



# Book Club Kits

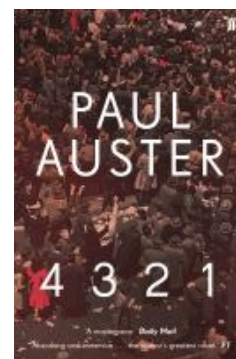
# 2024

Woollahra  
Libraries

## 4 3 2 1 - Paul Auster

**10 copies - NEW**

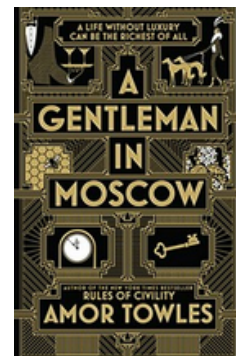
Nearly two weeks early, on March 3, 1947, in the maternity ward of Beth Israel Hospital in Newark, New Jersey, Archibald Isaac Ferguson, the one and only child of Rose and Stanley Ferguson, is born. From that single beginning, Ferguson's life will take four simultaneous and independent fictional paths. Four identical Fergusons made of the same DNA, four boys who are the same boy, go on to lead four parallel and entirely different lives. [866 pages](#)



## A Gentleman in Moscow - Amor Towles

**10 copies**

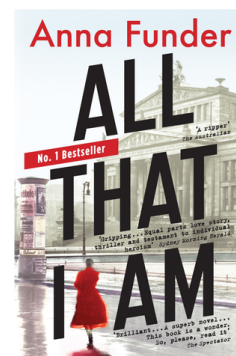
When, in 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, the count is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors. [462 pages](#)



## All That I Am - Anna Funder

**10 copies**

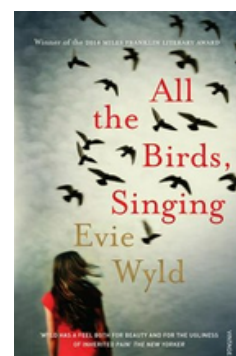
When Hitler comes to power in 1933, a tight-knit group of friends and lovers become hunted outlaws overnight. United in their resistance to the madness and tyranny of Nazism, they flee the country. But England is not the safe-haven they think it is, and a single, chilling act of betrayal will tear them apart. Some seventy years later, Ruth is living out her days in Sydney, making an uneasy peace with the ghosts of her past, and a part of history that has all but been forgotten. [369 pages](#)



## All the birds, Singing - Evie Wyld

**10 copies**

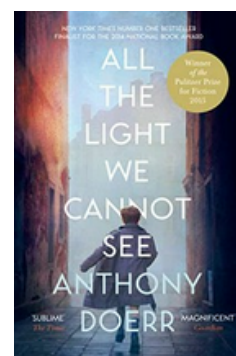
Jake Whyte is the sole resident of an old farmhouse on an unnamed island, a place of ceaseless rains and battering winds. It's just her, her untamed companion, Dog, and a flock of sheep. Which is how she wanted it to be. But something is coming for the sheep – every few nights it picks one off, leaves it in rags. [229 pages](#)



## All the Light We Cannot See - Anthony Doerr

**10 copies**

The story of a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. When Marie-Laure goes blind, aged six, her father builds her a model of their Paris neighbourhood, so she can memorize it with her fingers and then navigate the real streets. In another world in Germany, an orphan boy, Werner, is enchanted by a crude radio. [530 pages](#)



## Americanah - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

### 10 copies

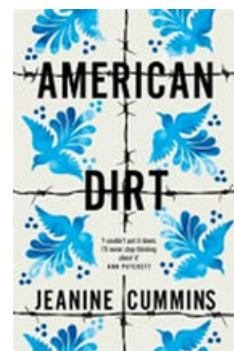
As teenagers in a Lagos secondary school, Ifemelu and Obinze fall in love. Their Nigeria is under military dictatorship, and people are leaving the country if they can. Ifemelu-beautiful, self-assured-departs for America to study, feeling the weight of something she never thought of back home: race. Obinze-the quiet, thoughtful son of a professor-had hoped to join her, but post-9/11 America will not let him in, and he plunges into a dangerous, undocumented life in London. [477 pages](#)



## American Dirt - Jeanine Cummins

### 10 copies

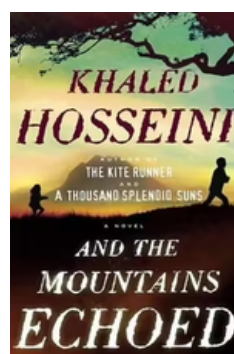
Lydia Perez owns a bookshop in Acapulco, Mexico, and is married to a fearless journalist. Luca, their eight-year-old son, completes the picture. But it only takes a bullet to rip them apart. In a city in the grip of a drug cartel, friends become enemies overnight, and Lydia has no choice but to flee with Luca at her side. North for the border... whatever it takes to stay alive. [465 pages](#)



## And the Mountains Echoed - Khaled Hosseini

### 5 copies

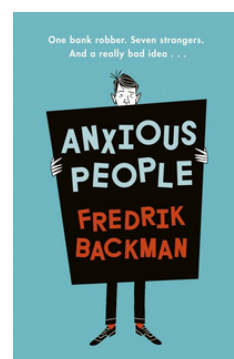
In this tale revolving around not just parents and children but brothers and sisters, cousins and caretakers, Hosseini explores the many ways in which families nurture, wound, betray, honor, and sacrifice for one another. Following its characters and the ramifications of their lives and choices and loves around the globe, the story expands gradually outward, becoming more emotionally complex and powerful with each turning page. [402 pages](#)



## Anxious People - Frederick Backman

### 7 copies

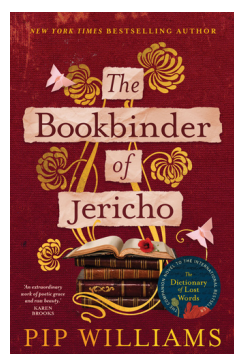
Viewing an apartment normally doesn't turn into a life-or-death situation, but this particular open house becomes just that when a failed bank robber bursts in and takes everyone in the unit hostage. As the pressure mounts, the eight strangers begin slowly opening up to one another and reveal long-hidden truths. When police surround the premises, the robber must decide which is the more terrifying prospect: going out to face them, or staying in the apartment with this group of impossible people. [339 pages](#)



## The Bookbinder of Jericho - Pip Williams

### 10 copies

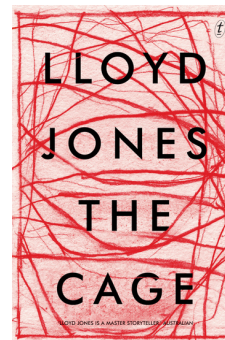
It is 1914, and as the war draws the young men of Britain away to fight, women must keep the nation running. Two of those women are Peggy and Maude, twin sisters who live on a narrow boat in Oxford and work in the bindery at the university press. Ambitious Peggy has been told all her life to bind the books but not read them, and she looks after a content Maude. When refugees arrive from the war-torn cities of Belgium, Peggy begins to see the possibility of another future where she can educate herself and use her intellect, not just her hands. [438 pages](#)



## The Cage - Lloyd Jones

10 copies - NEW

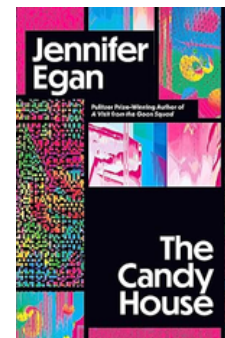
Two mysterious strangers appear at a hotel in a small country town. Where have they come from? Who are they? What catastrophe are they fleeing? The townspeople want answers, but the strangers are unable to speak of their trauma. And before long, wary hospitality shifts to suspicion and fear, and the care of the men slides into appalling cruelty. [262 pages](#)



## The Candy House - Jennifer Egan

10 copies

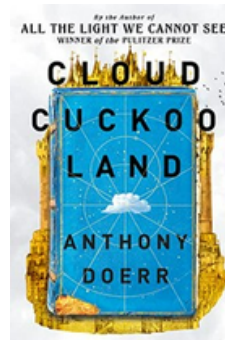
It's 2010. Staggeringly successful and brilliant tech entrepreneur Bix Bouton is desperate for a new idea. He's forty, with four kids, and restless when he stumbles into a conversation with mostly Columbia professors, one of whom is experimenting with downloading or "externalizing" memory. Within a decade, Bix's new technology, Own Your Unconscious--that allows you access to every memory you've ever had, and to share every memory in exchange for access to the memories of others--has seduced multitudes. But not everyone. [334 pages](#)



## Cloud Cuckoo Land - Anthony Doerr

10 copies

There are five protagonists in this tale: Anna and Omeir, on opposite sides of the city walls during the 1453 siege of Constantinople; teenage idealist Seymour and octogenarian Zeno in an attack on a public library in present-day Idaho; and Konstance, on an interstellar ship bound for an exoplanet, decades from now. A book written in ancient Greek—the story of Aethon, who longs to be turned into a bird so that he can fly to a utopian paradise in the sky—provides solace and mystery to these unforgettable characters. [626 pages](#)



## Cold Enough for Snow - Jessica Au

10 copies

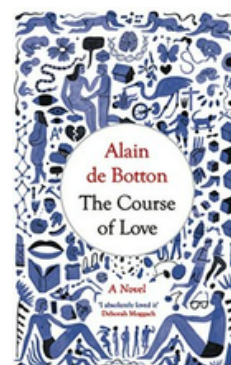
A young woman has arranged a holiday with her mother in Japan. They travel by train, visit galleries and churches, eat together in cafes and restaurants and walk along the canals at night. All the while, they talk, or seem to talk: about everyday things, and their own histories. But uncertainties abound. How much is spoken between them, how much is thought but unspoken? [98 pages](#)



## The Course of Love - Alain de Botton

10 copies

We all know the headiness and excitement of the early days of love. But what comes after? In Edinburgh, a couple, Rabih and Kirsten, fall in love. They get married, they have children—but no long-term relationship is as simple as "happily ever after." This novel explores what happens after the birth of love, what it takes to maintain love, and what happens to our original ideals under the pressures of an average existence. [221 pages](#)

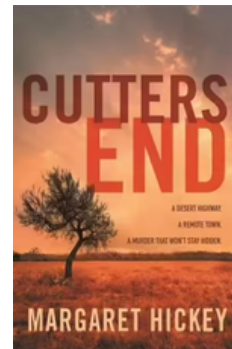


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## Cutters End - Margaret Hickey

### 10 copies

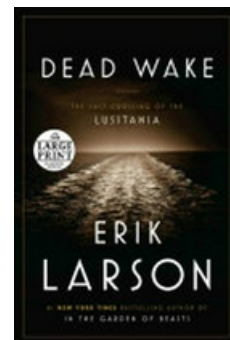
On New Year's Eve 1989, eighteen-year-old Ingrid Mathers is hitchhiking her way to Alice Springs, and accepts a lift to the remote town of Cutters End. In 2021, Detective Sergeant Mark Ariti is seconded to a recently reopened case; a burnt and broken body was discovered in scrub south of Cutters End three decades ago. Though ultimately ruled an accidental death, many people - including a high-profile celebrity - are convinced it was murder. [365 pages](#)



## Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania - Erik Larson

### 10 copies

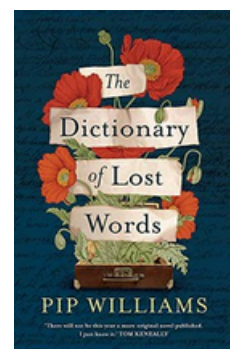
On May 1 1915, a luxury ocean liner as richly appointed as an English country house sailed out of New York, bound for Liverpool, carrying a record number of children and infants. The passengers were anxious. Germany had declared the seas around Britain to be a war zone, and for months, its U-boats had brought terror to the North Atlantic. But Captain William Thomas Turner thought that his ship, the fastest then in service, could outrun any threat. [430 pages](#)



## The Dictionary of Lost Words - Pip Williams

### 10 copies

In 1901, the word 'Bondmaid' was discovered missing from the Oxford English Dictionary. This is the story of the girl who stole it: Esme. Motherless and irrepressibly curious, she spends her childhood in the 'Scriptorium', a garden shed in Oxford where her father and a team of dedicated lexicographers are collecting words for the very first Oxford English Dictionary. Esme's place is beneath the sorting table, but she begins to collect words that are misplaced, discarded or neglected. [423 pages](#)



## Demon Copperhead - Barbara Kingsolver

### 10 copies

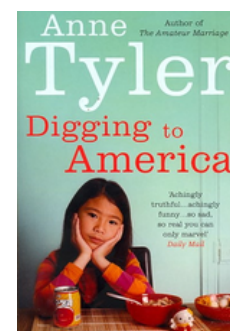
Set in the mountains of southern Appalachia, this is the story of a boy born to a teenaged single mother in a single-wide trailer, with no assets beyond his dead father's good looks and copper-colored hair, a caustic wit, and a fierce talent for survival. Relayed in his own unsparing voice, Demon braves the modern perils of foster care, child labor, derelict schools, athletic success, addiction, disastrous loves, and crushing losses. Through all of it, he reckons with his own invisibility in a popular culture where even the superheroes have abandoned rural people in favor of cities. [548 pages](#)



## Digging to America - Anne Tyler

### 10 copies

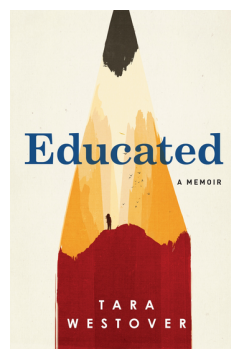
Two families, who would otherwise never have come together, meet by chance at the Baltimore airport—the Donaldsons, a very American couple, and the Yazdans, Maryam's fully assimilated son and his attractive Iranian American wife. Each couple is awaiting the arrival of an adopted infant daughter from Korea. After the babies are delivered, they celebrate with an "arrival party," an event that is repeated every year as the two families become more deeply intertwined. [329 pages](#)



## Educated - Tara Westover

### 10 copies

Tara Westover was 17 the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag. Educated is an account of the struggle for self-invention. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty and of the grief that comes with severing the closest of ties. [384 pages](#)



## Eligible - Curtis Sittenfeld

### 10 copies

This version of the Bennet family and Mr. Darcy is one that you have and haven't met before: Liz is a magazine writer in her late thirties who, like her yoga instructor older sister, Jane, lives in New York City. When their father has a health scare, they return to their childhood home in Cincinnati to help and discover that the sprawling Tudor they grew up in is crumbling and the family is in disarray. Mrs. Bennet has one thing on her mind: how to marry off her daughters, especially as Jane's fortieth birthday approaches. [514 pages](#)



## Exit West - Mohsin Hamid

### 10 copies

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 and are soon cloistered in a 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. [228 pages](#)



## First Person - Richard Flanagan

### 5 copies

A young and penniless writer, Kif Kehlmann, is rung in the middle of the night by the notorious con man and corporate criminal, Siegfried Heidl. About to go to trial for defrauding the banks of \$700 million, Heidl proposes a deal: \$10,000 for Kehlmann to ghost write his memoir in six weeks. But as the writing gets under way, Kehlmann begins to fear that he is being corrupted by Heidl. Is he ghost writing a memoir, or is Heidl rewriting him—his life, his future? [392 pages](#)



## Four Treasures of the Sky - Jenny Tinghui Zhang

### 10 copies

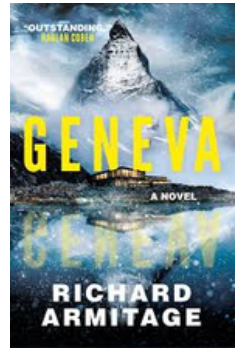
Daiyu never wanted to be like the tragic heroine for whom she was named, revered for her beauty and cursed with heartbreak. But when she is kidnapped and smuggled across an ocean from China to America, Daiyu must relinquish the home and future she imagined for herself. Over the years that follow, she is forced to keep reinventing herself to survive. From a calligraphy school, to a San Francisco brothel, to a shop tucked into the Idaho mountains, we follow Daiyu on a desperate quest to outrun the tragedy that chases her. [409 pages](#)



## Geneva - Richard Armitage

**10 copies - NEW**

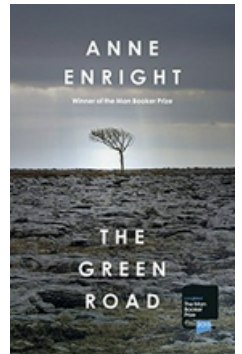
Nobel Prize-winning scientist Sarah Collier, showing early signs of Alzheimer's like her father, hesitates to attend a prestigious biotech conference. Her husband Daniel, also a neuroscientist, convinces her the publicity will be worth it as the conference could unveil life-saving technology. In Geneva, they're celebrated, especially Sarah. However, amidst the luxury, investors circle, a controversial blogger stirs trouble, Sarah's symptoms worsen, and chaos unfolds. [281 pages](#)



## The Green Road - Anne Enright

**10 copies**

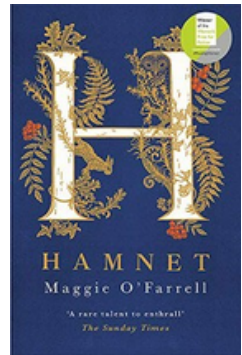
The 30-year story of Rosaleen, matriarch of the Madigans, a family on the cusp of either coming together or falling irreparably apart. As they grow up, Rosaleen's four children leave the west of Ireland for lives they could have never imagined in Dublin, New York, and Mali, West Africa. In her early old age their difficult, wonderful mother announces that she's decided to sell the house and divide the proceeds. Her adult children come back for a last Christmas, with the feeling their childhoods are being erased. [336 pages](#)



## Hamnet - Maggie O'Farrell

**10 copies**

Warwickshire in the 1580s. Agnes is a woman as feared as she is sought after for her unusual gifts. She settles with her husband in Henley street, Stratford, and has three children: a daughter, Susanna, and then twins, Hamnet and Judith. The boy, Hamnet, dies in 1596, aged eleven. Four years or so later, the husband writes a play called Hamlet. [372 pages](#)



## The Hand That First Held Mine - Maggie O'Farrell

**10 copies**

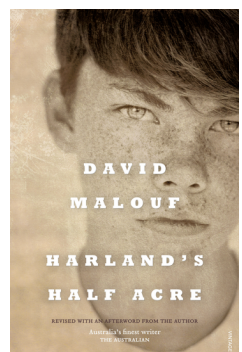
Hedged in by her parents' genteel 1950's country life, Lexie Sinclair plans her escape to London. There, she takes up with Innes Kent, a magazine editor. And when she finds herself pregnant, she doesn't hesitate to have the baby on her own. Later, in present-day London, a young painter named Elina dizzily navigates the first weeks of motherhood. She finds herself walking outside with no shoes and can't recall the small matter of giving birth. It seems that something might connect these two stories—these two women. [374 pages](#)



## Harland's Half Acre - David Malouf

**10 copies**

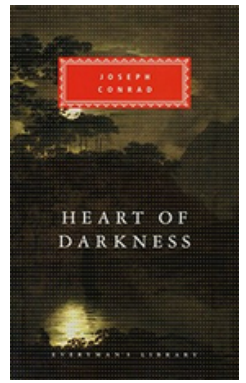
Born on a poor dairy farm in Queensland, Frank Harland's life is centered on his great artistic gift, his passionate love for his father and four brothers and his need to repossess, through a patch of land, his family's past. The story spans Frank's life; from before the First World War, through years as a swaggie in the Great Depression and Brisbane in the forties, to his retirement to a patch of Australian scrub; his dream. [276 pages](#)



# Heart of Darkness- Joseph Conrad

## 10 copies

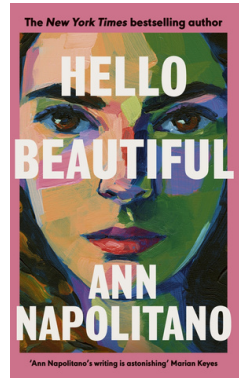
A story within a story, following Charlie Marlow, who recounts his adventure to a group of men onboard an anchored ship. The story told is of his early life as a ferry boat captain. Although his job was to transport ivory downriver, Charlie develops an interest in investing an ivory procurement agent, Kurtz, who is employed by the government. Preceded by his reputation as a brilliant emissary of progress, Kurtz has now established himself as a god among the natives. Marlow suspects something else of Kurtz: he has gone mad. [110 pages](#)



# Hello Beautiful - Ann Napolitano

## 10 copies

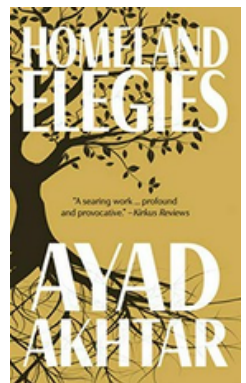
Best friends and sisters, the four Padavano girls are seen as inseparable by everyone in their close Italian-American neighbourhood, bringing loving chaos with them wherever they go. William Waters grew up in a house silenced by tragedy, where his parents could hardly bear to look at him, much less love him. So, when he meets the spirited and ambitious Julia Padavano, it's as if the world has lit up around him. [387 pages](#)



# Homeland Elegies - Ayad Akhtar

## 5 copies

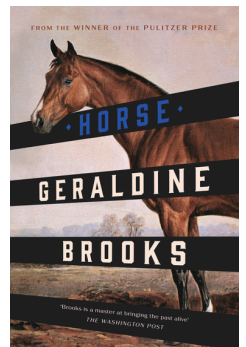
A deeply personal work about identity and belonging in a nation coming apart at the seams, this narrative blends fact and fiction to tell an epic story of longing and dispossession in the world that 9/11 made. Part family drama, part social essay, part picaresque novel, at its heart it is the story of a father, a son, and the country they both call home. [345 pages](#)



# Horse - Geraldine Brooks

## 10 copies

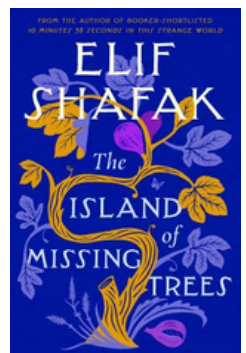
Kentucky, 1850: An enslaved groom named and a bay foal forge a bond of understanding that will carry the horse to record-setting victories across the South. New York City, 1954: A gallery owner becomes obsessed with a nineteenth-century equestrian oil painting of mysterious provenance. Washington, DC, 2019: A scientist and historian find themselves unexpectedly connected through their shared interest in the horse. These three strands braid a sweeping story of spirit, obsession, and injustice across American history. [401 pages](#)



# The Island of Missing Trees - Elif Shafak

## 10 copies

Two teenagers, a Greek Cypriot and a Turkish Cypriot, meet at a taverna on the island they both call home. In the taverna, Kostas and Defne grow in their forbidden love for each other. A fig tree stretches through a cavity in the roof, and this tree bears witness to their hushed, happy meetings and eventually, to their silent, surreptitious departures. The tree is there when war breaks out. Decades later, Kostas returns. He is a botanist looking for native species, but really, he's searching for lost love. [353 pages](#)





## James - Percival Everett

**10 copies - NEW**

A brilliant, action-packed reimagining of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, both harrowing and ferociously funny, told from the enslaved Jim's point of view. When the enslaved Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he decides to hide on nearby Jackson Island until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck Finn has faked his own death to escape his violent father, recently returned to town. [303 pages](#)



## The Keeper of Lost Things - Ruth Hogan

**11 copies**

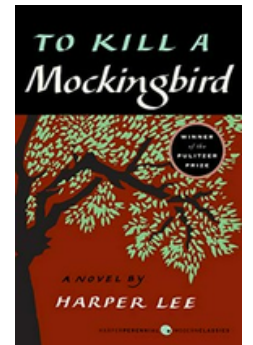
Forty years ago, Anthony Peardeew carelessly lost a keepsake from his beloved fiancée, Therese. That very same day, she died unexpectedly. Brokenhearted, Anthony sought consolation in rescuing lost objects—the things others have dropped, misplaced, or accidentally left behind—and writing stories about them. Now, in the twilight of his life, Anthony worries that he has not fully discharged his duty to reconcile all the lost things with their owners. [308 pages](#)



## To Kill a Mockingbird - Harper Lee

**10 copies**

Set in the small Southern town of Maycomb, Alabama, during the Great Depression, this novel follows three years in the life of 8-year-old Scout Finch, her brother, Jem, and their father, Atticus—three years punctuated by the arrest and eventual trial of a young black man accused of raping a white woman. Though her story explores big themes, Harper Lee chooses to tell it through the eyes of a child. The result is a tough and tender novel of race, class, justice, and the pain of growing up. [309 pages](#)



## Ladies in Black - Madeleine St. John

**10 copies**

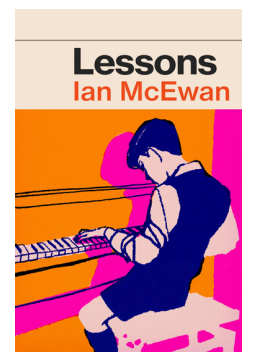
Sydney in the late 1950s. On the second floor of the famous F.G. Goode department store, in Ladies' Cocktail Frocks, the women in black are girding themselves for the Christmas rush. Lisa is the new Sales Assistant (Temporary). Across the floor and beyond the arch, she is about to meet the glamorous Continental refugee, Magda, guardian of the rose-pink cave of Model Gowns. [228 pages](#)



## Lessons - Ian McEwan

**10 copies**

From the Suez Crisis to the Cuban Missile Crisis, the fall of the Berlin Wall to the current pandemic, Roland Baines sometimes rides with the tide of history, but more often struggles against it. This is the epic and intimate story of one man's life across generations and historical upheavals, and his journey raises questions for us all: Can we take full charge of the course of our lives without causing damage to others? The world is forever changing, but for so many of us, old wounds run deep. [486 pages](#)



## Lessons in Chemistry - Bonnie Garmus

**10 copies**

Like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years after falling in love with her Nobel-prize nominated research colleague Calvin in the early 1960s, chemist Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo. [390 pages](#)



## Life After Life - Kate Atkinson

**9 copies**

On a cold and snowy night in 1910, Ursula Todd is born to an English banker and his wife. She dies before she can draw her first breath. On that same cold and snowy night, Ursula Todd is born, lets out a lusty wail, and embarks upon a life that will be, to say the least, unusual. For as she grows, she also dies, repeatedly, in a variety of ways, while the young century marches on towards its second cataclysmic world war. Does Ursula's apparently infinite number of lives give her the power to save the world from its inevitable destiny? [477 pages](#)



## Little Fires Everywhere - Celeste Ng

**10 copies**

In Shaker Heights, a placid, progressive suburb of Cleveland, everything is meticulously planned. And no one embodies this spirit more than Elena Richardson, whose guiding principal is playing by the rules. Enter Mia Warren - an enigmatic artist and single mother- who arrives in this idyllic bubble with her teenage daughter Pearl, and rents a house from the Richardsons. But Mia carries with her a mysterious past, and a disregard for the rules that threatens to upend this carefully ordered community. [338 pages](#)



## The Midnight Library - Matt Haig

**10 copies**

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. Nora Seed finds herself faced with following a different career, undoing old breakups, or realizing her dreams of becoming a glaciologist, and must decide what is truly fulfilling in life. [288 pages](#)

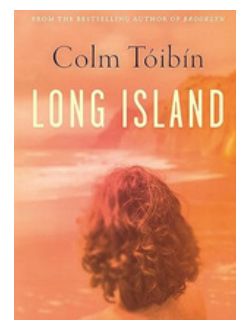


## Long Island - Colm Tóibín

**10 copies - NEW**

Eilis Lacey, an Irish immigrant married to Tony Fiorello, lives among her husband's large Italian-American family in Lindenhurst, Long Island, in 1976. Now in her forties with two teenage children, Eilis still feels more connected to Ireland than to her new home. One day, an Irishman appears at her door, claiming his wife is pregnant with Tony's child and vowing to leave the baby on Eilis's doorstep. The choices Eilis makes—and refuses to make—in response to this bombshell will change everything.

[288 pages](#)

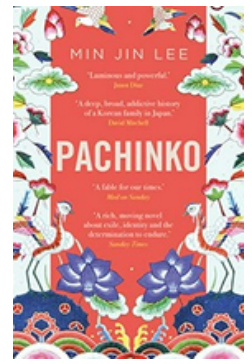


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## Pachinko - Min Jin Lee

10 copies

In the early 1900s, teenaged Sunja, the adored daughter of a crippled fisherman, falls for a wealthy stranger at the seashore near her home in Korea. He promises her the world, but when she discovers she is pregnant — and that her lover is married — she refuses to be bought. Instead, she accepts an offer of marriage from a gentle, sickly minister passing through on his way to Japan. But her decision sets off a dramatic saga that will echo down through the generations. [489 pages](#)



## Pineapple Street - Jenny Jackson

10 copies

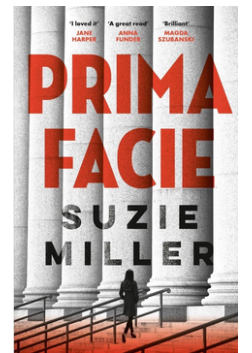
This zeitgeisty novel follows three women in one wealthy Brooklyn clan. Darley, the eldest daughter in the well-connected old money Stockton family, followed her heart, trading her job and her inheritance for motherhood and losing much in the process. Sasha, a middle-class New England girl, has married into the Brooklyn Heights family, and finds herself cast as the arriviste outsider; and Georgiana, the baby of the family, has fallen in love with someone she can't have. [304 pages](#)



## Prima Facie - Suzie Miller

10 copies - NEW

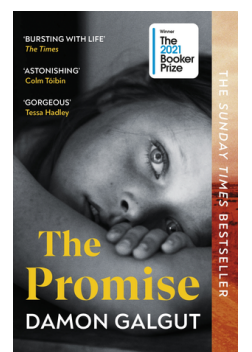
Tessa is a young, brilliant barrister from a working-class background now at the top of her game. One sickening night, though, Tessa finds herself in a position countless women - one in three - have been in before her. And she's faced with a gut-wrenching, life-changing decision. Will she take the stand to testify about her rape, with the full awareness that the system has not been built to protect her? [345 pages](#)



## The Promise - Damon Galgut

10 copies

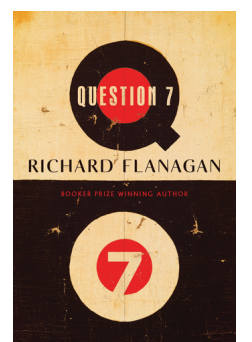
This story charts the crash and burn of a white South African family, living on a farm outside Pretoria. The Swarts are gathering for Ma's funeral. The younger generation, Anton and Amor, detest everything the family stand for— not least the failed promise to the Black woman who has worked for them her whole life. After years of service, Salome was promised her own house, her own land... yet somehow, as each decade passes, that promise remains unfulfilled. [293 pages](#)



## Question 7 - Richard Flanagan

10 copies - NEW

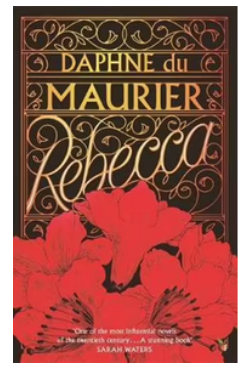
A look at how odds and fate impact on both global events and personal narratives. From H.G. Wells' unexpected encounter with Rebecca West, shaping the genesis of a novel that inadvertently influences nuclear science, to Flanagan's father's survival through the unexpected turn of history, the book unravels the complexities of chance in shaping human destinies. [280 pages](#)



## Rebecca - Daphne du Maurier

**10 copies**

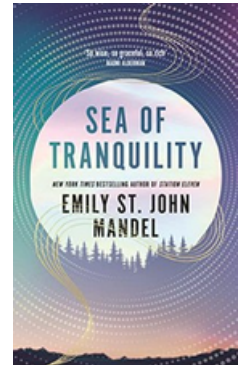
Ancient, beautiful Manderley, between the rose garden and the sea, is the county's showpiece. Rebecca made it so - even a year after her death, Rebecca's influence still rules there. How can Maxim de Winter's shy new bride ever fill her place or escape her vital shadow? [405 pages](#)



## Sea of Tranquility - Emily St. John Mandel

**10 copies**

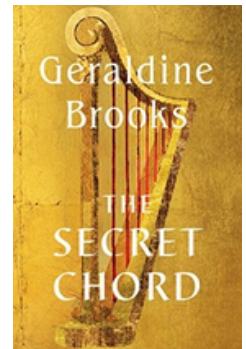
Edwin St. Andrew is eighteen years old when he crosses the Atlantic by steamship, exiled from polite society. He enters the forest and suddenly hears the notes of a violin echoing in an airship terminal—an experience that shocks him to his core. Two centuries later a famous writer named Olive Llewellyn is on a book tour from her moon colony to Earth. Within her bestselling pandemic novel lies a strange passage: a man plays his violin for change in the echoing corridor of an airship terminal as the trees of a forest rise around him. [255 pages](#)



## The Secret Chord - Geraldine Brooks

**9 copies**

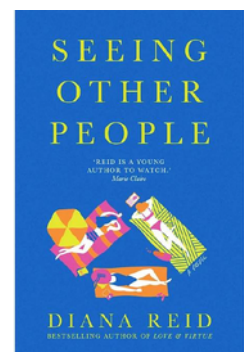
Peeling away the myth to bring the Old Testament's King David to life in Second Iron Age Israel, the story traces the arc of his journey from obscurity to fame, from shepherd to soldier, from hero to traitor, from beloved king to murderous despot and into his remorseful and diminished dotage. We see David through the eyes of those who love him or fear him—from the prophet Natan, voice of his conscience, to his wives Mikhal, Avigail, and Batsheva, and finally to Solomon, the late-born son who redeems his Lear-like old age. [386 pages](#)



## Seeing Other People - Diana Reid

**10 copies**

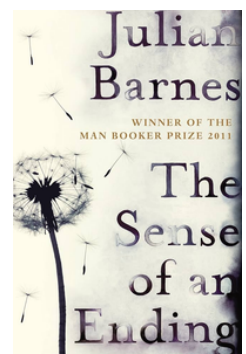
After two years of lockdowns, there's change in the air for 20-somethings sisters Eleanor and Charlie. Eleanor has just broken up with her lawyer boyfriend, while Charlie's career as an actress is starting up again. They're finally ready to pursue their dreams—if only they can work out what it is they really want. When principles and desires clash, Eleanor and Charlie are forced to ask: where is the line between self-love and selfishness? [295 pages](#)



## The Sense of an Ending - Julian Barnes

**10 copies**

Tony Webster and his clique first met Adrian Finn at school. They would navigate the girl-less sixth form together, trading in rumour and wit. Maybe Adrian was a little more serious than the others, certainly more intelligent, but they all swore to stay friends for life. Now Tony is retired. He's had a career and a single marriage, a calm divorce. He's certainly never tried to hurt anybody. Memory, though, is imperfect. It can always throw up surprises, as a lawyer's letter is about to prove. [150 pages](#)



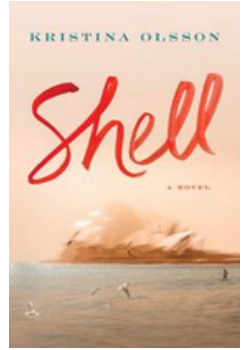
## The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida - Shehan Karunatilaka **10 copies**

Colombo, 1990. Maali Almeida—war photographer, gambler, and closet queen—has woken up dead in what seems like a celestial visa office. His dismembered body is sinking in the serene Beira Lake and he has no idea who killed him, and the list of suspects is depressingly long. From the afterlife, Maali now has seven moons to contact the man and woman he loves most and lead them to the photos that will rock Sri Lanka. [386 pages](#)



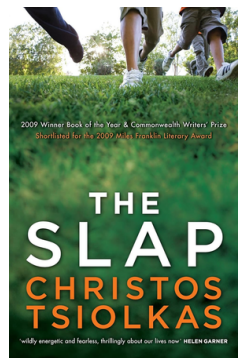
## Shell - Kristina Olsson **10 copies**

In 1965, Sydney is divided between its past and its future. Pearl Keogh, a headstrong and ambitious Australian newspaper reporter, has put her job in jeopardy to become involved in the anti-Vietnam-war movement. Newly arrived from Sweden, with World War II a recent memory, Axel Lindquist is set to work as a sculptor on the besieged Sydney Opera House. As the seas of change swirl around them, Pearl and Axel's lives orbit each other and collide in this tale of art and culture, love and destiny. [336 pages](#)



## The Slap - Christos Tsiolkas **10 copies**

At a suburban barbecue, a man slaps a child who is not his own. It is a single act, but the slap reverberates through the lives of everyone who witnesses it. Told through the eyes of eight of those present at the barbecue, this acclaimed bestseller is an unflinching interrogation of the life of the modern family. Poignant and provocative, THE SLAP makes us question the nature of commitment and happiness, compromise and truth. Whose side are you on? [483 pages](#)



## Small Things Like These - Claire Keegan **10 copies**

It is 1985 in a small Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal merchant and family man faces into his busiest season. Early one morning, while delivering an order to the local convent, Bill makes a discovery which forces him to confront both his past and the complicit silences of a town controlled by the church. [128 pages](#)



## The Snow Kimono - Mark Henshaw **10 copies**

On the same day that retired police inspector Auguste Jovert receives a letter from a woman claiming to be his daughter, he returns to his Paris apartment to find a stranger waiting for him. That stranger is a Japanese professor called Tadashi Omura. What's brought him to Jovert's doorstep is not clear, but then he begins to tell his story - a story of a fractured friendship, lost lovers, orphaned children, and a body left bleeding in the snow. [396 pages](#)



## Station Eleven - Emily St. John Mandel

**10 copies**

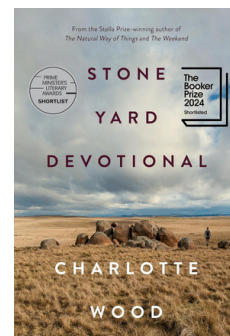
One snowy night a famous Hollywood actor slumps over and dies onstage during a production of King Lear. Hours later, the world as we know it begins to dissolve. Moving back and forth in time—from the actor's early days as a film star to fifteen years in the future, when a theater troupe known as the Traveling Symphony roams the wasteland of what remains. [339 pages](#)



## Stone Yard Devotional - Charlotte Wood

**10 copies - NEW**

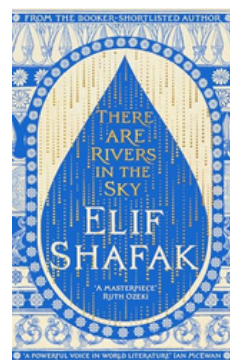
A woman leaves her city life and marriage to join a reclusive religious community on the Monaro plains. Unfamiliar with prayer and haunted by her mother's early death, she gradually adapts to the secluded lifestyle. Her solitude is shaken by a series of unsettling events: a mouse plague, the discovery of a missing sister's remains, and a troubling visitor. With each, she faces deep questions about goodness, forgiveness, and whether grief can ever truly be laid to rest. [297 pages](#)



## There Are Rivers in the Sky - Elif Shafak

**10 copies - NEW**

This is the story of one lost poem, two great rivers, and three remarkable lives – all connected by a single drop of water. In the ruins of Nineveh, that ancient city of Mesopotamia, there lies hidden in the sand fragments of a long-forgotten poem, the Epic of Gilgamesh. In Victorian London, an extraordinary child is born at the edge of the dirt-black Thames. In 2014 Turkey, Narin, a Yazidi girl living by the River Tigris, waits to be baptised with water brought from the holy sit of Lalish in Iraq. In 2018 London, broken-hearted Zaleekhah, a hydrologist, moves to a houseboat on the Thames to escape the wreckage of her marriage. [480 pages](#)



## The Tin Drum - Günter Grass

**10 copies**

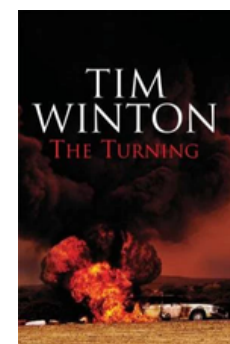
Oskar Matzerath narrates from an asylum for the insane. He claims to have consciously stopped growing at the age of three in protest against adulthood; although intellectually normal, he has the stunted body of a dwarf. Oskar's voice is shrill enough to shatter glass, and his passion is banging on his tin drum, which has properties by which he draws forth memories from the past and complains about shortcomings in the present. [582 pages](#)



## The Turning - Tim Winton

**8 copies**

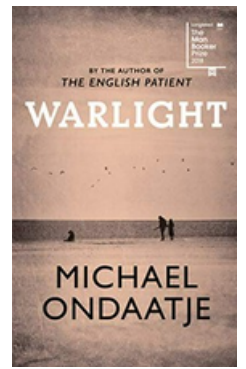
Tim Winton returns to form with seventeen overlapping stories of second thoughts and mid-life regret set in the brooding small-town world of coastal Western Australia. Here are turnings of all kinds changes of heart, nasty surprises, slow awakenings, sudden detours where people struggle against the terrible weight of the past and challenge the lives they've made for themselves. [317 pages](#)



## Warlight - Michael Ondaatje

10 copies

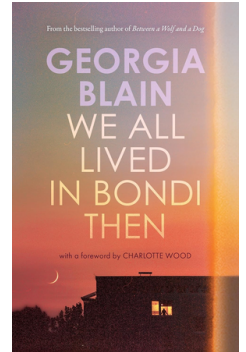
In 1945, as London recovers from the Blitz, 14-year-old Nathaniel and his sister Rachel are left by their parents in the care of a mysterious man called The Moth. Suspecting he might be a criminal, they gradually warm to him and his eccentric friends, who share a hidden past and seem intent on protecting and educating the siblings in unconventional ways. But as they dig deeper, Rachel and Nathaniel begin to question who these people truly are—and what secrets they're hiding. [289 pages](#)



## We All Lived in Bondi Then - Georgia Blain

10 copies - NEW

A sister is haunted by the consequences of a simple mistake. A daughter searches for certainty as her mother's memory degrades. An encounter at a house party changes the course of a life. Beloved Australian author Georgia Blain returns to her resonant themes of relationships and family, illness and health, love and death. Composed in Blain's final years, these nine stories grapple with large questions on a human scale, brimming with her trademark acuity, nuance, and warmth. [155 pages](#)



## Wifedom - Anna Funder

10 copies - NEW

Eileen O'Shaughnessy married George Orwell in 1936. O'Shaughnessy was a writer herself, and her literary brilliance not only shaped Orwell's work, but her practical common sense saved his life. But why and how was she written out of their story? Using newly discovered letters from Eileen to her best friend, author Anna Funder recreates the Orwells' marriage, through the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War in London... questioning what it takes to be a writer—and what it is to be a wife.

[451 pages](#)

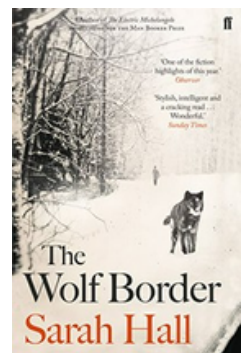


## The Wolf Border - Sarah Hall

10 copies

Rachel Caine is a zoologist working in Nez Perce, Idaho, as part of a wolf recovery project. She spends her days, and often nights, tracking the every move of a wild wolf pack—their size, their behavior, their howl patterns. When she receives a call from the wealthy and mysterious Earl, who is interested in reintroducing the grey wolf to Northern England, Rachel agrees to a meeting. She is certain she wants no part of this project, but the Earl's estate is close to the village where Rachel grew up.

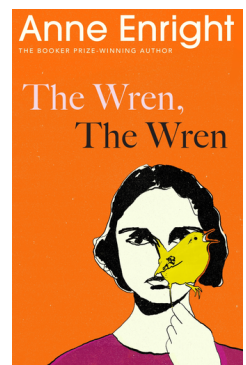
[435 pages](#)



## The Wren, the Wren - Anne Enright

10 copies - NEW

Nell is a young woman with adventure on her mind. As she sets out into the world, she finds her family history hard to escape. For her mother, Carmel, Nell's leaving home opens a space in her heart, where the turmoil of a lifetime begins to churn. Over them both falls the long shadow of Carmel's famous father, an Irish poet of beautiful words and brutal actions. [276 pages](#)

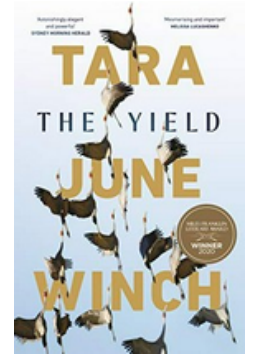


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## The Yield - Tara June Winch

### 10 copies

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. 343 pages



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