

Book Discussion Kits - <http://www.piercecountylibrary.org>

by

*** Home to Holly Springs** by Jan Karon

Anticipating a relaxing retirement, Father Tim returns to his hometown for the first time in decades when he receives an anonymous summons, an event that leads to his discovery of long-buried secrets and new people. [Fiction 368 pages] [39093069922102] [Added]

*** John Adams** by David McCullough

Chronicles the life of America's second president, including his youth, his career as a Massachusetts farmer and lawyer, his marriage to Abigail, his rivalry with Thomas Jefferson, and his influence on the birth of the United States. [Nonfiction 768 pages] [39093069922110] [Added]

****Garlic and Sapphires: The Secret Life Of a Critic In Disguise (#2)** by Ruth Reichl

The editor-in-chief of "Gourmet" recounts her visits to some of the world's most acclaimed restaurants, both as herself and as an anonymous diner in disguise, to offer insight into the differences in her dining experiences. [Nonfiction 333 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093064986631]

****In the Country Of Men** by Hisham Matar

A moving story of Libyan strongman Khadafy's 1969 September revolution as witnessed by nine-year-old Suleiman whose family becomes a target of the brutal regime. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added 2/10] [39093047156872]

****Inheritance of Loss** by Kiran Desai

**In the Himalayan mountains, an embittered old judge, his orphaned granddaughter, and his cook witness the Nepalese insurgency that causes all their lives to descend into chaos. [Fiction 384 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093047176326]

****Kite Runner** by Khaled Hosseini

Two motherless boys, Amir and Hassan, grow up together in Kabul, Afghanistan. A crime of violence changes their friendship. Later, as an adult, the cowardly Amir tries to learn the fate of Hassan's son. [Nonfiction 160 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093047156963]

****Maytrees: A Novel** by Annie Dillard

Sharing a simple life with his wife and young son in the post-war artist community of his childhood, free-thinking poet Toby Maytree is aided with child-care responsibilities by close friend Deary, who years later comes between Toby and his wife. [Fiction 224 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047175229]

****Memory Keeper's Daughter (#2)** by Kim Edwards

When bad weather keeps Norah from giving birth to twins at the hospital, her husband decides to give the second baby, a girl with Down syndrome, to his nurse. While ultimately hopeful, this novel tells much of the dark side of human understanding and relationships. [Fiction 401 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093047174594]

****Mountains Beyond Mountains (#2)** by Tracy Kidder

Paul Farmer--doctor, Harvard professor, renowned infectious-disease specialist, anthropologist, recipient of a MacArthur "genius" grant--found his life's calling in medical school: to diagnose and cure infectious diseases and to bring the lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most. [Nonfiction 301 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093047159348]

****Nineteen Minutes (#1)** by Jodi Picoult

Sterling is a small, ordinary New Hampshire town where nothing ever happens--until a student enters the local high school with an arsenal of guns and starts shooting, changing the lives of everyone inside and out. The daughter of the judge sitting on the case is the state's best witness, but she can't remember what happened in front of her own eyes. Or can she? [Fiction 480 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093047157136]

****Right Of Thirst** by Frank Huyler

Volunteering to assist earthquake relief efforts in an impoverished Islamic country after the shattering death of his wife, successful cardiologist Charles Anderson encounters life-threatening hostilities when the refugees he expects do not appear and the area where he is stationed comes under fire. [Fiction 355 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159553]

****Story of Edgar Sawtelle (#2)** by David Wroblewski

Edgar, a speech-disabled, Wisconsin youth, bonds with three yearling canines while he struggles to prove that his sinister uncle is responsible for his father's death. [Fiction 576 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093063349757]

****Story of Edgar Sawtelle (#3)** by David Wroblewski

Edgar, a speech-disabled, Wisconsin youth, bonds with three yearling canines while he struggles to prove that his sinister uncle is responsible for his father's death. [Fiction 576 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093047174636]

****Time Traveler's Wife** by Audrey Niffenegger

Henry De Tamble is a Chicago librarian with "Chrono Displacement" disorder; at random times, he suddenly disappears without warning and finds himself in the past or future, usually at a time or place of importance in his life. This leads to some wonderful and frustrating occasions, for Henry to meet his wife, Clare. [Fiction 537 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093063352199]

****Water for Elephants (#1)** by Sara Gruen

As a young man, Jacob Jankowski was tossed by fate onto a rickety train that was home to the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth. A veterinary student just shy of a degree, he was put in charge of caring for the circus menagerie. It was there that he met Marlena, the beautiful equestrian star married to August, the charismatic but twisted animal trainer. And he met Rosie, an untrainable elephant who was the great gray hope for this third-rate traveling show. The bond that grew among this unlikely trio was one of love and trust, and, ultimately, it was their only hope for survival. [Fiction 331 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093063349906]

19th Wife by David Ebershoff

The story of Ann Eliza Young's crusade against polygamy intertwines with a tale of murder involving a polygamist family in present-day Utah. [Fiction 544 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066792037]

Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian by Alexie Sherman

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town

school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. [Fiction 288 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093047176383]

Alchemist (#1) by Paulo Coelho

Follow Santiago, a Spanish shepherd boy who leaves home in search of treasure, and who finds rewards more fulfilling than any object ever dreamed of. [Fiction 174 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093063349609]

Alchemist (#2) by Paulo Coelho

Follow Santiago, a Spanish shepherd boy who leaves home in search of treasure, and who finds rewards more fulfilling than any object ever dreamed of. [Fiction 174 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063352868]

Alias Grace by Margaret Eleanor Atwood

Based on the true story of Grace Marks, a 16-year-old Canadian housemaid convicted of murder in 1843 who spent the next 30 years in an assortment of jails and asylums, where she was often exhibited as a star attraction. Dr. Simon Jordan, engaged by a group of reformers and spiritualists who seek a pardon for Grace, listens to the prisoner's tale with a mixture of sympathy and disbelief, and uses the tools of the then rudimentary science of psychology. Booker Prize Finalist. [Fiction 468 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093063349591]

Amigoland by Oscar Casares

Encouraged by a housekeeper to make amends with the brother with whom he has shared a long estrangement, Don Celestino liberates Don Fidencio from a nursing home and goes to Mexico to investigate a family legend at the heart of their dispute. [Fiction 384 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066789017]

Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons by Lorna Landvik

Join the five women who form this book club and share the triumphs, tragedies, hardships, joys and sorrows of their lives over the course of 30 years. [Fiction 404 pages] [39093063349625]

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life by Barbara Kingsolver

Follows the author's family's efforts to live on locally- and home-grown foods, an endeavor through which they learned lighthearted truths about food production and the connection between health and diet. [Nonfiction 370 pages] [Added September 2011] [39093070002423]

Annie Freeman's Fabulous Traveling Funeral by Kris Radish

Katherine Givens, a corporate attorney and divorced mother of one, finds her uneventful life turned upside down when she receives an unexpected bequest from her late friend, Annie G. Freeman, taking her and four other women on a wild and life-transforming road trip from the deserts of New Mexico to the shores of Lake Superior, as they celebrate the bonds of female friendship. [Fiction 352 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063352876]

Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein

Told through the thoughts of the family dog, Stein's novel follows the affecting tale of Denny, a widower attempting to become a race-car champion even as he cares for his precious daughter and their beloved pet. [Fiction 368 pages] [Added 7/10] [39093047156997]

Atmospheric Disturbances by Rivka Galchen

In the aftermath of his wife Rema's disappearance, Dr. Leo Liebenstein is baffled by the apparent substitution of a woman who looks, talks, and behaves exactly like Rema, a situation that prompts the doctor's quixotic journey in search of his real wife. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063352314]

Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction by David Sheff

The story of one teenager's descent into methamphetamine addiction is told from his father's point of view, describing how a varsity athlete and honor student became addicted to the dangerous drug and its impact on his family. [Biography 336 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093066792326]

Bee Season by Myla Goldberg

Nine-year-old Eliza Naumann, a mediocre student, wins a statewide spelling bee which results in dramatic repercussions for the Naumanns. An exploration of a child's need for acceptance and the meaning of family. [Fiction 288 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093047176292]

Bel Canto by Anne Patchett

A very special birthday party is planned for Mr. Hosokawa, a well-connected Japanese businessman, now working in an unnamed South American country. At the home of the country's vice president, opera singer Roxane Cos will be performing for him and his guests, but armed revolutionaries invade the premises and hold the party goers hostage. As time passes in stalemated negotiations, Roxane gives daily concerts which form a background to Patchett's lyrical treatment of culture, communication, politics, and relationships. [Fiction 318 pages] [39093063353635]

Beneath a Marble Sky: A Novel of the Taj Mahal (#1) by John Shors

In seventeenth-century India, Princess Jahara tells the story of her parents mesmerizing love story, as her father, the reigning emperor, commissions the building of the Taj Mahal as a testament to the marvel of his love for his recently dead wife. [Fiction 368 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093063353619]

Beneath a Marble Sky: A Novel of the Taj Mahal (#2) by John Shors

In seventeenth-century India, Princess Jahara tells the story of her parents mesmerizing love story, as her father, the reigning emperor, commissions the building of the Taj Mahal as a testament to the marvel of his love for his recently dead wife. [Fiction 368 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093047157110]

Big Burn: Teddy Roosevelt and the Fire That Saved America (#1) by Timothy Egan

Narrates the struggles of the overmatched rangers against the implacable fire of August, 1910, and Teddy Roosevelt's pioneering conservation efforts that helped turn public opinion permanently in favor of the forests, though it changed the mission of the forest service with consequences felt in the fires of today. [Nonfiction 283 pages] [Added September 2011] [39093070018817]

Big Burn: Teddy Roosevelt and the Fire That Saved America (#2) by Timothy Egan

Narrates the struggles of the overmatched rangers against the implacable fire of August, 1910, and Teddy Roosevelt's pioneering conservation efforts that helped turn public opinion permanently in favor of the forests, though it changed the mission of the forest service with consequences felt in the fires of today. [Nonfiction 283 pages] [Added October 2011] [39093070018825]

Big Stone Gap by Adriana Trigiani

Ave Maria Mulligan, spinster at thirty-five, lives in the Blue Ridge Mountains, enjoying small-town life. She discovers that she's not who she always thought she was, and starts coping with marriage proposals, greedy family members, and the trip of a lifetime in this heart warming and humorous tale. [Fiction 272 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093047176318]

Blessings of the Animals by Katrina Kittle

In the aftermath of a divorce, veterinarian Cami Anderson is surrounded by couples approaching different milestones in their relationships, and must also contend with her animal patients, all while trying to move on with her life. [Fiction 428 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066792318]

Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking by Malcolm Gladwell

How do we think without thinking, seem to make choices in an instant--in the blink of an eye--that actually aren't as simple as they seem? Why are some people brilliant decision makers, while others are consistently inept? Drawing on cutting-edge neuroscience and psychology, the author reveals that great decision makers aren't those who process the most information or spend the most time deliberating, but those who have perfected the art of filtering the very few factors that matter from an overwhelming number of variables. [Nonfiction 320 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066792011]

Bold Spirit (#1) by Linda Lawrence Hunt

This is the forgotten story of Helga Estby and her daughter, Clara, who leave Spokane in 1896 to walk to New York City on a \$10,000 wager. The money, if won, will prevent the loss of the family homestead. The women face extreme cold and heat, hunger and exposure on their way east across Victorian America. [Nonfiction 301 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093047156807]

Bold Spirit (#2) by Linda Lawrence Hunt

This is the forgotten story of Helga Estby and her daughter, Clara, who leave Spokane in 1896 to walk to New York City on a \$10,000 wager. The money, if won, will prevent the loss of the family homestead. The women face extreme cold and heat, hunger and exposure on their way east across Victorian America. [Nonfiction 301 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063353486]

Bone People by Keri Hulme

A silver haired mute, an abused orphan, a laborer heavy with sustained loss, and a brilliant introspective recluse discover, after enormous struggle through injury and illness, what it means to lose and then regain a family. [Fiction 464 pages] [Added 2/10] [39093047171913]

Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors. [Fiction 576 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093068908144]

Border Songs by Jim Lynch

An extremely tall dyslexic is pushed away from his family's Washington dairy farm to join the Border Patrol, where he indulges his obsessions with birds and art while occasionally catching smugglers and illegal immigrants on the British Columbian border. [Fiction 304 pages] [Added March 2011] [39083066792300]

Breakfast With Buddha by Roland Merullo

At the behest of his sister, Otto Ringling finds himself reluctantly accompanying her guru, an enigmatic Mongolian monk, on a trip through Middle America to their childhood home, introducing his passenger to some American "fun" along the way. [Fiction 320 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159256]

Brief Wondrous Life Of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz

Living with an old-world mother and rebellious sister, an urban New Jersey misfit dreams of becoming the next J. R. R. Tolkien and believes that a long-standing family curse is thwarting his efforts to find love and happiness. [Fiction 336 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093064984594]

Broken for You by Stephanie Kallos

Elderly Margaret Hughes finds that she has a malignant brain tumor and refuses treatment, deciding instead to take a boarder, Wanda Schultz, into her huge Seattle mansion. The two discover the joys of breaking antique china, and slowly build a friendship in this household of eccentric boarders. [Fiction 371 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093047156815]

Burnt Shadows by Kamila Shamsie

Two years after her prospects are shattered by the bombing of Nagasaki, Hiroko Tanaka travels to Delhi in search of new beginnings and arrives in the home of her ex-fiance's half-sister, but she finds her circumstances halted by conflicts in the Middle East that prompt her family's eventual relocation to America. [Fiction 370 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066792334]

Camel Bookmobile (#1) by Masha Hamilton

Wanting to do something that matters, Fiona Sweeney, chooses to start a traveling library in the arid Kenyan bush. Encumbered by Western values, Fi struggles to understand the people she seeks to help. [Fiction 308 pages] [Added 9/10] [39093047157128]

Camel Bookmobile (#2) by Masha Hamilton

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Cane River by Lolita Tademy

Based on the author's own search of her family's past, "Cane River" is an epic novel based on the lives of four generations of African-American women from the early days of slavery through the Civil War and into a pre-Civil Rights South. [Fiction 560 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093063351985]

Caramelo by Sandra Cisneros

The multi generational story of a working-class immigrant Mexican family is told through the eyes of granddaughter Lala. The experience of being a child of immigrants is told lovingly and with humor and in a language filled with images of Mexico and 1950s and '60s America. [Fiction 443 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093063349617]

Change Of Heart by Jodi Picoult

Her life shattered by a devastating act of violence, June Nealon is forced to make a pivotal choice that involves her

twelve-year-old daughter and a salvation-seeking criminal. [Fiction 447 pages] [Added September 2011] [39093070008966]

Chasing Fireflies by Charles Martin

A woman on a suicide run kicks her abused son out of the car. The little boy, apparently mute, is an artistic prodigy who excels at chess. When paramedics find the malnourished six-year-old boy near a burning car that holds a dead woman, they wonder who he is and why he won't talk. Chase, a small-town journalist, is assigned to cover the story and investigate the boy's identity. But will his search unearth long-buried emotions about his own history? [Fiction 342 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093047156823]

Children Of Hurin by J.R.R. Tolkien

A fantasy adventure saga set in the early days of Middle-Earth features humans and elves, dwarves and dragons, orcs and dark sorcerers clashing in an epic battle between good and evil. [Fiction 313 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093064984578]

Christine Falls by Benjamin Black

One night, Quirke shuffles down into the morgue where he works and finds his brother-in-law, altering a file, tampering with a corpse, and concealing the cause of death. As Quirke reluctantly presses on toward the true facts behind the corpse's death, he comes up against some insidious--and very well-guarded--secrets of Dublin's high Catholic society, among them members of his own family. [Fiction 384 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093063349559]

City of Thieves by David Benioff

Documenting his grandparents' experiences during the siege of Leningrad, a young writer learns his grandfather's story about how a military deserter and he tried to secure pardons by gathering hard-to-find ingredients for a powerful colonel's daughter's wedding cake. [Fiction 258 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159611]

Coldwater Revival by Nancy Jo Jenkins

Young Emma Grace is supposed to be watching over her little brother, but he dies when he falls down a well. Emma Grace struggles with despair and grief, angry with God until He compassionately restores and heals her troubled life. [Fiction 312 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047159546]

Complete Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi

A graphic novel set in Iran when the hated Shah is defeated in the Iranian Revolution of 1979. Now ruled by Islamic fundamentalists, Marji grows up to witness first hand how the new Iran has become a repressive tyranny on its own, and how equally difficult it can be in another country when her parents send her abroad to study in Vienna. [Fiction 341 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093063350268]

Confessions Of An Ugly Stepsister by Gregory Maguire

A retelling of the classic fairy tale of Cinderella, told from the point of view of one of the ugly stepsisters, turns the entire legend around in a thoughtful look at what it means to be beautiful. [Fiction 368 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093066788712]

Corrections by Jonathan Franzen

What appears as a typical Midwestern family is anything but as preparations are made for an ideal family holiday. Alfred, the father is losing his fight to control Parkinson's disease and dementia. His wife, Enid is no longer in control of her household and feels her choices slipping away. Their three grown children are struggling with their own lives. But for this Christmas, Enid is determined to bring them together for the perfect family holiday. [Fiction 576 pages] [Added March 2011] [39093066792060]

Cost by Roxana Robinson

Hoping to reconnect with her repressive neurosurgeon father and Alzheimer's patient mother during a summer in Maine, art professor Julia Lambert is shattered by her son's heroin addiction and marshals help from their scattered family in order to save him, with unexpected results. [Fiction 448 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047171897]

Couch: A Novel by Benjamin Parzybok

Thom is a computer geek whose hacking of a certain Washington-based software giant has won him a little fame but few job prospects. Eric is a small-time con man who is never quite quick enough on his feet. Their roommate, Tree, is a confused clairvoyant whose dreams and prophecies may not be completely off-base. After a freak accident floods their apartment, the three roommates are evicted, along with their couch. The real problem? The couch - huge and orange - won't let them put it down. Soon Thom, Eric and Tree find themselves heading far out of Portland: by sea. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159587]

Crashing Through: A True Story of Risk, Adventure, and the Man Who Dared to See (#1) by Robert Kurson

Blinded in a childhood accident, Mike May never hesitated to try anything—driving a motorcycle, hiking alone in the woods, downhill skiing—until the day, when May was 46, an ophthalmologist told him a new stem-cell and cornea transplant could restore his vision. May went forward, only to find that, even though his eye was now perfect, his brain had forgotten how to process visual input. Fascinated by colors and patterns, he had difficulty discerning facial features, letters, even men from women. How May adjusts to his medical miracle, living with the disappointments as well as the joys, makes for a remarkable story of courage and endurance. [Nonfiction 306 pages] [39093064978059]

Crashing Through: A True Story of Risk, Adventure, and the Man Who Dared to See (#2) by Robert Kurson

Blinded in a childhood accident, Mike May never hesitated to try anything—driving a motorcycle, hiking alone in the woods, downhill skiing—until the day, when May was 46, an ophthalmologist told him a new stem-cell and cornea transplant could restore his vision. May went forward, only to find that, even though his eye was now perfect, his brain had forgotten how to process visual input. Fascinated by colors and patterns, he had difficulty discerning facial features, letters, even men from women. How May adjusts to his medical miracle, living with the disappointments as well as the joys, makes for a remarkable story of courage and endurance. [Nonfiction 306 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063353494]

Crescent by Diana Abu-Jaber

A multidimensional love story set in the Arab-American community of Los Angeles. Single and working as a chef, Sirine falls in love in this sensuous and gripping tale. [Fiction 349 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093047156831]

Crimson Portrait by Jody Shields

On a country estate not far from London in 1915 a young woman mourns the loss of her husband, fallen on a distant battlefield. Her grief is interrupted as her home is transformed into a bustling military hospital to serve the wars most irreparably injured. The young widow finds solace in the company of a wounded soldier whose face she cannot see. [Fiction 320 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093047171921]

Cutting For Stone by Abraham Verghese

Twin brothers born from a secret love affair between an Indian nun and a British surgeon in Addis Ababa, Marion and Shiva Stone come of age in an Ethiopia on the brink of revolution, where their love for the same woman drives them apart. [Fiction 658 pages] [Added November 2011] [39093070008974]

Day After Night by Anita Diamant

A tale inspired by the post-Holocaust experience is set in an immigrant holding camp in 1945 Palestine, where four women, refugees from Nazi Europe, find healing in the bonds of friendship that are forged while recounting their losses. [Fiction 320 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066788985]

Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America by Erik Larson

Erik Larson takes readers into a richly complex moment in American history, a moment that would draw together the best and worst of the Gilded Age, the grandeur and triumph of the human imagination, and the poverty, violence, and depravity that surrounded it. [Nonfiction 447 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093047156849]

Down the Nile: Alone In a Fisherman's Skiff by Rosemary Mahoney

Documents the author's dangerous voyage by seven-foot skiff down the Egyptian Nile, during which she faced civil unrest, local disapproval about women traveling alone, wild animals, harsh climate, and the unlikely assistance of a kind Muslim sailor. [Nonfiction 288 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047176375]

Dreamers Of the Day by Mary Doria Russell

A forty-year-old schoolteacher from Ohio still reeling from the tragedies of the Great War and the influenza epidemic comes into a modest inheritance that allows her to take the trip of a lifetime to Egypt and the Holy Land. Arriving at the Semiramis Hotel, site of the 1921 Cairo Peace Conference, she meets Winston Churchill, T. E. Lawrence, and Lady Gertrude Bell. With her plainspoken American opinions, she becomes a sounding board for these historic luminaries who will, in the space of a few days, invent the nations of Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, and Jordan. While neither a pawn or a participant at the conference, she is drawn into the geopolitical intrigue surrounding the conference. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063349534]

Dress Lodger by Sheri Holman

In a novel set in the filth and depravity of London's mean streets during the Industrial Revolution, a prostitute borrows a blue dress to attract a higher class of client and is shadowed through the streets by an evil old woman hired by the dress' owner to keep an eye on her. [Fiction 291 pages] [Added December 2011] [39093069904472]

Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert

The author made the difficult choice to leave behind all the trappings of modern American success (marriage, house in the country, career) and find, instead, what she truly wanted from life. She sets out for a year to study three different aspects of her nature amid three different cultures. [Nonfiction 334 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093047159363]

Elegance Of the Hedgehog (#1) by Muriel Barbery

The lives of fifty-four-year-old concierge Rene Michel and extremely bright, suicidal twelve-year-old Paloma Josse are transformed by the arrival of a new tenant, Kakuro Ozu. [Fiction 325 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159629]

Elegance Of the Hedgehog (#2) by Muriel Barbery

The lives of fifty-four-year-old concierge Rene Michel and extremely bright, suicidal twelve-year-old Paloma Josse are transformed by the arrival of a new tenant, Kakuro Ozu. [Fiction 325 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159637]

Emperor of Ocean Park by Stephen Carter

The world of Talcott Garland, an African American law professor at an Ivy League law school, is jarred by the death of his father, Judge Oliver Garland. Talcott's sister decides that the judge was the victim not of a heart attack but of foul play. When two other people turn up dead Talcott pays attention to his sister's theories, learning secrets from his father's professional life. The author, in beautifully paced prose, challenges the reader's thoughts on the interaction of power and society. [Fiction 657 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093063353643]

Enchantress Of Florence by Salman Rushdie

A traveler from Italy arrives at the court of Emperor Akbar, lord of the Mughal empire, and entertains him with a story about Akbar's great aunt, Qara Kz, the enchantress of Florence: a tale which suggests a larger, secret history interconnecting East and West. [Fiction 368 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063352322]

Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew -- Three Women Search for Understanding by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, Priscilla Warner

Traces how three American women of different faiths worked together to understand one another while identifying the connections between Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, during which they openly discussed the issues that divided them. [Nonfiction 293 pages] [Added October 2011] [39093070004700]

Financial Lives of the Poets by Jess Walters

Matt Prior is losing his job, his wife, and his house, and he's about to lose his mind--until he discovers a way that he might possibly be able to save it all. [Fiction 320 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066792045]

Firemaster's Mistress by Christie Dickason

A tale inspired by the rule of James I finds former lovers Francis, a fireworks artist, and Kate, an impoverished glove maker whom Francis abandoned before plague devastated her family, thrown together amid conspiracies involving the persecution of Catholics and Guy Fawkes's plot to blow up Parliament. [Fiction 544 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093064972581]

Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton

Abandoned on a 1913 voyage to Australia, Nell is raised by a dock master and his wife who do not tell her until she is an adult that she is not their child, leading Nell to return to England and eventually hand down her quest for answers to her granddaughter. [Fiction 480 pages] [Added April 2011] [39093068921584]

Freakonomics by Steven D. Levitt & Stephen J. Dubner

The author offers his view of how the economy really works, examining issues from cheating and crime to sports and child-rearing, offering a very different view on what drives the economy. [Nonfiction 315 pages] [Added November 2011] [39093069901049]

French Gardener by Santa Montefiore

Leaving London to move into a beautiful house in the country, Miranda and David find their marriage succumbing to long-standing conflicts until a mysterious Frenchman arrives to tend their garden, bringing with him a healing energy that is drawn from nature. [Fiction 406 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159280]

Friday Night Knitting Club by Kate Jacobs

Gathering for their weekly knitting club at a small yarn shop on Manhattan's Upper West Side, a group of friends shares such challenges as raising children, navigating the ups and downs of their careers, and pursuing uncertain relationships. [Fiction 384 pages] [Added March 2011] [39093066792029]

Friday Nights (#1) by Joanna Trollope

Gathering weekly to commiserate over their relationships, careers, and hardships, six women find their circle changing significantly when one of their number meets an enigmatic man who inadvertently tests their closely forged bond. [Fiction 336 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093063352330]

Friday Nights (#2) by Joanna Trollope

Gathering weekly to commiserate over their relationships, careers, and hardships, six women find their circle changing significantly when one of their number meets an enigmatic man who inadvertently tests their closely forged bond. [Fiction 336 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064988991]

Garden Spells by Sarah Addison Allen

A successful caterer in Bascomb, North Carolina, Claire has always remained tied to the legacy of the Waverly family, until her peaceful life is transformed by Tyler Hughes, an art teacher and new next-door neighbor, and by the return of her prodigal sister, Sydney. [Fiction 290 pages] [Added December 2011] [39093070008982]

Garlic and Sapphires: The Secret Life Of a Critic In Disguise (#1) by Ruth Reichl

The editor-in-chief of "Gourmet" recounts her visits to some of the world's most acclaimed restaurants, both as herself and as an anonymous diner in disguise, to offer insight into the differences in her dining experiences. [Nonfiction 333 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093064984602]

Girl Who Played With Fire (Kit #1) by Stieg Larsson

Two reporters responsible for a sex-trafficking expose are murdered, and the fingerprints on the murder weapon belong to Lisbeth Salander, prompting the magazine's publisher, Mikael Blomkvist, to launch his own investigation to vindicate Salander. [Fiction 630 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093066791989]

Girl Who Played With Fire (Kit #2) by Stieg Larsson

Two reporters responsible for a sex-trafficking expose are murdered, and the fingerprints on the murder weapon belong to Lisbeth Salander, prompting the magazine's publisher, Mikael Blomkvist, to launch his own investigation to vindicate Salander. [Fiction 630 pages] [Added March 2011] [39093066792003]

Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (Kit #1) by Stieg Larsson

Forty years after the disappearance of Harriet Vanger from the secluded island owned and inhabited by the powerful Vanger family, her octogenarian uncle hires journalist Mikael Blomkvist and Lisbeth Salander, an unconventional young hacker, to investigate. [Fiction 480 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064992035]

Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (Kit #2) by Stieg Larsson

Forty years after the disappearance of Harriet Vanger from the secluded island owned and inhabited by the powerful Vanger family, her octogenarian uncle hires journalist Mikael Blomkvist and Lisbeth Salander, an unconventional young hacker, to investigate. [Fiction 480 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093066792557]

Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (Kit #3) by Stieg Larsson

Forty years after the disappearance of Harriet Vanger from the secluded island owned and inhabited by the powerful Vanger family, her octogenarian uncle hires journalist Mikael Blomkvist and Lisbeth Salander, an unconventional young hacker, to investigate. [Fiction 480 pages] [Added July 2011] [39093066792540]

Girl's Guide To Homelessness by Brianna Karp

Karp delivers a heartwrenching and darkly funny memoir about her experience becoming homeless after losing her corporate job in the Great Recession. [Nonfiction 334 pages] [Added November 2011] [39093069902856]

Girls From Ames: A Story Of Women and a Forty-Year Friendship by Jeffrey Zaslow

Looks at the lives, bonds, and experiences of a group of female friends from Ames, Iowa. [Nonfiction 330 pages] [Added October 2011] [39093070002381]

Glass Castle (#1) by Jeanette Walls

Memoir about a writer's troubled childhood where here parents left their offspring to raise themselves. Despite poverty and shocking neglect, Walls writes of her love for her deeply flawed parents and recollects occasionally wonderful times. [Biography 288 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093063353627]

Glass Castle (#2) by Jeanette Walls

Memoir about a writer's troubled childhood where here parents left their offspring to raise themselves. Despite poverty and shocking neglect, Walls writes of her love for her deeply flawed parents and recollects occasionally wonderful times. [Biography 288 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063352843]

God of Animals by Aryn Kyle

Based on the author's short story titled "The Foaling Season," the tale of rancher's daughter Alice Winston finds her helping to support the family business by boarding the horses of rich neighbors and leaving behind the innocence of her youth. [Fiction 320 pages] [Added March 2011] [39093068908094]

Gravedigger's Daughter by Joyce Carol Oates

Rebecca Schwart was born on the boat that brought her parents from Nazi Germany. When she was 13, her father kills her mother and nearly killed her, before killing himself. Years later, after being nearly beaten to death by the abusive man she married, she escapes with her son, taking a new name and starting a new life. [Fiction 582 Pages] [Added 3/10] [39093070011663]

Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society (#1) by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows

In 1946, writer Juliet Ashton finds inspiration for her next book in her correspondence with a native of Guernsey, who tells her

about the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, a book club born as an alibi during German occupation. [Fiction 288 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047175260]

Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society (#2) by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows

In 1946, writer Juliet Ashton finds inspiration for her next book in her correspondence with a native of Guernsey, who tells her about the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, a book club born as an alibi during German occupation. [Fiction 288 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093064978224]

Half Broke Horses: A True-Life Novel by Jeannette Walls

Presents a novel based on the life of the author's grandmother, Lily Casey Smith, who learned to break horses in childhood, journeyed five hundred miles as a teen to become a teacher, and ran a vast ranch in Arizona with her husband while raising two children. [Fiction 288 pages] [Added April 2011] [39093066792342]

Handmaid and the Carpenter by Elizabeth Berg

A new rendition of the Christmas story follows a young couple, Mary and Joseph, who are planning to be married, only to be confronted by an unexpected pregnancy that for Mary is a miracle and for Joseph, a challenge to his faith in his wife and in God. [Fiction 176 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063349542]

Happy Marriage by Rafael Yglesias

Enrique Sabas and his wife, Margaret, experience the highs and lows of a thirty-year marriage, beginning with a first encounter in Greenwich Village, the doubts that marked their middle years, and the final weeks of reconciliation before Margaret's death. [Fiction 384 pages] [Added March 2011] [39093066788969]

Heart In the Right Place (#1) by Carolyn Jourdan

When her mother has a heart attack, Carolyn comes home to help her father with his rural medical practice in the Tennessee mountains. As she watches her father work, she sees what making a difference really means. [Nonfiction 320 pages] [39093047156781]

Heart In the Right Place (#2) by Carolyn Jourdan

When her mother has a heart attack, Carolyn comes home to help her father with his rural medical practice in the Tennessee mountains. As she watches her father work, she sees what making a difference really means. [Nonfiction 320 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063353478]

Hearts of Horses by Molly Gloss

In the winter of 1917, with many of his regular hands off fighting in World War I, George Bliss hires young Martha Lessen, a female horse whisperer, to help gentle wild horses, and as she demonstrates her unique talent for dealing with damaged horses, gentles a horse for a dying man's son, and clashes with an abusive hired hand, she finds a sense of family and belonging. [Fiction 304 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047175237]

Heirloom: Notes From An Accidental Tomato Farmer (#1) by Tim Stark

Describes the author's journey from government consultant and unsuccessful writer to organic farmer whose farm does hundreds of thousands of dollars of business raising chili peppers, microgreens, and heirloom tomatoes. [Nonfiction 229 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159272]

Heirloom: Notes From An Accidental Tomato Farmer (#2) by Tim Stark

Describes the author's journey from government consultant and unsuccessful writer to organic farmer whose farm does hundreds of thousands of dollars of business raising chili peppers, microgreens, and heirloom tomatoes. [Nonfiction 229 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064993660]

Help (#1) by Kathryn Stockett

Limited and persecuted by racial divides in 1962 Jackson, Mississippi, three women, including an African-American maid, her sassy and chronically unemployed friend, and a recently graduated white woman, team up for a clandestine project. [Fiction 464 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093066773615]

Help (#2) by Kathryn Stockett

Limited and persecuted by racial divides in 1962 Jackson, Mississippi, three women, including an African-American maid, her sassy and chronically unemployed friend, and a recently graduated white woman, team up for a clandestine project. [Fiction 464 pages] [Added July 2011] [390930]

Henry's Sisters by Cathy Lamb

"Ever since the Bommarito sisters were little girls, their mother, River, has written them a letter on pink paper when she has something especially important to impart. And this time, the message is urgent and impossible to ignore--River requires open-heart surgery, and Isabelle and her sisters are needed at home to run the family bakery and take care of their brother and ailing grandmother. Isabelle has worked hard to leave Trillium River, Oregon, behind as she travels the globe taking award-winning photographs. It's not that Isabelle hates her family. On the contrary, she and her sisters Cecilia, an outspoken kindergarten teacher, and Janie, a bestselling author, share a deep, loving bond. And all of them adore their brother, Henry, whose disabilities haven't stopped him from helping out at the bakery and bringing good cheer to everyone in town. But going home again has a way of forcing open the secrets and hurts that the Bommaritos would rather keep tightly closed--Isabelle's fleeting and too-frequent relationships, Janie's obsessive compulsive disorder, and Cecilia's self-destructive streak and grief over her husband's death. Working together to look after Henry and save their flagging bakery, Isabelle and her sisters begin to find answers to questions they never knew existed, unexpected ways to salve the wounds of their childhoods, and the courage to grasp surprising new chances at happiness. Poignant, funny, and as irresistible as one of the Bommarito sisters' delicious giant cupcakes, Henry's Sisters is a novel about family and forgiveness, about mothers and daughters, and about gaining the wisdom to look ahead while still holding tight to everything that matters most" -- from publisher's web site. [Fiction 352 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093064984560]

Her Fearful Symmetry by Audrey Niffenegger

When Elspeth Noblin dies, she leaves everything to the 20-year-old American twin daughters of her own long-estranged twin, Edie. Valentina and Julia, as enmeshed as Elspeth and Edie once were, move into Elspeth's London flat and through a series of developing relationships a crisis develops that could pull the twins apart. [Fiction 406 pages] [Added March 2011] [39093068908169]

Highest Tide by Jim Lynch

A 13-year-old with a passion for marine life comes of age during a summer of discovery on the tidal flats of Puget Sound.

Be prepared for poetic fireworks in the descriptions of the treasures in the sea. [Fiction 247 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093047156856]

History of Love by Nicole Krauss

Leo Gursky, a WWII refugee in New York deliberately draws attention to himself to be sure he exists. What's really missing in his life is the woman he has always loved, the son who doesn't know that Leo is his father, and his lost novel, called The History of Love. Teenager Alma Singer, who was named after the heroine of The History of Love, also faces loneliness. The lives of Gursky and Singer intertwine with surprising twists and turns. [Fiction 252 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093047171889]

Home by Marilynne Robinson

Returning to Gilead to care for her dying father, Glory Boughton is joined by her long-absent brother, with whom she bonds throughout his struggles with alcoholism, unemployment, and their father's traditionalist values. [Fiction 336 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047175245]

Home Cooking by Laurie Colwin

Essays as much about eating as cooking by this former columnist in "Gourmet". [Nonfiction 184 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093047171905]

Homecoming by Bernhard Schlink

A child of World War II, Peter Debauer grew up with his mother and scant memories of his father, a victim of war. Now an adult, Peter embarks upon a search for the truth surrounding his mother's unwavering--but shaky--history and the possibility of finding his missing father after all these years. [Fiction 272 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093047177712]

Honeymoon In Tehran: Two Years of Love and Danger In Iran by Azadeh Moaveni

The Iranian-American author describes her return to Iran as a reporter for "Time" magazine, her marriage to an Iranian man, the repressive Iranian society and its impact, and her family's decision to leave Iran. [Nonfiction 340 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093066792359]

Hotel On the Corner of Bitter and Sweet (#1) by Jamie Ford

When artifacts from Japanese families sent to internment camps during World War II are uncovered during renovations at a Seattle hotel, Henry Lee embarks on a quest that leads to memories of growing up Chinese in a city rife with anti-Japanese sentiment. [Fiction 285 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159298]

Hotel On the Corner of Bitter and Sweet (#2) by Jamie Ford

When artifacts from Japanese families sent to internment camps during World War II are uncovered during renovations at a Seattle hotel, Henry Lee embarks on a quest that leads to memories of growing up Chinese in a city rife with anti-Japanese sentiment. [Fiction 285 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159264]

Hotel On the Corner of Bitter and Sweet (#3) by Jamie Ford

When artifacts from Japanese families sent to internment camps during World War II are uncovered during renovations at a Seattle hotel, Henry Lee embarks on a quest that leads to memories of growing up Chinese in a city rife with anti-Japanese sentiment. [Fiction 285 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093066771908]

House At Riverton by Kate Morton

Living out her final days in a nursing home, ninety-eight-year-old Grace remembers the secrets surrounding the 1924 suicide of a young poet during a glittering society party hosted by Grace's English aristocrat employers, a family that is shattered by war. [Fiction 473 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093064984586]

Housekeeper And the Professor by Yoko Ogawa

A relationship blossoms between a brilliant math professor suffering from short-term memory problems following a traumatic head injury and the young housekeeper, the mother of a ten-year-old son, hired to care for him. [Fiction 180 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159314]

Hundred Thousand Kingdoms by N.K. Jemisin

Yeine Darr is an outcast from the barbarian north. But when her mother dies under mysterious circumstances, she is summoned to the majestic city of Sky. There, to her shock, Yeine is named an heiress to the king. But the throne of the Hundred Thousand Kingdoms is not easily won, and Yeine is thrust into a vicious power struggle with cousins she never knew she had. As she fights for her life, she draws ever closer to the secrets of her mother's death and her family's bloody history. [Fiction 432 pages] [Added April 2011] [39093068918416]

I Feel Bad About My Neck (#1) by Nora Ephron

Nora Ephron discusses everything - from how much she hates her purse to how much time she spends attempting to stop the clock: the hair dye, the treadmill, the lotions and creams that promise to slow the aging process but never do. Oh, and she can't stand the way her neck looks. But her dermatologist tells her there's no quick fix for that. [Nonfiction 160 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093047156864]

I Feel Bad About My Neck (#2) by Nora Ephron

Nora Ephron discusses everything - from how much she hates her purse to how much time she spends attempting to stop the clock: the hair dye, the treadmill, the lotions and creams that promise to slow the aging process but never do. Oh, and she can't stand the way her neck looks. But her dermatologist tells her there's no quick fix for that. [Nonfiction 160 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063349955]

Immortal Life Of Henrietta Lacks (Kit #1) by Rebecca Skloot

Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She 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. HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer and viruses; helped lead to in vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping; and have been bought and sold by the billions. Yet Henrietta Lacks is buried in an unmarked grave. Her family did not learn of her "immortality" until more than twenty years after her death, when scientists began using her husband and children in research without informed consent. The story of the Lacks family is inextricably connected to the dark history of experimentation on African Americans, the birth of bioethics, and the legal battles over whether we control the stuff we are made of--From publisher description. [Nonfiction 336 pages] [Added September 2011] [39093070009048]

Immortal Life Of Henrietta Lacks (Kit #2) by Rebecca Skloot

Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She 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. HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer and viruses; helped lead to in vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping; and have been bought and sold by the billions. Yet Henrietta Lacks is buried in an unmarked grave. Her family did not learn of her "immortality" until more than twenty years after her death, when scientists began using her husband and children in research without informed consent. The story of the Lacks family is inextricably connected to the dark history of experimentation on African Americans, the birth of bioethics, and the legal battles over whether we control the stuff we are made of--From publisher description. [Nonfiction 336 pages] [Added October 2011] [39093070009030]

In the Lake of the Woods by Tim O'Brien

John and Kathy Wade, whose marriage has been built on mutual deception, visit a Minnesota lake to try to sort things out, a difficult process made more so by Kathy's sudden disappearance. [Fiction 306 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093068918374]

In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez

A novel based on the true story of the Mirabel sisters, who along with their husbands, worked to form an underground resistance movement against the dictatorship of Rafael Leonidas Trujillo. [Fiction 325 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093063351019]

Infidel by Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Hirsi Ali's biographical story tells how a bright little girl evolved out of dutiful obedience to become an outspoken, pioneering freedom fighter. As Western governments struggle to balance democratic ideals with religious pressures, no story could be timelier or more significant.--From publisher description. [Nonfiction 384 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093047159249]

Into the Forest by Jean Hegland

Set in the near future, this novel focuses on the relationship between two teenage sisters struggling to survive alone in their northern California home as their modern society decays and collapses around them. As their resources run out the girls are forced to reexamine their place in the world and their relationship to each other. [Fiction 241 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093063352520]

Kabul Beauty School by Deborah Rodriguez and Kristin Ohlson

Soon after the fall of the Taliban, in 2001, Deborah Rodriguez went to Afghanistan as part of a humanitarian aid group. As a hairdresser she was eagerly sought out by Westerners and Afghan women desperate for a good haircut. Thus the idea for the Kabul Beauty School was born. Within that small haven, the line between teacher and student quickly blurred as these vibrant women shared with Rodriguez their true stories and their hearts. [Nonfiction 320 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093047156989]

Keeping the World Away by Margaret Forster

An intimate painting of a quiet corner of an attic room, created by Gwen, Rodin's lover, has a profound influence on several women whose lives it touches, including Gwen and Charlotte, a dreamy Edwardian intellectual. [Fiction 336 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093047171871]

Known World by Edward P. Jones

Henry Townsend, black farmer and former slave, is taught by William Robbins, the most powerful man in Manchester County, Virginia. When Robbins dies unexpectedly, his widow must rely on Townsend in this unflinching look at slavery. [Fiction 388 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093063349682]

Lacuna by Barbara Kingsolver

The story of Harrison William Shepherd, a man caught between two worlds -- Mexico and the United States in the 1930s, '40s, and '50s -- and whose search for identity takes readers to the heart of the twentieth century's most tumultuous events. [Fiction 544 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066788977]

Ladies Of Liberty: The Women Who Shaped Our Nation by Cokie Roberts

Cokie Roberts sheds new light on the generation of heroines, reformers, and visionaries who helped shape our nation with this blend of biographical portraits and behind-the-scenes vignettes chronicling women's public roles and private responsibilities. Drawing on personal correspondence, private journals, and other primary sources--many of them previously unpublished--Roberts brings to life the extraordinary accomplishments of women who laid the groundwork for a better society. Almost every quotation here is written by a woman, to a woman, or about a woman. From first ladies to freethinkers, educators to explorers, this exceptional group includes Abigail Adams, Margaret Bayard Smith, Martha Jefferson, Dolley Madison, Elizabeth Monroe, Louisa Catherine Adams, Eliza Hamilton, Theodosia Burr, Rebecca Gratz, Louisa Livingston, Rosalie Calvert, Sacajawea, and others.--From publisher description. [Nonfiction 336 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064990088]

Last Chinese Chef by Nicole Mones

When food writer, Maggie McElroy, goes to China to settle a claim against her late husband's estate, her magazine editor asks her to write about Sam, a half-Chinese American chef as he gears up for China's Olympic culinary competition. [Fiction 304 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093063349674]

Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw by Bruce Barcott

Describes the desperate efforts of a few determined villagers in Belize, led by Sharon Matola, a one-time circus performer who runs the Belize Zoo, to stop efforts to build a huge dam that would destroy one of Central America's great rivers and the last scarlet macaws in Belize, taking on the corrupt Belize government and big money corporations in the process. [Nonfiction 313 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047156799]

Last Time I Saw You by Elizabeth Berg

Attending a fortieth high school reunion at the sides of former classmates, Dorothy reconnects with old friends with whom she reevaluates her life, choices, and relationships. [Fiction 244 pages] [Added April 2011] [39093068918390]

Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines

A young illiterate African American man witnesses two black robbers kill a white store owner in Louisiana in the late 1940s, and he is the one convicted. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added November 2011] [39093070009071]

Little Bee by Chris Cleave

Presents a tale of a precarious friendship between an illegal Nigerian refugee and a recent widow from suburban London, a story told from the alternating and disparate perspectives of both women. [Fiction 304 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093066788993]

Little Giant of Aberdeen County by Tiffany Baker

A spellbindingly woven tale about a girl who grows physically and emotionally beyond her small town's wildest expectations. [Fiction 352 pages] [Added May 2011] [39093066792755]

Little Heathens, Hard Times and High Spirits (#1) by Mildred Armstrong Kalish

A compelling memoir of Mildred's hardscrabble life on an Iowa farm during the 1930s. With no electricity or indoor plumbing and with little heat or money on the farm, Mildred learns to find joy in the priceless blessings of life. [Nonfiction 292 pages] [Added 7/10] [39093047161054]

Little Heathens, Hard Times and High Spirits (#2) by Mildred Armstrong Kalish

A compelling memoir of Mildred's hardscrabble life on an Iowa farm during the 1930s. With no electricity or indoor plumbing and with little heat or money on the farm, Mildred learns to find joy in the priceless blessings of life. [Nonfiction 292 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093063353502]

Lizard Cage by Karen Connelly

Seven years into a 20 year sentence of solitary confinement for writing protest songs against the dictatorship of Burma, Teza uses Buddhist patience and humor to find meaning in the interminable days, and searches for news in every being and object that is grudgingly allowed into his cell. [Fiction 464 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093047159322]

Lonely Polygamist by Brady Udall

Golden Richards, a polygamist with four wives and twenty-eight children, has a midlife crisis affair that threatens to destroy his family's future. [Fiction 599 pages] [Added December 2011] [39093070008958]

Lottery (#1) by Patricia Wood

Raised by his grandmother after his parents abandoned him, 32-year-old Perry Crandall, with an IQ of 76, has always felt unwanted. Shortly after Gran dies Perry wins the lottery, and he must defend himself against his treacherous relatives who attempt to steal his fortune. [Fiction 318 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093063349666]

Lottery (#2) by Patricia Wood

Raised by his grandmother after his parents abandoned him, 32-year-old Perry Crandall, with an IQ of 76, has always felt unwanted. Shortly after Gran dies Perry wins the lottery, and he must defend himself against his treacherous relatives who attempt to steal his fortune. [Fiction 318 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063354336]

Love In the Driest Season by Neely Tucker

This true tale follows an American foreign correspondent and his wife's struggle to save the life of, and eventually adopt, an infant girl who was abandoned in conflict-torn Zimbabwe. [Nonfiction 269 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093064978216]

Love Medicine by Louise Erdrich

On a North Dakota Indian reservation, the lives of three women and their families intertwine through marriage and friendship. [Fiction 384 pages] [Added 2/10] [39093047156922]

Loving Frank by Nancy Horan

Fact and fiction blend in a historical novel that chronicles the relationship between seminal architect Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Cheney, from their meeting, when they were each married to another, to the clandestine affair that shocked Chicago society. [Fiction 384 pages] [Added July 2011] [39093068921568]

Luncheon of the Boating Party by Susan Vreeland

Renoir is inspired to paint "Luncheon of the boating party" when his other work is criticized by Emile Zola, and while doing so is drawn into lives of the thirteen people featured in it as they enjoy a Parisian summer during the late 1800s. [Fiction 448 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093047156880]

Madonnas of Leningrad by Debra Dean

Marina, an elderly Russian woman now living in the US, recalls her youth in war-torn Leningrad during the German siege of 1941 when as museum tour guide she joined other staff members in trying to save the museum's priceless masterpieces. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093063349658]

Maisie Dobbs by Jacqueline Winspear

Private detective Maisie Dobbs must investigate the reappearance of a dead man who turns up at a cooperative farm called the Retreat that caters to men who are recovering their health after World War I. [Fiction 292 pages] [Added December 2011] [39093070008941]

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson

Major Ernest Pettigrew (retired) leads a quiet life in the village of St. Mary, England, until his brother's death sparks an unexpected friendship with Mrs. Jasmina Ali, the Pakistani shopkeeper from the village. Drawn together by their shared love of literature and the loss of their respective spouses, the Major and Mrs. Ali soon find their friendship blossoming into something more. But will their relationship survive in a society that considers Ali a foreigner?. [Fiction 368 pages] [Added September 2011] [39093070002399]

Man Who Made Vermeers: Unvarnishing the Legend of Master Forger Han Van Meegeren by Jonathan Lopez

Looks at the life of Dutch painter Hans Van Meegeren, who emerges as an ingenious, dyed-in-the-wool crook who plied the forger's trade far longer than he ever admitted in a detailed story of deceit in the art world. [Nonfiction 340 pages] [Added May 2011] [39093068921550]

Mansfield Park by Jane Austen

At the age of ten, Fanny Price leaves the poverty of her Portsmouth home to be brought up among the family of her wealthy uncle, Sir Thomas Bertram, in the chilly grandeur of Mansfield Park. There she accepts her lowly status, and gradually falls in love with her cousin Edmund, in Austen's classic novel. [Fiction 454 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064974017]

Mao's Last Dancer by Li Cunxin

In a memoir of life in Maoist China, the author describes how he was taken from his family in rural China to study ballet in Beijing, his rise in the world of Chinese ballet, and his defection at age eighteen to the United States. [Nonfiction 480 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066788951]

Mary Modern by Camille DeAngelis

"Using a bloodstained scrap of an apron found in the attic, Lucy Morrigan, a young genetic researcher, successfully clones

her grandmother Mary. But rather than conjuring a new baby, Lucy brings to life a twenty-two-year-old Mary, who is confused and disoriented when she finds herself ... alive in a home that is no longer her own, surrounded by reminders of a life she has already lived but doesn't remember." [Fiction 368 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093047159595]

Memoirs Of a Geisha by Arthur Golden

Because her mother is dying and her father old, Chiyo, nine, is sold to a wealthy geisha house in Gion where she learns her trade and works it in the 1930s and 1940s. [Fiction 434] [Added April 2011][39093068908078]

Memory Keeper's Daughter (#1) by Kim Edwards

When bad weather keeps Norah from giving birth to twins at the hospital, her husband decides to give the second baby, a girl with Down syndrome, to his nurse. While ultimately hopeful, this novel tells much of the dark side of human understanding and relationships. [Fiction 401 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063350862]

Mennonite In a Little Black Dress: A Memoir Of Going Home by Rhonda Janzen

A poet describes how, after her husband left her for a relationship with a man and she subsequently was seriously injured in a car crash, she returned home to her close-knit Mennonite family and came to terms with her failed marriage and her choices in life. [Nonfiction 241 pages] [Added November 2011] [39093070004718]

Mister Pip by Lloyd Jones

On a copper-rich tropical island shattered by war, on which survival is a daily struggle, eccentric Mr. Watts, the only white man left after the other teachers flee, spends his day reading to the local children from Charles Dickens's classic "Great Expectations." [Fiction 256 pages] [Added January 2012] [39093070009063]

Monique And the Mango Rains: Two Years With a Midwife in Mali by Kris Holloway

What is it like to live and work in a remote corner of the world and befriend a courageous midwife who breaks traditional roles? This is the inspiring true story of Monique Dembele, an accidental midwife who became a legend, and Kris Holloway, the young Peace Corps volunteer who became her closest confidante. [Nonfiction 240 pages] [Added 7/10] [39093047156898]

Moon Looked Down by Dorothy Garlock

Shunned by her long-time neighbors at the height of World War II, German immigrant Sophie Heller finds her family wrongfully blamed for a tragic train accident and is unexpectedly defended by a handsome high-school teacher. [Fiction 400 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064990062]

Mountains Beyond Mountains (#1) by Tracy Kidder

Paul Farmer--doctor, Harvard professor, renowned infectious-disease specialist, anthropologist, recipient of a MacArthur "genius" grant--found his life's calling in medical school: to diagnose and cure infectious diseases and to bring the lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most. [Nonfiction 301 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093063350516]

Mudbound by Hillary Jordan

In 1946, Laura McAllan tries to adjust after moving with her husband and two children to an isolated cotton farm in the Mississippi Delta. [Fiction 324 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159561]

Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain by Oliver Sacks

Drawing on the individual experiences of patients, musicians, composers, and ordinary people, the author explores the complex human response to music, and how music can affect those suffering from a variety of ailments. [Nonfiction 400 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047174586]

My Abandonment by Peter Rock

Living with her father in a nature preserve in Portland, Oregon, thirteen-year-old Caroline only merges with the civilized world once a week when they go into the city, but an encounter with a backcountry jogger derails their entire existence. [Fiction 240 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093066792052]

My Life In France by Julia Child

Here is the captivating story of Julia Child's years in France, where she fell in love with French food and found "her true calling." From the moment she and her husband Paul, who worked for the USIS, arrived in the fall of 1948, Julia had an awakening that changed her life. Soon this tall, outspoken gal from Pasadena, California, who didn't speak a word of French and knew nothing about the country, was steeped in the language, chatting with purveyors in the local markets, and enrolled in the Cordon Bleu. She teamed up with two fellow gourmettes, Simone Beck and Louisette Bertholle, to help them with a book on French cooking for Americans. Filled with her husband's beautiful black-and-white photographs as well as family snapshots, this memoir is laced with wonderful stories about the French character, particularly in the world of food, and the way of life that Julia embraced so wholeheartedly. [Nonfiction 317 pages] [Added April 2011] [39093068908136]

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult

Anna was genetically engineered to be a match for her cancer-ridden older sister, but she rebels against becoming the kidney donor who will save her sister's life. [Fiction 423 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093063349641]

Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri

The Ganguli family leaves their tradition-bound life in Calcutta to settle in Cambridge, Massachusetts in this exploration of expectations and realities of immigrant life. [Fiction 291 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093047177696]

Netherland by Joseph O'Neill

Abandoned amid the offbeat inhabitants of the Chelsea Hotel when his English wife and son return to London following September 11th, Hans, a banker originally from the Netherlands, struggles to find himself in his adopted country. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159306]

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro

A reunion with two childhood friends--Ruth and Tommy--draws Kath and her companions on a nostalgic odyssey into the supposedly idyllic years of their lives at Hailsham, an isolated private school in the serene English countryside, and a dramatic confrontation with the truth about their childhoods and about their lives in the present. [Fiction 288 pages] [Added November 2011] [39093070009014]

Next Queen of Heaven by Gregory Maguire

As the new millennium approaches, the eccentric town of Thebes grows even stranger. Clocked by a Catholic statuette, Mrs. Leontina Scales begins speaking in tongues. Her daughter, Tabitha Scales, and her sons scheme to save their mother or surrender herto Jesus--whatever comes first. Meanwhile, choir director Jeremy Carr, caught between lust and ambition,

fumbles his way toward Y2K. Only a modern master like Gregory Maguire can spin a tale this frantic, funny, and farcical. The ancient Sisters of the Sorrowful Mysteries join with a gay singing group. The Radical Radiants battle the Catholics. A Christmas pageant goes horribly awry. And a child is born. THE NEXT QUEEN OF HEAVEN is Maguire's most imaginative story yet. [Fiction 304 pages] [Added May 2011] [39093068921543]

Nineteen Minutes by Jodi Picoult

Sterling is a small, ordinary New Hampshire town where nothing ever happens--until a student enters the local high school with an arsenal of guns and starts shooting, changing the lives of everyone inside and out. The daughter of the judge sitting on the case is the state's best witness, but she can't remember what happened in front of her own eyes. Or can she? [Fiction 480 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063354351]

No I Don't Want to Join a Book Club by Virginia Ironside

Marie Sharp is heading toward sixty, and after the excitement of the freewheeling sixties, she's ready to settle into a quiet, blissfully boring routine. No book clubs, Italian classes gym memberships or bicycle trips across Europe, Thank you very much! [Fiction 231 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093063349633]

Noah's Compass (Kit #1) by Anne Tyler

Preparing to retire early from an unfulfilling teaching job, Liam Pennywell struggles to recall missing memories of the night before he awoke in the hospital with a head injury, an effort that leads to unexpected discoveries. [Fiction 277 pages] [Added July 2011] [39093068918754]

Noah's Compass (Kit #2) by Anne Tyler

Preparing to retire early from an unfulfilling teaching job, Liam Pennywell struggles to recall missing memories of the night before he awoke in the hospital with a head injury, an effort that leads to unexpected discoveries. [Fiction 277 pages] [Added September 2011] [39093070002431]

Now You See Him by Eli Gottlieb

When his best friend from childhood murders his girlfriend and then commits suicide, Nick Framingham reevaluates his own life through his memories of their friendship and realizes unsettling truths about himself and their suburban New York community. [Fiction 262 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159579]

Olive Kitteridge (#1) by Elizabeth Strout

The world of Olive Kitteridge, a retired school teacher in a small coastal town in Maine, is revealed in stories that explore her diverse roles in many lives, including a lounge singer haunted by a past love, her stoic husband, and her own resentful son. [Fiction 228 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047174610]

Olive Kitteridge (#2) by Elizabeth Strout

The world of Olive Kitteridge, a retired school teacher in a small coastal town in Maine, is revealed in stories that explore her diverse roles in many lives, including a lounge singer haunted by a past love, her stoic husband, and her own resentful son. [Fiction 228 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093064988959]

Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals by Michael Pollan

What should we have for dinner? When you can eat just about anything nature (or the supermarket) has to offer, deciding what you should eat will inevitably stir anxiety, especially when some of the foods might shorten your life. Today, buffeted by one food fad after another, America is suffering from a national eating disorder. As the cornucopia of the modern American supermarket and fast food outlet confronts us with a bewildering and treacherous landscape, what's at stake becomes not only our own and our children's health, but the health of the environment that sustains life on earth. Pollan follows each of the food chains--industrial food, organic or alternative food, and food we forage ourselves--from the source to the final meal, always emphasizing our coevolutionary relationship with the handful of plant and animal species we depend on. The surprising answers Pollan offers have profound political, economic, psychological, and even moral implications for all of us. [Nonfiction 450 pages] [Added July 2011] [39093068908128]

One Thousand White Women by Jim Fergus

Based on an actual historical event, the story of a young woman, who in 1875, travels to the American West to marry Little Wolf, the chief of the Cheyenne nation is told in diary and letter form. [Fiction 302 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093047174602]

Out Stealing Horses (#1) by Per Petterson

Sixty-seven-year-old Trond Sander lives secluded in a far corner of Norway. Casting his mind back to 1948, he recalls a horse stealing prank with his best friend that turned tragic and changed his life forever. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093063349740]

Out Stealing Horses (#2) by Per Petterson

Sixty-seven-year-old Trond Sander lives secluded in a far corner of Norway. Casting his mind back to 1948, he recalls a horse stealing prank with his best friend that turned tragic and changed his life forever. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063352579]

Outliers: The Story of Success by Malcolm Gladwell

Identifies the qualities of successful people, posing theories about the cultural, family, and idiosyncratic factors that shape high achievers, in a resource that covers such topics as the secrets of software billionaires and why the Beatles earned their fame. [Nonfiction 320 pages] [Added August 2011] [39093070018833]

Oxygen by Carol Cassella

A tangled malpractice suit in the wake of an operating room disaster shatters the career and carefully constructed identity of anesthesiologist Marie Heaton, who also struggles with her recently blind father's increasing dependence. [Fiction 288 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159504]

Patron Saint of Liars by Ann Patchett

Pregnant and alone, Rose seeks sanctuary at St. Elizabeth's, a home for unwed mothers in Habit, Kentucky, where she at last finds a place to put down the roots she has never felt she had. [Fiction 336 pages] [Added May 2011] [39093068921592]

Peace Like a River by Leif Enger

Eleven-year-old Reuben Land, an asthmatic boy who is keenly aware of the gift of breath, journeys in the 1960's with his family to find his older brother. Their search of the North Dakota Badlands takes Rube on an unforgettable journey riddled with outlaw tales, heartfelt insights, and miracles. [Fiction 311 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064972177]

People Of the Book (#1) by Geraldine Brooks

Offered a coveted job to analyze and conserve a priceless Sarajevo Haggadah, Australian rare-book expert Hanna Heath discovers a series of tiny artifacts in the volume's ancient binding that reveal its historically significant origins. [Fiction 372 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047175211]

People Of the Book (#2) by Geraldine Brooks

Offered a coveted job to analyze and conserve a priceless Sarajevo Haggadah, Australian rare-book expert Hanna Heath discovers a series of tiny artifacts in the volume's ancient binding that reveal its historically significant origins. [Fiction 372 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064990104]

Physick Book Of Deliverance Dane by Katherine Howe

Forced to set aside her Ph.D. research in order to help the settling of her late grandmother's abandoned home, Connie Goodwin discovers a hidden key among her grandmother's possessions that is linked to a darker chapter in Salem witch trial history. [Fiction 368 pages] [Added January 2012] [39093070009022]

Plum Wine by Angela Davis-Gardner

Barbara Jefferson, a young American teaching in Tokyo in the 1960's, is set on a life-changing quest when her Japanese surrogate mother, Michi, dies, leaving her a tansu of homemade plum wine wrapped in rice paper. [Fiction 352 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093047156930]

Pope Joan by Donna Cross

For a thousand years men have denied her existence--Pope Joan, the woman who disguised herself as a man and rose to rule Christianity for two years. This novel animates the legend with a portrait of an unforgettable woman who struggles against restrictions her soul cannot accept. [Fiction 422 pages] [Added 2/10] [39093047156906]

Privileges by Jonathan Dee

Becoming wealthier and more socially connected throughout their marriage, Adam and Cynthia Morey also find themselves increasingly subject to the temptations of excess and risky behavior while their children struggle with their own privilege-based challenges. [Fiction 272 pages] [Added July 2011] [39093068918408]

Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio by Terry Ryan

The mother of ten children keeps poverty at bay by winning contests, in this true story of persistence and humor. [Nonfiction 351 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093047158266]

Reading Lolita in Tehran by Azar Nafisi

A professor invites seven of her best female students to attend a weekly study of great Western literature in her home. The women meet in secret, since the books they read were officially banned by the Iranian government. The meetings become a springboard for debating social, cultural, and political realities of living under strict Islamic rule. [Biography 347 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093047174578]

Red Queen by Philippa Gregory

Married to a man twice her age, quickly widowed, and a mother at only fourteen, Margaret Beaufort is determined to turn her lonely life into a triumph. She sets her heart on putting her son on the throne of England regardless of the cost to herself, England, and even her son. Disregarding rival heirs and the overwhelming power of the York dynasty, she names him Henry, like the king; sends him into exile; and pledges him in marriage to her enemy Elizabeth of York's daughter. [Fiction 382 pages] [Added January 2012] [39093070008933]

Red Tent by Anita Diamant

In a story based on the Book of Genesis, Jacob's only daughter, Dinah, through a hard-working youth, a calling to midwifery, and a new home in a foreign land, shares her unique perspectives on the origins of many of our modern religious practices and sexual politics, eager to impart the lessons in endurance and humanity she has learned from her father's wives. [Fiction 321 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093066791997]

Reliable Wife by Robert Goolrick

Ralph Truitt, a wealthy businessman with a troubled past who lives in a remote nineteenth-century Wisconsin town, has advertised for a reliable wife; and his ad is answered by Catherine Land, a woman who makes every effort to hide her own dark secrets. [Fiction 291 pages] [Added November 2011] [39093069901015]

Remarkable Creatures by Tracy Chevalier

When Mary Anning uncovers an unusual fossilized skeleton in the cliffs near her home on the English coast, she sets the religious fathers on edge, the townspeople to vicious gossip, and the scientific world alight. Luckily, Mary finds an unlikely champion in prickly Elizabeth Philpot, and in the struggle to be recognized in the wider world, Mary and Elizabeth discover that friendship is their greatest ally. [Fiction 320 pages] [Added August 2011] [39093068908086]

Remember Me? by Sophie Kinsella

Awakening in the hospital after a car crash believing that she is a single, twenty-five-year-old sales associate, Lexi discovers that she has lost three years in her life and she is married to a handsome millionaire, but her perfect new life soon begins to go awry. [Fiction 384 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093047175203]

Road by Cormac McCarthy

In a novel set in an indefinite, futuristic, post-apocalyptic world, a father and his young son make their way through the ruins of a devastated American landscape, struggling to survive and preserve the last remnants of their own humanity. [Fiction 287 pages] [Added January 2012] [39093070002373]

Room (Kit #1) by Emma Donoghue

A 5-year-old narrates a story about his life growing up in a single room where his mother aims to protect him from the man who has held her prisoner for seven years since she was a teenager. [Fiction 321 pages] [Added October 2011] [39093070004734]

Room (Kit #2) by Emma Donoghue

A 5-year-old narrates a story about his life growing up in a single room where his mother aims to protect him from the man who has held her prisoner for seven years since she was a teenager. [Fiction 321 pages] [Added October 2011] [39093070004726]

Rosewater and Soda Bread (#1) by Marsha Mehran

More than a year has passed since Marjan, Bahar and Layla, the beautiful Iranian Aminpour sisters, sought refuge in the quaint Irish town of Ballinacroagh, and opened up a Persian Café. When a young woman washes up on Clew Bay Beach, the sisters' worlds is once again turned upside down. [Fiction 290 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093047156971]

Rosewater and Soda Bread (#2) by Marsha Mehran

More than a year has passed since Marjan, Bahar and Layla, the beautiful Iranian Aminpour sisters, sought refuge in the quaint Irish town of Ballinacroagh, and opened up a Persian Café. When a young woman washes up on Clew Bay Beach, the sisters' worlds is once again turned upside down. [Fiction 290 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159645]

Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay

On the sixtieth anniversary of the 1942 roundup of Jews by the French police in the Vel d'Hiv section of Paris, American journalist Julia Jarmond is asked to write an article on this dark episode during World War II and embarks on investigation that leads her to long-hidden family secrets and to the ordeal of Sarah, a young girl caught up in the raid. [Fiction 293 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159330]

Saving CeeCee Honeycutt by Beth Hoffman

Relegated to the care of an eccentric great-aunt after her mentally unbalanced mother's accidental death, 12-year-old CeeCee is quickly surrounded by the strong women and cultural elements of her new Savannah community. [Fiction 320 pages] [Added May 2011] [39093068908060]

Saving the World by Julia Alvarez

While Alma Huebert is researching a new novel, she finds her real story—and her salvation—in a little-known but staggering historical footnote: the Royal Expedition of the Vaccine. In 1803, Don Francisco Balmis embarked on a two-year sea voyage to rescue the New World from smallpox. Accompanying him were twenty-two orphan boys, acting as live carriers, and their guardian, Isabel Sendales y Gómez. As Alma digs deeper into Isabel's life, she finds her own power to commit an act as life-changing as Isabel's. [Fiction 363 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093047174628]

Say You're One of Them by Uwen Akpan

A collection of tales about modern African children in crisis includes "An Ex-Mas Feast," in which an eight-year-old child shares in his family's sacrifices to obtain enough food and enable his education. [Fiction 240 pages] [Added April 2011] [39093066792763]

Scent of Rain and Lightning by Nancy Pickard

The man convicted of murdering Jody's father, Billy Crosby, is being released from prison and returning to the small town of Rose, Kansas. Crosby has been granted a new trial, thanks in large part to the efforts of his son, Collin, a lawyer who has spent most of his life trying to prove his father's innocence. As Jody revisits old wounds, startling revelations compel her to uncover the dangerous truth about her family's tragic past. [Fiction 330 pages] [Added January 2012] [39093070002449]

Sea, The by John Banville

Middle aged Max Morden mourns deeply the loss of his wife Anna. To escape overwhelming memories, Max retreats to the Cedars, a house that was the summer home of a family who strongly influenced him when he was a child. Max is morbid and melancholy as he mourns his loss and cannot cope with it. His daughter can see his angst but has no concept on how to return her dad to the living. This contemplative novel on memory won the Booker Prize. [Fiction 195 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093063351654]

Secret Diaries of Charlotte Bronte by Syrie James

Though poor, plain, and unconnected, Charlotte Bronte poses a deeply passionate side which she reveals only in her writings. It is the pages of her diary where Charlotte exposes her deepest feelings and desires--and the truth about her life, its triumphs and shattering disappointments, her family, the inspiration behind her work, her scandalous secret passion for the man she can never have--and her intense dramatic relationship with the man she comes to love, the enigmatic Arthur Bell Nicholls. [Fiction 454 pages] [Added May 2011] [39093068921576]

Secret Son by Laila Lalami

Follows Youssef El Mekki's journey from a childhood in poverty with his mother on the streets of Casablanca to a life of luxury with his father and back again. [Fiction 291 pages] [Added January 2012] [39093069901023]

Serena by Ron Rash

Traveling to the mountains of 1929 North Carolina to forge a timber business with her new husband, Serena Pemberton champions her mastery of harsh natural and working conditions but turns murderous when she learns she cannot bear children. [Fiction 367 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159512]

Shack by William P. Young

Four years after his daughter is abducted and evidence of her murder is found in an abandoned shack, Mackenzie Allen Philips returns to the shack in response to a note claiming to be from God, and has a life-changing experience. [Fiction 266 pages] [Added May 2011] [39093066792375]

Shanghai Girls by Lisa See

Forced to leave Shanghai when their father sells them to California suitors, sisters May and Pearl struggle to adapt to life in 1930s Los Angeles while still bound to old customs, as they face discrimination and confront a life-altering secret. [Fiction 336 pages] [Added August 2011] [39093068908110]

Sing Them Home by Stephanie Kallos

This novel is a portrait of three siblings who have lived in the shadow of unresolved grief since their mother's disappearance when they were children. Everyone in Emlyn Springs knows the story of Hope Jones, the physician's wife whose big dreams for their tiny town were lost along with her in the tornado of 1978. For Hope's three young children, the stability of life with their preoccupied father, and with Viney, their mother's spitfire best friend, is no match for Hope's absence. Larken, the eldest, is now an art history professor who seeks in food an answer to a less tangible hunger; Gaelan, the son, is a telegenic weatherman who devotes his life to predicting the unpredictable; and the youngest, Bonnie, is a self-proclaimed archivist who combs roadsides for clues to her mother's legacy, and permission to move on. When they're summoned home after their father's death, each sibling is forced to revisit the childhood tragedy that has defined their lives. [Fiction 304 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064990070]

Skylight Confessions by Alice Hoffman

The marriage of Arlyn Singer and John Moody, opposites who are drawn to each other despite a mutual lack of

understanding, has a profound and lasting impact on them, their children, and their grandchildren. [Fiction 272 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063350250]

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan (#1) by Lisa See

In nineteenth-century China, a girl named Lily, at the tender age of seven, is paired with a laotong, "old same," in an emotional match that will last a lifetime. The laotong, Snow Flower, introduces herself by sending Lily a silk fan on which she's painted a poem in nu shu, a unique language that Chinese women created in order to communicate in secret, away from the influence of men. As the years pass, Lily and Snow Flower send messages on fans, compose stories on handkerchiefs, reaching out of isolation to share their hopes, dreams, and accomplishments. [Fiction 258 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093063349765]

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan (#2) by Lisa See

In nineteenth-century China, a girl named Lily, at the tender age of seven, is paired with a laotong, "old same," in an emotional match that will last a lifetime. The laotong, Snow Flower, introduces herself by sending Lily a silk fan on which she's painted a poem in nu shu, a unique language that Chinese women created in order to communicate in secret, away from the influence of men. As the years pass, Lily and Snow Flower send messages on fans, compose stories on handkerchiefs, reaching out of isolation to share their hopes, dreams, and accomplishments. [Fiction 258 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093063349930]

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan (#3) by Lisa See

In nineteenth-century China, a girl named Lily, at the tender age of seven, is paired with a laotong, "old same," in an emotional match that will last a lifetime. The laotong, Snow Flower, introduces herself by sending Lily a silk fan on which she's painted a poem in nu shu, a unique language that Chinese women created in order to communicate in secret, away from the influence of men. As the years pass, Lily and Snow Flower send messages on fans, compose stories on handkerchiefs, reaching out of isolation to share their hopes, dreams, and accomplishments. [Fiction 258 pages] [Added 9/10] [39093063349922]

Sonata for Miriam by Linda Olsson

Journeying from New Zealand to Poland and on to Sweden, composer Adam Anker uncovers the truth about his parents' fate during World War II and struggles to come to terms with the consequences of a life-altering choice he had made twenty years earlier. [Fiction 273 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159603]

Songs of the Gorilla Nation by Dawn Prince-Hughes

By observing and interacting with gorillas, the author learned how to manage Asperger's Syndrome, a form of autism. A fascinating and revealing memoir which gives insights into autism and into the human-animal connection. [Nonfiction 224 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093047176391]

Space Between Us by Thrity Umrigar

Each morning, Bhima, a domestic servant in contemporary Bombay, India, leaves her own small shanty in the slums to tend another woman's house. In Sera Dubash's home, Bhima scrubs the floors of a house in which she remains an outsider. Despite being separated from each other by blood and class, she and Sera find themselves bound by gender and shared life experiences. [Fiction 320 Pages] [Added 6/10] [39093063350276]

Spooner by Pete Dexter

Losing his father shortly after birth, Warren Spooner endures a troubled childhood and even more troubled young adulthood that is marked by his dishonorably discharged stepfather, whose inexhaustible patience is tested by the difficult Warren. [Fiction 480 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093066792771]

State By State: A Panoramic Portrait of America by Matt Weiland & Sean Wilsey

Collects original writings on all fifty states by leading novelists, journalists, and essayists, in a volume that includes Anthony Bourdain on New Jersey, Dave Eggers on Illinois, and Louise Erdrich on North Dakota. [Nonfiction - 608 pages] [Added 10/10] [39093066786385]

Still Alice by Lisa Genova

Feeling at the top of her game when she is suddenly diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's disease, Harvard psychologist Alice Howland struggles to find meaning and purpose in her life as her concept of self gradually slips away. [Fiction 320 pages] [Added August 2011] [39093068908151]

Story of Edgar Sawtelle (#1) by David Wroblewski

Edgar, a speech-disabled, Wisconsin youth, bonds with three yearling canines while he struggles to prove that his sinister uncle is responsible for his father's death. [Fiction 576 pages] [Added 9/10] [39093047176359]

Strength In What Remains by Tracy Kidder

Presents the story of Burundi civil war survivor Deo, who endures homelessness before pursuing an education at Columbia and eventually returning to his native land to help people in both countries. [Fiction 272 pages] [Added January 2012] [39093069901031]

Stuffed by Patricia Volk

A humorous, entertaining true story of life in a New York restaurant family. Volk devotes individual chapters to the stories of her family members, including her great-grandfather who brought pastrami to the New World. [Nonfiction 239 pages] [Added 4/10] [39093063349781]

Sudden Country by Karen Fisher

Lucy Mitchell, a widow, remarries and resents the decision of her second husband, Israel Mitchell, to emigrate. James McLaren is a Scottish trapper who loses his children to smallpox and his Nez Perce wife to another trapper. He signs on to guide Mitchell's little band on their trek from the Iowa banks of the Missouri to the Columbia River in Oregon. This is a novel of the American West. [Fiction 366 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093063349773]

Suite Francaise by Irene Nemirovsky

Beginning in Paris on the eve of the Nazi occupation in 1940, this book tells the remarkable story of men and women thrown together in circumstances beyond their control. As Parisians flee the city, human folly surfaces in every imaginable way: a wealthy mother searches for sweets in a town without food; a couple is terrified at the thought of losing their jobs as their world begins to fall apart. Moving on to a provincial village now occupied by German soldiers, the locals must learn to coexist with the enemy—in their town, their homes, even in their hearts. [Fiction 367 pages] [Added 3/10] [39093047175252]

Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie by C. Alan Bradley

Eleven-year-old Flavia de Luce, an aspiring chemist with a passion for poison, is propelled into a mystery when a man is found murdered on the grounds of her family's decaying English mansion and Flavia's father becomes the main suspect. [Fiction 416 pages] [Added 12/10] [39093066792367]

Tales From the Town of Widows by James Cañon

One Sunday morning, a band of guerrillas comes to Mariquita and takes all the men away. Without men, the small Colombian mountain village becomes a sinking wasteland filled with women until Rosalba declares herself magistrate and creates a utopia far greater than any revolutionary's imagined ideal society. [Fiction 337 Pages] [Added 8/10] [39093063349732]

Tender Bar by J.R. Moehringer

In a memoir of growing up with a single mother, the author describes how he received valuable life lessons and friendship from an assortment of characters at the neighborhood bar, who provided him with a kind of fatherhood by committee. [Nonfiction 413 pages] [Added December 2011] [39093070008990]

Tenderness of Wolves by Stef Penney

Winter has just tightened its grip in Canada's Northern Territory in 1867, when a man is brutally murdered. A variety of outsiders are drawn to the crime and to the township—but do they want to solve the crime or exploit it? [Fiction 371 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093047176342]

Thirteenth Tale (#1) by Diane Setterfield

A compelling emotional mystery about family secrets and the magic of books and storytelling. A dying writer bids a young bookshop assistant to write her biography. [Fiction 432 pages] [Added 5/10] [39093063349948]

Thirteenth Tale (#2) by Diane Setterfield

A compelling emotional mystery about family secrets and the magic of books and storytelling. A dying writer bids a young bookshop assistant to write her biography. [Fiction 432 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063354344]

Thousand Autumns Of Jacob De Zoet by David Mitchell

Dispatched to the influential Japanese port of Dejima in 1799, ambitious clerk Jacob de Zoet resolves to earn enough money to deserve his wealthy fiancée, an effort that is challenged by his relationship with the midwife daughter of a samurai. [Fiction 479 pages] [Added December 2011] [39093070009055]

Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson

The author, following a 1993 climb of Pakistan's treacherous K2, was inspired by a chance encounter with impoverished mountain villagers and promised to build them a school. Over the next decade he built fifty-five schools—especially for girls—that offer a balanced education in one of the most isolated and dangerous regions on earth. Three Cups of Tea combines adventure with a celebration of the humanitarian spirit. [Nonfiction 331 pages] [Added 12/09] [39093047176367]

Three Weissmanns Of Westport by Cathleen Schine

A modern tale inspired by "Sense and Sensibility" finds financially strapped literary sisters Miranda and Annie moving in with divorcee Betty in a run-down Connecticut beach cottage, where they find love among the suburban aristocracy. [Fiction 292 pages] [Added September 2011] [39093070002407]

Time Is a River by Mary Alice Monroe

While recovering from breast cancer in a remote cabin in North Carolina, Mia Landan finds the journal of Kate Watkins, a 1920s fly fisher, and, inspired by Kate's example, learns to fish and uncovers many secrets around her. [Fiction 369 pages] [Added July 2011] [39093068908102]

Tippling Point by Malcolm Gladwell

Malcolm Gladwell defines that precise moment when a trend becomes a trend, and probes the surface of everyday occurrences to reveal some surprising dynamics behind explosive social changes. He examines the power of word-of-mouth and explores how very small changes can directly affect popularity. [Nonfiction 279 pages] [Added 7/10] [39093047176334]

Tree Of Smoke by Denis Johnson

The lives of Skip Sands, a spy-in-training engaged in psychological operations against the Vietcong, and brothers Bill and James Houston, young men who drift out of the Arizona desert into a war, intertwine in a compelling novel of America during the Vietnam War. [Fiction 672 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063352348]

Truck: A Love Story (#1) by Michael Perry

"All I wanted to do was fix my old pickup truck," says Michael Perry. "That, and plant my garden. Then I met this woman. . . ." Truck: A Love Story recounts a year in which Perry struggles to grow his own food, live peaceably with his neighbors, and sort out his love life. But along the way, he sets his hair on fire, is attacked by wild turkeys, takes a date to the fire department chicken dinner, and proposes marriage to a woman in New Orleans. [Nonfiction 277 pages] [Added] [39093063350243]

Truck: A Love Story (#2) by Michael Perry

"All I wanted to do was fix my old pickup truck," says Michael Perry. "That, and plant my garden. Then I met this woman. . . ." Truck: A Love Story recounts a year in which Perry struggles to grow his own food, live peaceably with his neighbors, and sort out his love life. But along the way, he sets his hair on fire, is attacked by wild turkeys, takes a date to the fire department chicken dinner, and proposes marriage to a woman in New Orleans. [Nonfiction 277 pages] [Added 2/10] [39093047156955]

Tuesdays With Morrie by Mitch Albom

A sportswriter conveys the wisdom of his late mentor, professor Morrie Schwartz, recounting their weekly conversations as Schwartz lay dying. [Nonfiction 192 pages] [Added December 2011] [39093070009287]

Unaccustomed Earth by Jhumpa Lahiri

Exploring the secrets and complexities lying at the heart of family life and relationships, a collection of eight stories includes the title work, about a young mother in a new city whose father tends her garden while hiding a secret love affair. [Fiction 368 pages] [Added 6/10] [39093064990096]

Uncommon Reader (#1) by Alan Bennett

The Uncommon reader is none other than Her Majesty the Queen who drifts accidentally into reading when her corgis stray into a mobile library parked at Buckingham Palace. She reads widely and comes to question the prescribed order of the world.

[Fiction 128 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093063349898]

Uncommon Reader (#2) by Alan Bennett

The Uncommon reader is none other than Her Majesty the Queen who drifts accidentally into reading when her corgis stray into a mobile library parked at Buckingham Palace. She reads widely and comes to question the prescribed order of the world. [Fiction 128 pages] [Added 11/09] [39093063352850]

Uncommon Reader (#3) by Alan Bennett

The Uncommon reader is none other than Her Majesty the Queen who drifts accidentally into reading when her corgis stray into a mobile library parked at Buckingham Palace. She reads widely and comes to question the prescribed order of the world. [Fiction 128 pages] [Added 8/10] [39093064973720]

Undress Me In the Temple of Heaven by Susan Jane Gilman

In her hardcover debut, bestselling author Susan Jane Gilman describes a very different kind of back-packing trip to China in which she and her college friend set out to conquer the world only to be conquered by it. [Nonfiction 320 pages] [Added March 2011] [39093068918002]

Unit by Ninni Holmqvist

Assigned to the Unit to submit to testing and eventual organ donation and death, Dorrit Weger accepts her fate as a single woman over the age of fifty until she meets a man inside the Unit and falls in love. [Fiction 272 pages] [Added July 2011] [39093068918424]

Unlocked by Karen Kingsbury

Holden Harris is an autistic eighteen-year-old who is bullied at school. Ella Reynolds is the head cheerleader who befriends Holden but has problems of her own at home. [Fiction 314 pages] [Added November 2011] [39093070004692]

Vanishing Act Of Esme Lennox by Maggie O'Farrell

Iris Lockhart receives news that her great-aunt Esme is being released from Cauldstone Hospital, where she has been confined for more than sixty years, and soon discovers that Esme holds the key to long-hidden family secrets that could change her life forever. [Fiction 245 pages] [Added September 2011] [39093070004759]

Visit From the Goon Squad by Jennifer Egan

Working side-by-side for a record label, former punk rocker Bennie Salazar and the passionate Sasha hide illicit secrets from one another while interacting with a motley assortment of equally troubled people from 1970s San Francisco to the post-war future. [Fiction 340 pages] [Added October 2011] [39093070004742]

Water for Elephants (#2) by Sara Gruen

As a young man, Jacob Jankowski was tossed by fate onto a rickety train that was home to the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth. A veterinary student just shy of a degree, he was put in charge of caring for the circus menagerie. It was there that he met Marlena, the beautiful equestrian star married to August, the charismatic but twisted animal trainer. And he met Rosie, an untrainable elephant who was the great gray hope for this third-rate traveling show. The bond that grew among this unlikely trio was one of love and trust, and, ultimately, it was their only hope for survival. [Fiction 331 pages] [Added 2/10] [39093047156948]

Wednesday Letters by Jason F. Wright

After the deaths of their parents, three siblings return home to make funeral arrangements and find boxes full of love letters that their father wrote to their mother each week on Wednesday, uncovering the shocking truth about the past. [Fiction 280 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159355]

Wesley the Owl: The Remarkable Love Story of an Owl and His Girl by Stacey O'Brien

Chronicles the author's rescue of an abandoned barn owl, from her efforts to resuscitate and raise the young owl through their nineteen years together, during which the author made key discoveries about owl behavior. [Nonfiction 235 pages] [Added October 2011] [39093070002415]

What Was Lost by Catherine O'Flynn

Twenty years after her brother is hounded from his home by rumors about his alleged role in a young girl's disappearance, Lisa and her security guard friend become increasingly curious about a child they glimpse on a mall's surveillance cameras. [Fiction 256 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063352355]

When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women From 1960 to the Present by Gail Collins

Chronicles the revolution of women's civil rights throughout the past half century, drawing on oral history and research in a variety of disciplines while celebrating Hillary Clinton's recent presidential campaign. [Nonfiction 480 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093066792789]

Whistling Season by Ivan Doig

Hired as a housekeeper to work on the early 1900s Montana homestead of widower Oliver Milliron, the irreverent Rose and her brother, Morris, endeavor to educate the widower's sons while witnessing local efforts on a massive irrigation project. [Fiction 345 pages] [Added December 2011] [39093070004684]

White Tiger by Aravind Adiga

Balam Halwai is a complicated man. Servant. Philosopher. Entrepreneur. Murderer. Over the course of seven nights, by the scattered light of a preposterous chandelier, Balam tells the terrible and transfixing story of how he came to be a success in life-- having nothing but his own wits to help him along. [Fiction 276 pages] [Added 1/10] [39093047159520]

Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel

Assuming the power recently lost by the disgraced Cardinal Wolsey, Thomas Cromwell counsels a mercurial Henry VIII on the latter's efforts to marry Anne Boleyn against the wishes of Rome, a successful endeavor that comes with a dangerous price. [Fiction 672 pages] [Added May 2011] [39093068918382]

Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story Of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl by Timothy Egan

Presents an oral history of the dust storms that devastated the Great Plains during the Depression, following several families and their communities in their struggle to persevere despite the devastation. [Nonfiction 340 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063352363]

Writing On My Forehead by Nafisa Haji

Free-spirited and rebellious Muslim-American Saira Qader rejected the constricting notions of family, duty, obligation, and fate, choosing instead to become a journalist, but when tragedy strikes five years later Saira looks to the stories of those who came before--her grandparents, a beloved aunt, her mother and father--and discovers that choice is not always our own, and that faith is not just an intellectual preference. [Fiction 320 pages] [Added April 2011] [39093068918366]

Zeitoun by Dave Eggers

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, longtime New Orleans residents Abdulrahman and Kathy Zeitoun are cast into an unthinkable struggle with forces beyond wind and water. In the days after the storm, Abdulrahman traveled the flooded streets in a secondhand canoe, passing on supplies and helping those he could. A week later, on September 6, 2005, Zeitoun abruptly disappeared-- arrested and accused of being an agent of al Qaeda. [Nonfiction 351 pages] [Added January 2011] [39093066792532]

Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story by Diane Ackerman

Documents the true story of Warsaw Zoo keepers and resistance activists Jan and Antonina Zabinski, who in the aftermath of Germany's invasion of Poland saved the lives of hundreds of Jewish citizens by smuggling them into empty cages and their home villa. [Nonfiction 368 pages] [Added 10/09] [39093063352306]