woolgrower's Companion* is the gripping story of one woman’s fight against all odds, and a sweeping tribute to Australia’s landscape and its people.

**Working class boy**  
Jimmy Barnes

**MEMOIR / BIOGRAPHY**  
**AUSTRALIAN**  
372pp; Pub 2016



This is the story of how James Swan became Jimmy Barnes. Arriving in Australia in the Summer of 1962, things went from bad to worse for the Swan family -Dot, Jim and their six kids. The scramble to manage in the tough northern suburbs of Adelaide in the 60s would take its toll on the Swans as dwindling money, too much alcohol, and fraying tempers gave way to violence and despair. This is the story a family's collapse, but also a young boy's dream to escape the misery of the suburbs with a once-in-a-lifetime chance to join a rock n roll band and get out of town for good.

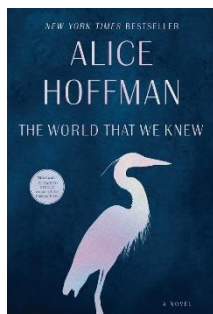


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**World that we knew, The**  
Alice Hoffman

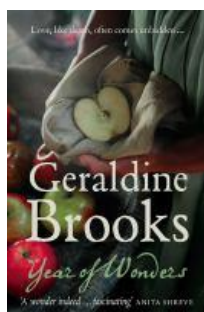
**HISTORICAL FICTION  
FANTASY**  
372pp; Pub 2019



In Berlin, at the time when the world changed, Hanni Kohn knows she must send her twelve-year-old daughter away to save her from the Nazi regime. She finds her way to a renowned rabbi, but it's his daughter, Ettie, who offers hope of salvation when she creates a mystical Jewish creature, a rare and unusual golem, who is sworn to protect Lea. Once Ava is brought to life, she and Lea and Ettie become eternally entwined, their paths fated to cross, their fortunes linked.

**Year of wonders**  
Geraldine Brooks

**HISTORICAL FICTION**  
310pp; Pub 2002



When an infected bolt of cloth carries plague from London to an isolated mountain village, a housemaid named Anna Frith emerges as an unlikely heroine and healer. Through Anna's eyes we follow the story of the plague year, 1666, as her fellow villagers make an extraordinary choice: convinced by a visionary young minister, they elect to quarantine themselves within the village boundaries to arrest the spread of the disease. But as death reaches into every household, faith frays. When the villagers turn from payers to murderous witch-hunting, Anna must confront the deaths of family members, the disintegration of her community, and the lure of illicit love. As she struggles to survive, a year of plague becomes instead an annus mirabilis, a 'year of wonders'

**Yield, The**  
Tara June Winch

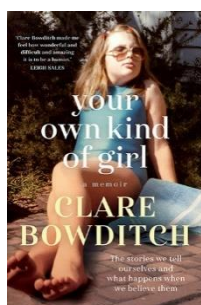
**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**  
343 PAGES; PUB. 2019



Knowing that he will soon die, Albert 'Poppy' Gondiwindi takes pen to paper. His life has been spent on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River at Prosperous House, on Massacre Plains. Albert is determined to pass on the language of his people and everything that was ever remembered. He finds the words on the wind. August Gondiwindi has been living on the other side of the world for ten years when she learns of her grandfather's death. She returns home for his burial, wracked with grief and burdened with all she tried to leave behind. Her homecoming is bittersweet as she confronts the love of her kin and news that Prosperous is to be repossessed by a mining company. Determined to make amends she endeavours to save their land – a quest that leads her to the voice of her grandfather and into the past, the stories of her people, the secrets of the river.

**Your own kind of girl**  
Clare Bowditch

**MEMOIR**  
338pp; Pub 2019



Clare Bowditch has always had a knack for telling stories. Through her music and performing, this beloved Australian artist has touched hundreds of thousands of lives. But what of the stories she used to tell herself? That 'real life' only begins once you're thin or beautiful, that good things only happen to other people. YOUR OWN KIND OF GIRL reveals a childhood punctuated by grief, anxiety and compulsion, and tells how these forces shaped Clare's life for better and for worse. This is a heartbreaking, wise and at times playful memoir. Clare's own story told raw and as it happened. A reminder that even on the darkest of nights, victory is closer than it seems.



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