

DIBS (Discussions In BoxeS)

A selection of challenging and entertaining discussion books, plus a binder full of reviews and information about the authors. Available for a checkout period of 6 weeks.



New:

Barry, Dan	<i>The Boys in the Bunkhouse: Servitude and Salvation in the Heartland</i>
Doerr, Anthony	<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i>
Gawande, Atul	<i>Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End</i>
Jacobs, A.J.	<i>It's All Relative: Adventures Up and Down the World's Family Tree</i>
Jahren, Hope	<i>Lab Girl</i>
Lee, Min Jin	<i>Pachinko</i>
Noah, Trevor	<i>Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood</i>
Whitehead, Colson	<i>The Underground Railroad</i>

Alexie, Sherman	<i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>	YA FIC ALEX CDBOOK YA FIC ALEX PLAYAWY YA FIC ALEX
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Inspired by his own experiences growing up on an Indian reservation, Alexie chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one plucky boy trying to rise above the life everyone expects him to live.

Ali, Monica	<i>Brick Lane</i>	FIC ALI DVD DRAMA BRICK
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After an arranged marriage to a man twenty years older, Nazneen is taken to London, leaving her home and heart in the Bangladeshi village where she was born.

Ambrose, Stephen *Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West* 917.8042 AM

This is nonfiction but it reads like fiction. There was only one death on this 1804-06 expedition and that man is buried in Iowa.

Barry, Dan *The Boys in the Bunkhouse: Servitude and Salvation in the Heartland* IOWA 362.384 BA
CDBOOK 362.384 BA
LARGE PRINT 362.384 BA

All Iowa Reads, 2018. Drawing on extensive personal interviews and reams of public records, *New York Times* journalist Dan Barry delves into the lives of the “Men of Atalissa,” a group of men with intellectual disability who worked for decades under exploitative conditions at a turkey processing plant.

Bloom, Stephen *Postville: A Clash of Cultures in Heartland America* IOWA 977.733 BL

In 1987, a group of ultra-Orthodox Jews opened a kosher slaughterhouse just outside Postville, Iowa (pop. 1,465), both reviving and dividing the town. The quiet, restrained Iowans were aghast at the Hasidic Jews who ignored the unwritten laws of Iowa behavior, and the Lubavitchers could not compromise with the world of Postville. Ten years later, the town engineered a vote on what everyone agreed was a referendum: should these Jews stay? (Publisher information.)

Boo, Katherine *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* 305.569 BO

Winner of the National Book Award for nonfiction. 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 in India.

Brennert, Alan *Moloka'i*

When a rose-colored mark appears on her skin seven-year-old Rachel Kalama is taken from her home and family and sent to a quarantined leprosy settlement on the Island of Moloka'i. Here her life is supposed to end—but instead she discovers it is just beginning.

Brown, Amy Belding	<i>Flight of the Sparrow: A Novel of Early America</i>	FIC BROW
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A historical novel based on the life of Mary Rowlandson. Even before she was captured by Indians on a winter day of violence and terror, Mary Rowlandson sometimes found herself in conflict with her rigid Puritan community.

Brown, Carrie	<i>The Rope Walk</i>	FIC BROW CDBOOK FIC BROW
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All Iowa Reads, 2009. On her 10th birthday Alice meets two visitors to her quiet Vermont town: Theo, the African American grandson of her father's best friend, and Kenneth, an artist who has come home to convalesce.

Cameron, Claire	<i>The Bear</i>	FIC CAME
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2015 QC Women's Connection International Author. While camping with her family on a remote island, 5-year-old Anna wakes in the night to the sound of screaming. A wild black bear is attacking her parents.

Canin, Ethan	<i>The Palace Thief</i>	FIC CANI DVD DRAMA BEAUTIFUL DVD DRAMA EMPERORS
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Four unforgettable stories: "Accountant," "Batorsag and Szeralem" (the source for the movie "Beautiful Ohio" with William Hurt and Rita Wilson), "City of Broken Hearts," and "The Palace Thief" (the source for the movie "The Emperor's Club" with Kevin Kline and Emile Hirsch).

Capote, Truman	<i>In Cold Blood</i>	364.1523 CA CDBOOK 364.152 CA DVD DRAMA CAPOTE DVD DRAMA INFAMOUS DVD MYSTERY IN
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In this "nonfiction novel" Capote reconstructs the apparently motiveless 1959 murder of the Clutter Family in rural Kansas, followed by the capture, trial, and execution of the killers.

Castillo, Ana	<i>The Guardians</i>	FIC CAST
<p>Eking out a living as a teacher's aide in a small New Mexican border town, Tia Regina is also raising her teenage nephew, Gabo, a hardworking boy who has entered the country illegally and aspires to the priesthood. When Gabo's father, Rafa, disappears while crossing over from Mexico, Regina fears the worst.</p>		
Chevalier, Tracy	<i>Girl with a Pearl Earring</i>	FIC CHEV LARGE PRINT FIC CHEV PLAYAWAY FIC CHEV DVD DRAMA GIRL
<p>Set in Holland in the 1660s in the painter Vermeer's Delft household, a 16-year-old hired servant girl becomes increasingly involved with her employer.</p>		
Clowes, Daniel	<i>Ghost World</i>	GRAPHIC CL
<p>This quasi-autobiographical story (the name of one of the protagonists is famously an anagram of the author's name) follows the adventures of two teenage girls, Enid and Becky, two best friends facing the prospect of growing up, and more importantly, apart.</p>		
Collins, Wilkie	<i>The Woman in White</i>	MYS COLL DVD MYSTERY WOMAN
<p>Opens with Walter Hartright's eerie encounter on a moonlit London road. This book is the first and most influential of the Victorian genre that combined Gothic horror with psychological realism.</p>		
Crutcher, Chris	<i>Deadline</i>	YA FIC CRUT PLAYAWAY YA FIC CRUT
<p>Grade 9 Up — After being diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukemia, 18-year-old Ben Wolf elects to forgo treatment and keep his illness secret from his family and friends in an attempt to have a “normal” senior year at his small Idaho high school. (<i>School Library Journal</i>)</p>		
Dai Sijie	<i>Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress</i>	FIC DAI CDBOOK FIC DAI DVD FOREIGN BALZAC
<p>Two hapless boys are exiled to a remote mountain village for re-education during China's infamous Cultural Revolution. There they meet the daughter of the local tailor and discover a hidden stash of Western classics in Chinese translation. (Publisher information.)</p>		

Danticat, Edwidge *The Dew Breaker* FIC DANT

The violent past of the “dew breaker” (a torturer of Haitian dissidents under Duvalier) is revealed, chapter by chapter, by those who knew him.

Dean, Debra *The Madonnas of Leningrad* FIC DEAN
LARGE PRINT FIC DEAN

In this sublime debut novel, set amid the horrors of the siege of Leningrad in World War II, a gifted writer explores the power of memory to save . . . and betray.

Diamant, Anita *The Red Tent* FIC DIAM
CDBOOK FIC DIAM
DVD DRAMA RED

The little known Biblical story of Dinah, daughter of the patriarch Jacob and his wife Leah, is told from the perspective of its women.

Doerr, Anthony *All the Light We Cannot See* FIC DOER
LARGE PRINT FIC DOER
CDBOOK FIC DOER

From the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, a stunningly ambitious and beautiful novel about 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. (Publisher information.)

Eggers, Dave *The Circle* FIC EGGE
LARGE PRINT FIC EGGE
BLU-RAY DRAMA
CIRCLE
DVD DRAMA CIRCLE

What begins as the captivating story of one woman's ambition and idealism soon becomes a heart-racing novel of suspense, raising questions about memory, history, privacy, democracy, and the limits of human knowledge.

Endo, Shusaku *Silence* FIC ENDO
BLU-RAY DRAMA
SILENCE
DVD DRAMA SILENCE

Seventeenth-century Japan: Two Portuguese Jesuit priests travel to a country hostile to their religion, where feudal lords force the faithful to publicly renounce their beliefs.

Enger, Leif *Peace Like a River* FIC ENGE
LARGE PRINT FIC ENGE
CDBOOK FIC ENGE

All Iowa Reads, 2003. A father and his two young children go on a journey into the Badlands in the heart of winter in the 1960s. They are searching for the oldest son, who escaped from jail in Minnesota.

Erdrich, Louise *The Master Butchers Singing Club* FIC ERDR
LARGE PRINT FIC ERDR
CDBOOK FIC ERDR

All Iowa Reads, 2005. The story of a WWI sniper and master butcher with a “talent for stillness” and for singing. After marrying Eva, he emigrates to America, settling in Argus, North Dakota.

Fowler, Karen Joy *The Jane Austen Book Club* FIC FOWL
CDBOOK FIC FOWL
DVD DRAMA ROMANCE

A novel about how we engage with a novel.

Fuller, Alexandra *Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight* LARGE PRINT BIOG
FULLER

2009 QC Women's Connection International Author. An unflinching memoir of a child growing up during the 1970s Rhodesian Civil War.

Gaines, Ernest *A Lesson Before Dying* FIC GAIN
DVD DRAMA LESSON

An Oprah's Book Club selection. Jefferson, a young black man, is an unwitting party to a crime. He is convicted of murder and sentenced to death. A teacher from the plantation school is compelled to impart his learning and pride to Jefferson before he dies.

Gawande, Atul *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters
in the End* 362.175 GA
LARGE PRINT 362.175 GA
CDBOOK 362.175 GA

Riveting, honest, and humane, this remarkable book, which has already changed the national conversation on aging and death, shows how the ultimate goal is not a good death but a good life—all the way to the very end. (Publisher information.)

Gilbert, Elizabeth	<i>Eat Pray Love: One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India, and Indonesia</i>	910.4 GI LARGE PRINT 910.4 GI CDBOOK 910.4 GI BLU-RAY DRAMA EAT DVD DRAMA EAT
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Gilbert grafts the structure of romantic fiction upon the inquiries of reporting in this sprawling yet methodical travelogue of soul-searching and self-discovery. (*Publishers Weekly*)

Greene, Graham	<i>The Quiet American</i>	FIC GREE DVD DRAMA QUIET
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"I never knew a man who had better motives for all the trouble he caused," Greene's narrator, Fowler, remarks of Alden Pyle, the eponymous "Quiet American" of what is perhaps the most controversial novel of Greene's career.

Gregory, Philippa	<i>The Other Boleyn Girl</i>	FIC GREG DVD DRAMA OTHER
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When Mary Boleyn comes to court as an innocent girl of fourteen, she catches the eye of Henry VIII.

Gudenkauf, Heather	<i>The Weight of Silence</i>	FIC GUDE LARGE PRINT FIC GUDE CDBOOK FIC GUDE
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What happens in a 24-hour period when two different families wake up in the morning and find their young daughters missing.

Hoover, Michelle	<i>Bottomland</i>	FIC HOOV CDBOOK FIC HOOV
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All Iowa Reads, 2017. In the years after World War I the Hess family attempt to rid themselves of the anti-German sentiment that left a stain on their name. But when the youngest two daughters vanish in the middle of the night, the family must piece together what happened while struggling to maintain their life on the unforgiving Iowa plains.

Hosseini, Khaled *The Kite Runner* FIC HOSS
CDBOOK FIC HOSS
GRAPHIC HO
DVD DRAMA KITE
813.6 HE (discussion guide)

A story of fierce cruelty and fierce, yet redeeming, love. Both transform the life of Amir who comes of age during the last peaceful days of the Afghan monarchy, just before his country's revolution and its invasion by Russian forces. (*New York Times Book Review*)

Hurston, Zora Neale *Their Eyes Were Watching God* FIC HURS
DVD DRAMA THEIR

This novel follows the fortunes of Janie Crawford, a woman living in the black town of Eaton, Florida.

Jacobs, A.J. *It's All Relative: Adventures Up and Down
the World's Family Tree* 929.1 JA

AJ. Jacobs has received some strange emails over the years, but this note was perhaps the strangest: "You don't know me, but my wife is your eighth cousin. And we have over 80,000 relatives of yours in our database." That's enough family members to fill Madison Square Garden four times over. Who are these people, A.J. wondered, and how do I find them? So began Jacobs's three-year adventure along the branches of the world's family tree. (Publisher information; this DIBS kit was funded by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Reading Club.)

Jahren, Hope *Lab Girl* 570.92 JA

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. (Publisher information.)

Joyce, Rachel *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* FIC JOYC
LARGE PRINT FIC JOYC

Harold Fry is convinced that he must deliver a letter to an old love in order to save her, meeting various characters along the way and reminiscing about the events of his past and people he has known, as he tries to find peace and acceptance.

Kidder, Tracy *Strength in What Remains* 305.896 KI
CDBOOK 305.896 KI

All Iowa Reads, 2012. Deo arrives in the United States from Burundi in search of a new life. Having survived a civil war and genocide, he lands at JFK airport with two hundred dollars, no English, and no contacts.

Kingsolver, Barbara *The Poisonwood Bible* FIC KING
LARGE PRINT FIC KING
PLAYAWAY FIC KING
813.6 HE (discussion guide)

An Oprah's Book Club selection. This story is told by the wife and four daughters of Nathan Price, a fierce, evangelical Baptist who takes his family and mission to the Belgian Congo in 1959.

Kinsella, Sophie *Can You Keep a Secret?* FIC KINS

When her plane *en route* from Glasgow to London experiences horrible turbulence, Emma Corrigan is convinced she is going to die. She babbles all of her most intimate thoughts and secrets to the handsome American man sitting next to her. The plane lands safely. (*Booklist*)

Kline, Christina *Orphan Train* FIC KLIN
Baker LARGE PRINT FIC KLIN

Moving between contemporary Maine and Depression-era Minnesota, *Orphan Train* is a powerful tale of upheaval and resilience, second chances, and unexpected cross-generational friendship.

Krauss, Nicole *The History of Love* FIC KRAU

Fourteen-year-old Alma Singer is trying to find a cure for her mother's loneliness by finding the author of an old book her mother is lovingly translating. (Publisher information.)

Kyle, Aryn *The God of Animals* FIC KYLE

When her older sister runs away to marry a rodeo cowboy, 12-year-old Alice Winston is left to bear the brunt of her family's troubles on a run-down horse ranch in Colorado.

Lahiri, Jhumpa *Interpreter of Maladies* FIC LAHI

Winner of the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. In stories that travel from India to America and back again, Lahiri speaks with universal eloquence to everyone who has ever felt like a foreigner.

Landvik, Lorna	<i>Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons</i>	FIC LAND LARGE PRINT FIC LAND
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This stalwart group of friends depicts a special slice of American life.

Lee, Harper	To Kill a Mockingbird	FIC LEE LARGE PRINT FIC LEE CDBOOK FIC LEE YA FIC LEE 468 LE (Spanish language) BLU-RAY DRAMA TO DVD DRAMA TO Discussion guides, biography, and analysis: 813.54 FL 813.54 MI 813.54 MU YA 809 SO YA 813.54 TO CDBOOK 813 ST
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The classic novel of a childhood in a sleepy Southern town and the crisis of conscience that rocked it.

Lee, Min Jin	<i>Pachinko</i>	FIC LEE
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The story of four generations of a Korean family. After becoming pregnant with a married man's child, Sunja marries Isak, a Protestant minister. The newlyweds leave occupied Korea for Osaka, where they face discrimination by both the Japanese government and its citizens.

Loewen, James	<i>Lies My Teacher Told Me</i>	973 LO
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Thought-provoking, nonpartisan, and often shocking, Loewen unveils the real America in this iconoclastic classic beloved by high school teachers, history buffs, and enlightened citizens across the country.

Lowry, Lois

The Giver

NEWBERY JFIC LOWR
MEDAL WINNER
YA FIC LOWR
PLAYAWAY JFIC LOWR

Newbery Medal 1994. Jonas's world is perfect and when he turns 12, he is singled out to receive special training from The Giver, who holds the memories of the true pain and pleasure of life. (Publisher information.)

Maguire, Gregory

Wicked

FIC MAGU
CDBOOK FIC MAGU

When Dorothy triumphed over the Wicked Witch of the West in L. Frank Baum's classic tale, we heard only her side of the story. But what about the witch's side of the story?

Mahfouz, Naguib

Palace Walk

FIC MAHF

This is the first part of Nobel Prize winner Mahfouz's Cairo Trilogy. His descriptions of the streets, alleys, houses, palaces, and mosques of Cairo in the 1920s are reminiscent of Charles Dickens' descriptions of 19th century London. This is a really unusual look into the historic customs and culture of a relatively unfamiliar society.

Maltman, Thomas

Little Wolves

FIC MALT
LARGE PRINT FIC MALT

All Iowa Reads, 2014. Set on the Minnesota prairie in the late 1980s during a drought season pushing family farms to the brink, *Little Wolves* features the intertwining story of a father searching for answers after his son commits a heinous murder, and a pastor's wife who has returned to the town for mysterious reasons of her own. (Publisher information.)

Martel, Yann

Life of Pi

FIC MART
CDBOOK FIC MART
BLU-RAY DRAMA LIFE
DVD DRAMA LIFE
813.6 HE (discussion guide)

When Pi is 16, his family and their zoo animals emigrate from India to North America. The ship sinks and Pi finds himself in a lifeboat with a 450-pound Bengal tiger.

Mason, Daniel *The Piano Tuner* FIC MASO

In 1886 a shy, middle-aged piano tuner receives an unusual commission from the British War Office: to travel to the remote jungles of Burma to repair a rare piano belonging to an eccentric army officer. (Publisher information.)

Matar, Hisham *In the Country of Men* FIC MATA

Qaddafi's Libya, 1979. Nine-year-old Suleiman one day sees his father across the square of a busy marketplace. Wasn't he supposed to be away on business yet again? Why did he lie? A stunning depiction of a child confronted with the private fallout of a public nightmare. (Publisher information.)

McBride, James *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute
to His White Mother* BIOG MCBRIDE
LARGE PRINT BIOG
MCBRIDE
YA BIOG MCBRIDE

The author's mother was a rabbi's daughter, born in Poland, and raised in the South. She fled to Harlem, married a black man, founded a Baptist church, and put twelve children through college.

McCracken,
Elizabeth *Niagara Falls All Over Again* FIC MCCR

All Iowa Reads, 2004. Mose Sharp is the only boy among six sisters in a close-knit Jewish family in Valley Junction, Iowa. Instead of taking over the family business, he heads for the vaudeville circuit and teams up with comedian Rocky Carter.

Mones, Nicole *The Last Chinese Chef* FIC MONE

Mones takes readers inside the hidden world of elite cuisine in modern China through the story of an American food writer in Beijing.

Moore, Gary W. *Playing with the Enemy: A Baseball
Prodigy, a World at War, and a Field of
Broken Dreams* 940.5481 MO

When Gene Moore's baseball career was interrupted by Pearl Harbor, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy to play baseball on the Navy team. In 1944, he was sent back to the States for a special top secret mission: the guarding of German sailors captured from U-505.

Munro, Alice *Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage* FIC MUNR

In the nine stories that make up this collection, Munro achieves new heights, conjuring up characters as thorny and contradictory as people we know ourselves. (Publisher information.)

Nguyen, Viet Thanh *The Sympathizer* FIC NGUY

Pulitzer Prize and Carnegie Medal, 2016. Follows a Viet Cong agent as he spies on a South Vietnamese army general and his compatriots as they start a new life in 1975 Los Angeles.

Noah, Trevor *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood* 791.4502 NO
YA 791.4502 NO
CDBOOK 791.4502 NO

In this critically acclaimed memoir, *The Daily Show* host recounts his childhood as the son of a black mother and a white father under South African apartheid.

Nye, Naomi Shihab *Habibi* CDBOOK YA FIC NYE

Liyana's father suddenly moves the family from St. Louis to his Palestinian homeland. She is homesick until she meets Omer, but her friendship with him is silently forbidden because he is Jewish.

Nye, Naomi Shihab *Never in a Hurry: Essays on People and Places* 814.54 NY

These essays are autobiographical and lyrical—they'll make the reader laugh, cry, reflect, and think about life from another point of view. (*School Library Journal*)

Oliveira, Robin *My Name Is Mary Sutter* FIC OLIV
LARGE PRINT FIC OLIV
CDBOOK FIC OLIV

All Iowa Reads, 2015. Mary Sutter is a brilliant young midwife who dreams of becoming a surgeon. Determined to overcome the prejudices against women in medicine—and eager to run away from recent heartbreak—Mary travels to Washington, D.C., to help tend the legions of Civil War wounded.

O’Nan, Stewart *Last Night at the Lobster* FIC ONAN

At the edge of a run-down New England mall, the Red Lobster hasn’t been making its numbers and headquarters has pulled the plug. But manager Manny DeLeon still needs to navigate a tricky last shift.

Petterson, Per *Out Stealing Horses* FIC PETT
PLAYAWAY FIC PETT

The story of Trond Sander, a 67-year-old man who has moved from the city to a remote, riverside cabin, only to have all the turbulence, grief, and overwhelming beauty of his youth come back to him one night while he’s out on a walk.

Plath, Sylvia *The Bell Jar* FIC PLAT
YA 809 IN (study guide)

This is a chronicle of the crack-up of Esther Greenwood: brilliant, beautiful, enormously talented, and successful, but slowly going under—maybe for the last time. A haunting American classic. (Publisher information.)

Reichl, Ruth *Tender at the Bone: Growing Up at the Table* BIOG REICHL
LARGE PRINT BIOG
REICHL

Reichl’s memoir of her early years as an eater and cook, which served as the foundation of her later careers as a food writer and restaurant critic.

Rhodes, David *Driftless* FIC RHOD
CDBOOK FIC RHOD

All Iowa Reads, 2010. Words, Wisconsin, is an anonymous town of only a few hundred people. But under its sleepy surface, life rages.

Robinson, *Gilead* FIC ROBI
Marilynne LARGE PRINT FIC ROBI
CDBOOK FIC ROBI

All Iowa Reads, 2006. In 1956, toward the end of Rev. John Ames’s life, he begins a letter to his young son, an account of himself and his forebears.

Robinson,
Marilynne

Lila

FIC ROBI
LARGE PRINT FIC ROBI
CDBOOK FIC ROBI

All Iowa Reads, 2016; National Book Award finalist; National Book Critics Circle Award. This third installment of Robinson's Gilead trilogy reveals the story of John Ames's wife, Lila.

Rumi (Jalāl ad-Dīn
Muhammad
Rūmī)

*The Essential Rumi (translated by Coleman
Barks)*

891.5511 JA

A comprehensive collection of ecstatic poetry that delights with its energy and passion, *The Essential Rumi* brings the vibrant, living words of famed thirteenth-century Sufi mystic Jelalludin Rumi to contemporary readers. (Publisher information.)

Satrapi, Marjane

Persepolis

GRAPHIC PERSEPOLIS
DVD FOREIGN
PERSEPOLIS

A memoir of growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution.

Shadid, Anthony

*House of Stone: A Memoir of Home,
Family, and a Lost Middle East*

306.0956 SH

A lyrical saga of Shadid's rebuilding of his great-grandfather's house in southern Lebanon, as well as a granular history of the region.

Shaffer, Mary Ann,
and Annie
Barrows

*The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel
Society*

FIC SHAF
LARGE PRINT FIC SHAF
CDBOOK FIC SHAF
813.6 HE (discussion guide)

As London is emerging from the shadow of World War II, writer Juliet Ashton discovers her next subject in a book club on Guernsey Island—a club born as a spur-of-the-moment alibi after its members are discovered breaking curfew by the Germans occupying their island.

Shamsie, Kamilia

Broken Verses

FIC SHAM

Fourteen years ago, famous Pakistani activist Samina Akram disappeared. Two years earlier, her lover, Pakistan's greatest poet, was beaten to death by government thugs. In present-day Karachi, her daughter Aasmaani has just discovered a letter in the couple's private code—a letter that could only have been written recently.

Skloot, Rebecca *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* 616.0277 SK
CDBOOK 616.0277 SK
DVD DRAMA IMMORTAL

Henrietta Lacks was a poor Southern tobacco farmer, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge—became one of the most important tools in medicine. The first “immortal” human cells grown in culture, they are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years.

Smith, Betty *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* FIC SMIT
LARGE PRINT FIC SMIT

The beloved American classic about a young girl's coming-of-age at the turn of the twentieth century.

Spiegelman, Art *The Complete Maus* YA 741.5092 SP

Pulitzer Prize Special Citation, 1992. Spiegelman’s modern classic depiction of his father’s Holocaust experiences is at one and the same time a novel, a documentary, a memoir, and a comic book.

Strout, Elizabeth *Olive Kitteridge* FIC STRO
LARGE PRINT FIC STRO
CDBOOK FIC STRO
BLU-RAY TV OLIVE
DVD TV OLIVE

Winner of the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. At times stern, at other times patient, at times perceptive, at other times in sad denial, Olive Kitteridge, a retired schoolteacher, deplors the changes in her little town of Crosby, Maine, and in the world at large.

Allison, Jay and Dan *This I Believe: The Personal Philosophies* 170.44 TH
Gediman, editors *of Remarkable Men and Women*

“One Book One Bettendorf,” 2006. Based on the National Public Radio series of the same name, *This I Believe* features eighty essayists—from the famous to the unknown—completing the thought that begins the book's title.

Thompson, Jean *The Year We Left Home* FIC THOM

All Iowa Reads, 2013. Chronicles the happiness pursuits of the Eriksons from their 1970s coming-of-age to the near-present day, in a story told from revolving viewpoints.

Isay, Dave and Lizzie Jacobs, editors ***Ties That Bind: Stories of Love & Gratitude from the First Ten Years of StoryCorps*** 973 TI
CDBOOK 973 TI

StoryCorps founder Dave Isay draws from ten years of the revolutionary oral history project's rich archives, collecting conversations that celebrate the power of the human bond and capture the moment at which individuals become family. (Publisher information.)

Trevor, William ***The Story of Lucy Gault*** FIC TREV

The Gault family leads a life of privilege in early 1920s Ireland, but the threat of violence leads them to England. Nine-year-old Lucy runs away, hoping to convince her parents to stay in Ireland.

Tyler, Anne ***Digging to America*** FIC TYLE
CDBOOK FIC TYLE

All Iowa Reads, 2008. The very American Donaldsons and the Iranian-American Yazdans meet by chance at the Baltimore airport both picking up an adopted infant daughter from Korea.

Undset, Sigrid ***Kristin Lavransdatter: I The Wreath*** FIC UNDS
CDBOOK FIC TYLE

Originally published in Norwegian in 1920 and set in fourteenth-century Norway, *The Wreath* chronicles the courtship of a headstrong and passionate young woman and a dangerously charming and impetuous man. Undset recreates the historical backdrop in vivid detail, immersing readers in the day-to-day life, social conventions, and political undercurrents of the period

Ung, Loung ***First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers*** 959.6042 UN
CDBOOK 959.6042 UN

QC Women's Connection International Author, 2016. One of seven children of a high-ranking government official, Loung Ung lived a privileged life in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh until the age of five. Then, in April 1975, Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge army stormed into the city, forcing Ung's family to flee and, eventually, to disperse. Loung was trained as a child soldier in a work camp for orphans.

Urrea, Luis Alberto ***Into the Beautiful North*** FIC URRE

Nineteen-year-old Nayeli works at a taco shop in a remote Mexican village and dreams about her father, who left years ago to find work in the United States. (Funded by the Dr. Robert Anderson and Karen Schultz Endowment of the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend.)

Walls, Jeannette *The Glass Castle* BIOG WALLS
LARGE PRINT BIOG
WALLS
CDBOOK BIOG WALLS

When sober, Jeannette’s brilliant and charismatic father captured his children’s imagination, teaching them how to live fearlessly. But when he drank, he was dishonest and destructive. Her mother was a free spirit who abhorred the idea of domesticity. (Publisher information.)

Welty, Eudora *The Ponder Heart* FIC WELT

Uncle Daniel Ponder, whose fortune is exceeded only by his desire to give it away, is the talk of Clay County and a constant source of vexation for his niece.

Whitehead, Colson *The Underground Railroad* FIC WHIT
CDBOOK FIC WHIT
PLAYAWAY FIC WHIT

Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. “In his dynamic new novel, Colson Whitehead takes the Underground Railroad—the loosely interlocking network of black and white activists who helped slaves escape to freedom in the decades before the Civil War—and turns it from a metaphor into an actual train that ferries fugitives northward” (from Michiko Kakutani’s August 2, 2016 review in *The New York Times*).

Winchester, Simon *The Professor and the Madman: A Tale of Murder, Insanity, and the Making of the Oxford English Dictionary* 423.092 WI
LARGE PRINT 423.092 WI
CDBOOK 423.092 WI

James Murray, the “professor” of Winchester’s title, sets out to compile a record of every word in English and illustrate their meanings with examples of historical usage. This enormous project required help from numerous volunteers; one of the most prolific and beneficial contributors to the dictionary was an inmate of Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum.

Woodrell, Daniel *Winter’s Bone* FIC WOOD
BLU-RAY DRAMA
WINTERS

Ree Dolly’s father has skipped bail on charges that he ran a crystal meth lab, and the Dolly family will lose their house if he doesn’t show up for his next court date. Sixteen-year-old Ree is determined to find him.

Xinran

Sky Burial: An Epic Love Story of Tibet

FIC XINR

Inspired by a brief 1994 interview with an aged Chinese woman named Shu Wen, Beijing-born, London-based journalist Xinran (*The Good Women of China*) offers a delicately wrought account of Wen's 30-year search for her husband in Tibet, where he disappeared in 1958. (*Publishers Weekly* review, 2005)

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