

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by *Sherman Alexie*

Determined to get a good education, Junior leaves the reservation for the local white school, where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Despite the bullying and teasing, Junior discovers reserves of strength and humor he never dreamed of.

White Sister by *Stephen J. Cannell*

In this follow-up to *Cold Hit*, Detective Shane Scully goes up against the beautiful, blonde wife of a powerful hip-hop mogul who stands at the center of a ruthless conspiracy. Leaving LA's Parker Stadium separately, Shane and his wife agree to meet at home in a few hours. Unexpectedly Shane is called to a crime scene on Mulholland Drive where he finds the victim dead in his wife's car and his wife missing. Scully is pitted against some wily characters as he tries to unravel this one!

The Winding Ways Quilt by *Jennifer Chiaverini*

Another title in the ongoing saga of the "Elm Creek" Quilter series. As new people come to learn and old friends depart, there is turnover and change in the teaching group... much as in life. Will the new teachers be able to fill in the gaps created by the loss of their expertise – and more important, their friendship?

Girls in Trucks by *Katie Crouch* (humor)

Meet Sarah Walters, a debutante with an inherited weakness for bad ideas. But in Charleston, manners mean everything. When Sarah moves to New York and finds that the boys don't open doors, or necessarily call the morning after, she begins to understand the meaning of the phrase: "Once a Camellia, always a Camellia."

Falling Man by *Don DeLillo*

Falling Man begins in the smoke and ash of the burning towers and follows the aftermath in the intimate lives of a few individuals. This is the inner seam of history, a novel that traces the way September 11th reconfigured our emotional landscape, our memory, and our perception of the world. It is beautiful, heartbreaking, redemptive.

The Secret Between Us by *Barbara Delinsky*

Nothing will break this mother-daughter bond, not even the truth. Deborah Monroe and her daughter Grace are driving home from a party when a man is suddenly struck and killed by them. Grace was at the wheel, but Deborah is determined to take the blame. Her decision takes on a life of its own and threatens the special bond between them.

Plague of Doves by *Louise Erdrich*

The unsolved murder of a farm family, and the vengeance exacted for this crime, haunt both the small, white town of Pluto, North Dakota, and the Ojibwe Indians living on the nearby reservation. The descendants of Ojibwe and whites intermarry until only the youngest generation, of mixed blood, remains unaware of the role the past continues to play in their lives.

Toehold by *Stephen H. Foreman* (set in Alaska)

The residents of Toehold, Alaska, are an eccentric collection: “Summer Joe” has a harem of wives and a weakness for social workers. “Sweet Ass Sue” runs the town’s only bar.

The Hearts of Horses by *Molly Gloss*

When Martha Lessen, a 19 yr-old horse whisperer, shows up on George Bliss’s doorstep looking for work, he hires her immediately, since many of his regulars are off fighting the war. Conventional wisdom says that you must buck the wild out of a horse, but when the ranchers witness Martha’s gentle and sweet approach working with horses they had given up on, she wins their respect and a sense of belonging she’s never had.

Playing for Pizza by *John Grisham* (bestseller)

NFL quarterback Rick Dockery acquitted himself so poorly with the Cleveland Browns in the AFC championship that no team in the conference would have anything to do with him. But all Rick knows is football! His agent, Arnie, finally finds Rick a team, but not quite the team he had in mind -- the Parma Panthers of Italy! To say that Italy holds a few surprises for Rick would be something of an understatement!

Their Eyes Were Watching God by *Zora Neale Hurston* (Oprah selection)

This work is an enduring Southern love story full of wit, beauty, and heartfelt wisdom. A story of a fiercely independent black woman and her evolving selfhood through three marriages and a life marked by poverty, trials, and purpose. This is perhaps the most widely read and highly regarded novel in African American literature.

Comfort Food by *Kate Jacobs*

Shortly before her 50th birthday, TV personality “Gus” Simpson is forced by her boss to team up with backstabbing Carmen Vega in an effort to boost her ratings. It seemed like a good idea at the time but besides Carmen’s diva behavior, Gus has to deal with a new producer and her warring daughters as well. Is it just possible that something exciting and romantic could come out of all this?

Remember Me? by *Sophie Kinsella*

28 year old Lexi Smart finds herself with 3 years of memories completely gone! She can’t remember how she went from working girl to corporate bigshot; complete with new sleek pad, glamorous friends, and gorgeous husband who just happens to be a millionaire. Lexi soon finds out, however, that her brand new life comes with its own set of secrets, schemes, and intrigue.

Twenty Wishes by *Debbie Macomber*

At 38 years old, Anne Marie Roche’s life is not what she expected. Widowed but with a successful business, her life seems oddly empty. On Valentines Day, Anne and several other widows decide that each will work on a list of 20 wishes-things they have always wanted to do. When Anne volunteers at a local school she meets eight-year-old Ellen and discovers that wishes can come true.

Come Walk With Me by *Joan Medlicott*

After her husband's death, Claire is devastated, yet frantic to find another man to fill the void and make her feel whole again. After making peace with her family, Claire finds herself open to the possibility of the new love that awaits her.

Bleeding Kansas by *Sara Paretsky*

A family saga set in present-day Kansas. Two families: the Harings and the Grelliers; carry over long-time grudges from the 1850's. Gina Haring, a wiccan, moves near the Schapens, and the harassment begins. Chip Grelliers is so incensed that he joins the Army. Chip's subsequent death in Iraq forces both families to make major changes.

Change of Heart by *Jodi Picoult*

A spellbinding tale of a mother's tragic loss and a criminal's last chance at salvation, in which Ms. Picoult probes the nature of religion...

Miss Julia Paints the Town by *Ann B. Ross* (humor)

This is a fun book about the eccentrics in Miss Julia's small hometown. In an effort to discourage developers from destroying the town's old courthouse, Miss Julia enlists the talents of Etta Mae Wiggins and all the oddballs of the town to drive off changes threatening her beloved town. Soon she discovers that several friends' husbands have disappeared, and now, come to think of it, her husband.

Honor Thyself by *Danielle Steel* (bestseller)

A tale of survival and dignity, of small miracles and big surprises. A legend of film and stage, Carole has set a standard of grace, devoting herself to her family as well as her career. In a terrorist instant, her world is turned upside down. As she slowly recovers in the hospital, Carole realizes she's been given a once-in-a-lifetime chance to live a life that honors herself as well as others.

The Cure for The Modern Life by *Lisa Tucker*

Matthew and Amelia were once in love and planning on marriage. But their careers got in the way and they both ended up in heated arguments over medical ethics. That standoff crumbles one night when coming home to his loft. Matthew hears a young boy screaming for help. The boy is willing to do whatever it takes to protect his 3-year-old sister. The escalating relationship between Matthew, Amelia and the boy climaxes in this big-hearted novel about being responsible and caring about others in the 21st century.

Certain Girls by *Jennifer Weiner*

After her recent fictionalized autobiography became a hot seller, Connie Shapiro turned to writing science fiction anonymously. Happily married and settled into a comfortable routine, everything in her life seems perfect until her daughter, Joy, discovers her best-selling manuscript. The manuscript details a wild life which Joy wonders about, and even more about her mother. As mother and daughter prepare for Joy's upcoming Bat-Mitzvah, Joy goes on a secret quest to discover the truth.

Looks To Die For by *Janice Kaplan* (Mystery/Humor)

Lacy Fields is the wife of a prominent Beverly Hills plastic surgeon, a mother of 3, and a fabulous decorator to the stars. When her husband is accused of murdering a young wannabe actress, Lacy finds out she has a killer instinct for hunting down murderers.

Pontoon: a novel of Lake Wobegon by *Garrison Keillor* (Humor)

Evelyn was a Sanctified Brethren woman, a devoted mother, a serious quilter. After she dies we find out that she has been in love with Raoul, a Las Vegas man who showed her the joys of life outside Lake Wobegon. As Evelyn's ashes are spread over the lake from a pontoon boat what could go wrong?

Shopaholic & Baby by *Sophie Kinsella* (Bestseller / humor)

Becky Brandon is pregnant, and overjoyed to find that shopping cures morning sickness! Her celebrity, must-have obstetrician turns out to be her husband's ex-girlfriend. Her perfect world starts to crumble—she's shopping for 2, but are there 3 in her marriage?

The Spellman Files by *Lisa Lutz* (Mystery/Humor)

28-year-old Izzy Spellman is a successful licensed private investigator who has a history of romantic mistakes and drinking excessively; she is addicted to *Get Smart* reruns, and enters homes through windows. Can she make her life more normal by getting out of the family business?

Absurdistan by *Gary Shteyngart* (humor)

Meet outsized Misha Vainberg, son of the 1,238th-richest man in Russia, lover of large portions of food and drink, lover and inept performer of rap music, and lover of a South Bronx Latina whom he longs to rejoin in New York City, if only the American INS will grant him a visa. But it won't, because Misha's late Beloved Papa whacked an Oklahoma businessman of some prominence.

The Navigator by *Clive Cussler* (Adventure/Bestseller)

Long ago, an ancient Phoenician statue called The Navigator was stolen from the Baghdad Museum—there are people who would do anything to possess it. The search for why it is so special will take the NUMA team on an odyssey encompassing the lost treasures of King Solomon, mysterious documents encoded by Thomas Jefferson, and a top-secret scientific project that could change the world forever.

New Year's Quilt by *Jennifer Chiaverini*

As master quilter Sylvia Compson, a late-in-life newlywed has discovered, love can enter our lives at any age. Now Sylvia decides to redouble her efforts to love her new stepdaughter. As she begins a new quilt, she recalls her youth as a beloved member of her own family.

Something More by *Janet Dailey*

A skeleton discovered on a ranch in Wyoming was purported to be Angie's long-lost grandfather who was on a treasure hunt for gold when he disappeared. Several inhabitants of Glory are equally desperate to claim the treasure for themselves, but Angie hires grief-stricken Luke McCallister, the Ten Bar's owner, to guide her.

Maytrees by Annie Dillard

Deary, a country-club escapee, sleeps in the sand's cradling embrace. Poet Toby Maytree cherishes the beach shack his coast guard father built, which is where he takes beautiful and meditative Lou, launching an epic love.

Philosophy Made Simple by Robert Hellenga

Alone after the death of his wife, Rudy feels adrift. A Christian radio station declares the Second Coming. An elephant named Norma Jean paints beautiful abstract compositions. Rudy befriends a priest without a congregation and learns about the Hindu elephant god Ganesh as he plans Molly and TJ's wedding. He also has visions, develops heart trouble, and falls in love.

A Thousand Spendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini (Bestseller)

Born in Afghanistan a generation apart, Mariam and Laila are brought together by war, loss and fate. The author of *The Kite Runner* shows how a woman's love for her family can move her to shocking and heroic acts of self-sacrifice, and that in the end it is love that is often the key to survival.

Michael Tolliver Lives by Armistead Maupin

Having survived the plague that took so many of his friends, Michael Tolliver has learned to embrace the random pleasures of life and the tender alliances that sustain him. The reader follows him as he finds love with a younger man, attends to his dying fundamentalist mother, and finally reaffirms his allegiance to a wise octogenarian who was once his landlady. This is a novel about the act of growing older joyfully and the everyday miracles that somehow make that possible.

Dream Angus by Alexander McCall Smith

Divine Angus might grant you sight of your true love in a dream; you might even fall in love with him, but he'll never love you back. His troubled alter ego in the 20th century searches for his true family, and it seems his life parallels that of his mythic namesake. McCall Smith weaves together the tales of a Celtic god and a Scottish scientist, uniting dream and reality, leaving us to wonder—what is life, but the pursuit of our dreams?

Season of Secrets by Marta Perry

As a teenager, Dinah Westlake had witnessed the murder of her pregnant cousin. A concussion blocked her memory of the event for years. Now, ten years later, her cousins' widower returns to Charleston, tending to family matters. Suddenly Dinah's memory returns and memories of the past are beginning to resurface. Will her cousins' widower be implicated?

Lethal Justice by Fern Michaels

Alexis worked at a brokerage firm whose partners framed her for the theft of money from her client accounts. Found guilty, she was sent to prison for a year. Now it's time for a little payback. Add to that a pair of reporters who have almost figured out who they are, and the ladies are in real danger of being exposed.

Keeping Faith by Jodi Picoult

When seven-year-old Faith White and her mother, Mariah, swing by the house on the way to ballet class, they find that Daddy is home and he's brought a playmate. This is not the first time he's been caught cheating. After the fuss and feathers have settled and Dad has moved out, Faith begins talking to an imaginary friend who, it seems, is God. And God is not male but female. Faith is able to effect miraculous cures and is also occasionally afflicted with stigmata. When the media gets wind of this, the circus begins.

The Shellseekers by Rosamunde Pilcher

A captivating tale of love and life that has touched the world. At the end of a long and useful life, Penelope reflects on the meaning of a painting by her father that symbolizes her unconventional life: from bohemian childhood to wartime romance. Her children think she should sell the valuable painting, but Penelope knows the answer lies in her heart...

What Matters Most by Luanne Rice

Sister Bernadette Ignatius has returned to Ireland in the company of Tom Kelly to search for the past—and the son—they left behind. Somewhere in Dublin, a young man named Seamus Sullivan is also on a search, dreaming of being reunited with his own first love, the only “family” he’s ever known. This is a story that unravels the mysteries of a shared past, and two undying love affairs.

Exit Ghost by Philip Roth

Suddenly Nathan Zuckerman is involved, as he never wanted or intended to be again, with love, mourning, desire, and animosity.

Amazing Grace by Danielle Steel

This new, compelling novel interweaves the lives of four characters who endure one of San Francisco’s shocking earthquakes. A Rock star, nun, journalist, and wife survive this shocking event and are transformed in its aftermath. One of Danielle Steels most life affirming novels.

The Chrysalis by Heather Terrell

Mara Coyne is one high-profile case away from making partner at her powerful Manhattan law firm, and now that case has fallen into her lap. A prestigious auction house is about to sell a lost masterwork in an auction destined to become legendary. Standing in the way is the shocking accusation that The Chrysalis actually belongs to the daughter of a Dutch collector who lost his collection and his life to the Nazis.

Treasure of Khan by Clive Cussler and Dirk Cussler [bestseller, adventure]

Genghis Khan was the greatest conqueror of all time. At his peak, he ruled an empire that stretched from the Pacific Ocean to the Caspian Sea. His conquests are the stuff of legend, his tomb a forgotten mystery. Until now.

Family Tree by Barbara Delinsky

Dana is about to fulfill her dream family. After her own trouble childhood, she is about to

give birth to her first child as the wife of a prominent New England family man. But what should be the happiest day, her world falls apart. Her daughter is born with African American traits, and her husband worries that people will think Dana had an affair.

The Memory Keeper's Daughter by *Kim Edwards* [bestseller]

Orthopedic surgeon David Henry, must deliver his twin babies himself, aided only by a nurse. Upon seeing his daughter's handicap, he instructs the nurse, Caroline, to take her to a home and later tells his wife, who was drugged during labor, that one of the twins died at birth. Instead of institutionalizing the girl, Caroline absconds with her to Pittsburgh.

Paint It Black by *Janet Fitch*

Josie Tyrell, art model and denizen of LA's rock scene, finds a chance at real love with art student Michael Faraday. As Harvard dropout and son of renowned pianist, Michael introduces Josie to a world of sophistication. But when Michael is found dead, Josie is drawn to Michael's mother who blames Josie for Michael's death.

A Long Way Down by *Nick Hornby* [contemporary, bestseller]

Hornby tells the story of 4 individuals confronting the limits of choice, circumstance, and their own mortality. Intense, hilarious, provocative, and emotional, he puts them together in the same place on New Year's Eve, to see what it takes to make it through a long, dark night of the soul.

All Aunt Hagar's Children by *Edward P. Jones*

In 14 stories, the bestselling and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "The Known World" shows that his grasp of the human condition is firmer than ever.

Bliss by *O. Z. Livaneli* [contemporary Turkey]

At 15, Meryem is raped by her uncle, the ruling sheik in her remote Turkish village. Locked up in the barn in disgrace, she does not do her duty and hang herself, so her cousin Cemal, a young war veteran returned from fighting the Kurdish "terrorists," must take Meryem to Istanbul and murder her. On their journey, they meet up with a distinguished city professor.

The Road by *Cormac McCarthy* [post-apocalyptic, bestseller]

A man and his son traverse a blasted American landscape, covered with the ashes of "the late world." There is nothing for them except survival in a cannibalistic world. Publishers Weekly states, "McCarthy establishes himself here as the closest thing in American literature to an Old Testament prophet."

The Pact by *Jodi Picoult*

A teenage suicide pact between a pregnant girl and her boyfriend, both children of wealthy New England families. He shoots her, but fails to shoot himself and is charged with murder. At the trial he explains what made them do it.

Body Surfing by *Anita Shreve* [bestseller]

At 29, Sydney has already been divorced and widowed. Trying to regain her footing, she becomes the tutor of a teenage daughter of a well-to-do couple at an ocean-front New

Hampshire cottage. When the two grown sons, Ben and Jeff, arrive, they vie for Sydney's affections. The fragile existence Sydney has rebuilt is threatened.

For One More Day by *Mitch Albom* [bestseller]

If you had the chance, just one chance, to go back and fix what you did wrong in life, would you take it? And if you did, would you be big enough to stand it?

Half Magic by *Edward Eager* [fantasy - magic]

Faced with a dull summer in the city, Jane, Mark, Katharine, and Martha suddenly find themselves involved in a series of extraordinary adventures after Jane discovers an ordinary-looking coin that seems to grant wishes.

Finding Noel by *Richard Paul Evans* [bestseller]

Macy retains little from her birthparents: a memory of being sent away at the age of 7, and a vague remembrance of a little sister, and a Christmas ornament inscribed with the word "Noel." When her adult life begins crumbling around her, she embarks on a search for the sister she remembers.

Can't Wait To Get To Heaven by *Fannie Flagg* [humor]

Combining southern warmth with unabashed emotion and side-splitting hilarity, Fannie Flagg takes readers back to Elmwood Springs, Missouri, where the most unlikely and surprising experiences of a high-spirited octogenarian inspire a town to ponder the age-old question: Why are we here?

Nature Girl by *Carl Hiaasen* [humor, bestseller]

Honey Santana has a scheme to rid the world of irresponsibility, indifference, and dinnertime sales calls. She's taking rude, gullible Relentless, Inc., telemarketer Boyd Shreave and his mistress into the wilderness for a gentle lesson in civility. Trouble is the others who are tagging along...

Lisey's Story by *Stephen King* [bestseller]

Lisey lost her husband Scott after 25 years of marriage. Scott was an award-winning novelist and a very complicated man. Now it's Lisey's turn to face Scott's demons. What begins as a widow's effort to sort through papers becomes a nearly fatal journey into the darkness he inhabited.

6 Rainier Drive by *Debbie Macomber*

The latest installment on Cedar Cove, Washington. Life goes on for everyone in Cedar Cove. Marriages, births, reunions and even the occasional scandal.

The Three Mrs. Parkers by *Joan Medlicott*

Though old grievances stand between three women, new challenges and grave danger cause them to forge a new path together, and they soon find unexpected bonds forming along the way.

The Tenth Circle by *Jodi Picoult* [bestseller]

A look at that delicate moment when a child learns that her parents don't know all the

answers, and when being a good parent means letting go of your child. It asks whether you can reinvent yourself in the course of a lifetime, or if your mistakes are carried forever...

Rise and Shine by *Anna Quindlen* [bestseller]

It's an ordinary Monday when Meghan Fitzmaurices' life hits a wall. A household name as the host of Rise and Shine, the country's highest-rated morning talk show, Meghan does something that, in an instant, marks the end of an era.

Terrorist by *John Updike* [bestseller]

The son of a bohemian Irish-American mother and an Egyptian father who disappeared when he was 3, Ahmad turned to Islam at the age of 11 and feels his faith constantly threatened by the materialistic, hedonistic society that surrounds him. Ahmad's devotion to Allah is misguided by an opportunistic imam, and the mild-mannered, intelligent young man slowly becomes the tool of terrorism.

Shroud by *John Banville*

Scholar and born liar, the elderly but still contentious Axel Vander is about to have his cover blown when an equally contentious young woman enters his life.

Everything She Thought She Wanted by *Elizabeth Buchan*

In alternating chapters, Buchan uses these two women's experiences to portray women's changing values in the twentieth century, from home and family to career and family, and the difficulties real women have in balancing their suddenly disparate priorities.

The Family Tree by *Carole Cadwalladr*

Pregnancy forces Rebecca Monroe to reassess her own offbeat, sometimes dysfunctional family history, including a loving mother obsessed with holiday trifle, an aging hippie aunt, an overly imaginative sister, and a grandmother hiding a lifelong secret.

The Starter Wife by *Gigi Levangie Grazer* [humor]

Through her 9 year role as the wife of a semifamous Hollywood studio executive, Gracie has grown accustomed to power and wealth. Now that she's dumped by her husband for a newer model, she realizes that she was a "starter wife."

Ordinary Springs by *Lenore Hart* [coming-of-age]

Dory Gamble's mother disappeared when Dory was just two, leaving Dory and her father in tiny Ordinary Springs, Fla., where lovelorn town ladies circled like buzzards. The abandoned twosome counted only on each other, until the neighbor moved in.

The Ice Queen by *Alice Hoffman*

If wishes come true... be careful what you wish for! Void of all emotions at 8 years of age after her mother dies tragically from a selfish wish, the ice cold girl makes another wish now as a woman... to be struck by lightning.

Kira-Kira by *Cynthia Kadohata* [Newbery Award Winner]

"Glittering" is how Katie's adored sister Lynn makes everything seem. When their family

moves from a Japanese community to the Deep South of Georgia, Lynn teaches Katie her special way of viewing the world and to look beyond today. When Lynn becomes ill, Katie steps in to provide some "kira-kira" or glitter.

A Good Yarn by *Debbie Macomber*

The shop on Blossom Street called A Good Yarn has now been open for a year and Lydia Hoffman is starting a new session of knitting classes. Once again, a disparate group of women find friendship and comfort as they learn the age-old craft of knitting.

St. Dale by *Sharyn McCrumb*

A NASCAR trip called the Dale Earnhardt Memorial Pilgrimage leaves no one on the journey quite the same. As the bus rolls down an uncertain road, prayers will be answered, secrets will be revealed, bonds will be forged and everyone will discover themselves anew.

Citizen Girl by *Emma McLaughlin & Nicola Kraus*

From the author's of *The Nanny Diaries*. Working in a world where a college degree qualifies her to make photocopies, the 24-yr old "Girl" is struggling to keep up with food, shelter and student loans.

The Mermaid Chair by *Sue Monk Kidd* [bestseller]

On Egret Island is a beautiful and mysterious chair that is dedicated to a saint who, legend claims, was first a mermaid. Is its power only a myth, or will it be able to change the course of Jessie's life?

Monster by *Walter Dean Myers* [award winner]

Steve Harmon is black. At 16, he's on trial for murder. If someone were to make a movie of his life, he says, it might be titled what the prosecutor called him ... MONSTER.

The Tea House on Mulberry Street by *Sharon Owens* [set in Ireland]

Shop owners, Penny and Daniel Stanley's marriage is wearing a little thin, even as their shop bustles with customers seeking refuge from their dilemmas. Perhaps their customers can come to their rescue?

Where the Red Fern Grows by *Wilson Rawls* [Award winner & Classic]

An exciting tale of love and adventure you'll never forget with a boy and his 2 dogs.

Whippoorwill by *Sharon Sala* [contemporary western setting]

Unfortunately, the pastor is in more need of salvation than his flock. He runs headlong into the town's last whore's bed, and dies. Scared half to death herself, the soiled dove recruits the town drunk to cover up the mess, first burying the pastor, then taking over his life.

Grace by *Linn Ullmann* [translated from Norwegian]

When Johan was a boy, Death obligingly took his father. When Johan was in a miserable marriage, Death took his wife and left Johan a tidy sum. Now as Death comes for him, he enlists his second wife to be his angel and help him end his suffering.

Life Studies by Susan Vreeland

After writing two novels where artists are the central heroines, Vreeland has now written a collection of stories that explore art through the lives of ordinary people.

I Am Charlotte Simmons by Tom Wolfe [bestseller]

Dupont University. The Olympian halls of learning house the cream of America's youth... or so it appears. But the poorly educated Charlotte Simmons, from the Blue Ridge Mountains, soon learns to her dismay that upper-crust coeds will trump her academic ambitions at every turn.

Nights of Rain and Stars by Maeve Binchy

In a small Greek village, a group of travelers from around the world and the local residents they encounter are brought together in unexpected ways when sudden tragedy strikes.

Another Summer by Georgia Bockoven

The quaint little beach house perched on the Pacific's edge is a haven for those seeking refuge from life's ups and downs.

You Remind Me of Me by Dan Chaon

Why do we become the people we become? How do we end up stuck in lives we never wanted? In his first fiction novel, Chaon explores the secret connections that irrevocably link his cast of characters with penetrating insight.

The Children's War by Monique Charlesworth [WWII]

As teenage Ilse is sent by her mother to live in Marseilles, her mother plays nursemaid to Nicolai, a member of "Hitler's Youth."

The Summer Guest by Justin Cronin

Nearing the end of his life, the great financier, Harry Wainwright returns to his favorite fishing site as a final pilgrimage, and sets in motion a bequest that will forever change the lives of those around him.

Summer Secrets by Barbara Freethy

8 years ago, Duncan McKenna and his three daughters won a punishing around-the-world-sailboat race. Though Kate, Ashley and Caroline McKenna are haunted by the journey's aftermath, they support their beloved father in keeping its ugly truths hidden. Until a reporter comes asking questions.

The Kite Runner Khaled Hosseini [bestseller]

The Kite Runner follows the story of Amir, the privileged son of a wealthy businessman in Kabul, and Hassan, the son of Amir's father's servant, bonded in ways they never could have predicted.

The Coal Tattoo by Silas House

Two sisters, living in a small coalmining town and left to raise themselves, can't stand to live together and can't bear to be apart. One is flashy and one is religious. It's only a matter of time before their differences nearly undo their bond.

The Same Sweet Girls by *Cassandra King*

None of the *Same Sweet Girls* are girls anymore, and none of them have actually ever been that sweet. But these lifelong friends have been holding biannual reunions ever since college.

The Valley of the Giants by *Peter B. Kyne*

An admirable young man's commitment to his and his father's shared ideals, the family's redwood timberlands, and his mother's memory, puts him in a struggle with a ruthless business rival.

The Wedding Ring by *Emilie Richards*

The first in a trilogy of novels inspired by a Southern family saga, Richards pieces together each woman's story as artfully as a quilter, with equal warmth and compassion for her characters.

Light On Snow by *Anita Shreve*

Snowshoeing in the forest, 12-yr old Nicky Dillon and her father come upon an abandoned baby. As Nicky follows the fate of the baby girl, she works her way through her own isolation and heartbreak.

The Hidden Places by *Bertrand W. Sinclair*

Being declared dead in WWI, Bob Hollister returns home to find his "widow" remarried and bank accounts emptied. Broke, hopeless and disfigured, he hides out on his timber claim, hoping hard work will heal his depression and temptation for revenge.

The Three of Us by *Cynthia Victor*

Kip, Eloise and Nora are three women whose lives intersect one day when they survive an attempted robbery at an exclusive boutique. When it ended, they were friends. Friends who learned that life is too precious for regrets...

Lost City by *Clive Cussler with Paul Kemprecos*

[adventure] An enzyme that will dramatically prolong life has been discovered 2,000 ft down in the North Atlantic, but people attempting to harvest it are getting killed?

A Redbird Christmas by *Fannie Flagg*

After a startling diagnosis from his doctor, Oswald T. Campbell leaves behind the cold and damp Chicago winter to spend his last Christmas in the warm and welcoming town of Lost River . . . where something so amazing happened, those who witnessed it have never forgotten it.

The Secret Life of Bees by *Sue Monk Kidd*

[Bestseller] Young Lily Owens has one blurred memory -- the afternoon her mother was killed when she was 4 yrs old. She flees her father's harsh abuse, frees her "stand-in-mother" Rosaleen from jail, and both are taken in by an eccentric trio of beekeeping sisters.

Coal Run by *Tawni ODell*

Coal Run is a community of ghosts and memories. After a mining explosion took the lives of so many men and transformed their families, the reverberations are still being felt in the survivors.

Beach Girls by *Luanne Rice*

25 years of time and distance drew apart three girlfriends. One was lost forever. Now her 9-yr old daughter wants to meet the "beach girls" of her mothers stories. Where have all the girls gone?

A Good Distance by *Sarah Willis*

Jennifer invites her mother, Rose, to live with her family. For everyone's safety, delicate and dangerous items are hidden away. But Rose's memories are also delicate and dangerous. Both mother and daughter need their memories to ask each other for forgiveness.

PS, I Love You by *Cecelia Ahern*

At the age of 30, Gerry is diagnosed with a terminal illness. Holly doesn't know what to do without him, until 2 months after his death, she receives a package from Gerry leaving her instructions for the next 10 months.

The Five People You Meet In Heaven by *Mitch Albom*

From the author of the number one NYT bestseller "Tuesdays with Morrie" come this long-awaited follow-up, an enchanting, beautifully crafted novel that explores a mystery only heaven can unfold.

Smart Women by *Judy Blume*

Margo and B.B. are divorced friends navigating the ups and downs of single life, parenthood and careers. When B.B.'s ex-husband moves next door, Margo never dreamed she'd fall in love with Andrew.

The Wanderer by *Sharon Creech* [award winner]

As the surly crew of The Wanderer, sail across the Atlantic toward England, the sea call to 13 yr-old Sophie. Sophie's struggle to reclaim who she is, inspires those around her.

Trojan Odyssey by *Clive Cussler* [adventure]

A brown tide is infesting the ocean off the shore of Nicaragua, and while NUMA is investigating, trouble broils. The underwater crew discovers a strange artifact, while above sea, the worst storm boils up out of the sky.

Calder Promise: Calder Family, Bk 8 by *Janet Dailey*

Nothing in Laura Calder's privileged background has prepared her for the danger she encounters, thrown into the path of a man who threatens her family.

The Summer I Dared: Canaan Trilogy, Bk 1 by *Barbara Delinsky*

Being one of only 3 people to survive a horrific boating accident, Julia believes each passing moment must get more from the world and life.

A Can of Peas by *Traci Depree*

After the death of his grandfather, Peter and his new bride Mae, accept the absurd challenge of saving the family farm in the Minnesota countryside. Together they weave the strong threads of family and friends in a pattern of grace, forgiveness, and kindness.

The Jane Austen Book Club by *Karen Joy Fowler* [humor]

In California's Central Valley, 5 women and 1 man join together to discuss Austen's novels. Modern social intercourse and the frailties of human behavior have never been wittier.

Wellspring by *Janice Holt Giles*

The 19 selections that make up *Wellspring*, Giles's last published book before her death in 1979, are a microcosm of her large world. Fiction, nonfiction, autobio and fictionalized autobio, looks at her life, her family and her love for Kentucky, politics and writing.

The Things We Do For Love by *Kristin Hannah*

From the moment they meet, Angie sees something special in Lauren. They form a quick connection, this woman who is desperate for a daughter and the girl who has never known a mother's love.

Love Me by *Garrison Keillor* (humorous)

The enterprising Larry Wyler, settled in St. Paul with his beloved Iris, an earnest Democrat out to save the world, sits upstairs and writes stories set on literary prominence.

Something Rising (Light and Swift) by *Haven Kimmel*

Cassie Claiborne is a pool hustler. She takes responsibility for supporting her family after her father abandons them. When her mother dies, she moves to New Orleans where she makes connections with other troubled souls.

I Know This Much Is True by *Wally Lamb* [Oprah selection]

A multigenerational saga of how destructive the bonds of family can be and of the powerful force of forgiveness.

The Honk and Holler Opening Soon by *Billie Letts*

A Vietnam vet hasn't ventured outside his diner, "The Honk and Holler," since it opened. The regulars haven't changed much either, until a 30-ish Crow woman blows in with a dog in her arms and a long-buried secret on her mind.

The Pleasure of My Company by *Steve Martin* (humorous)

Daniel Pecan Cambridge, 30, 35, 38, or 27, depending on how he feels that day, is a young man whose life is rich and full, provided he never leaves his Santa Monica apartment.

The Man In My Basement by *Walter Mosley*

Charles Blakey is a young African-American man whose life is crumbling. He's fallen behind on mortgage payments when he accepts an offer from a white stranger to rent the basement for \$50K. Although odd, Charles tries to satisfy him without getting drawn in.

Miss Julia Meets Her Match by *Ann B. Ross*

Sharp as a tack and proper as afternoon tea, Miss Julia has won a devoted and ever-growing legion of fans. But are Miss Julia's single days numbered? Her longtime beau, Sam Murdoch, wants to tie the knot, but Miss Julia isn't about to give up her independence so easily.

In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash by *Jean Shepherd*

A wonderfully nostalgic impression of a more innocent era when life was good, fun was clean, and station wagons roamed the earth. The author was the creator of the film "A Christmas Story," which is based in part on this book.

Queen Bee of Mimosa Branch by *Haywood Smith*

Southern housewife Linwood was content in her complacent 30-yr marriage, but when her husband runs off with a stripper, her life takes it's own hilarious turn into reality.

Terminal Event by *James Thayer*

Joe Durant used to be a top investigator for the NTSB. When his wife walked out of the marriage, he raised his daughter on his own. One year later, as his ex-wife is killed tragically on the plane returning for a visit, he rediscovers his soul to investigate the crash.

Good Grief by *Lolly Winston* [humor]

36-yr old Sophie wants to be a good widow, graceful and composed as Jackie Kennedy. Self-medication is more her style. She loses her job, her house, and her waistline, and moves to Ashland, Oregon to find herself in a Lucy-and-Ethel madcap adventure.

The Private Life of the Cat Who...Tales of Koko and Yum Yum by *Lilian Jackson Braun*

This delightful collection of feline antics will warm the hearts of cat lovers everywhere. Lilian Jackson Braun's character James Qwilleran has recorded his cats' exploits since the day each arrived in his life.

Secret Father by *James Carroll*

In 1961 Berlin, three teenager from an American school in West Germany travel to East Berlin to join a May Day rally. They stumble into an international incident. Paul, the father of one of the boys, and Charlotte, the mother of another, set off to rescue their children.

Hollywood Divorces by *Jackie Collins*

In Hollywood, narcissism is a virtue and fidelity means not sleeping with anyone less attractive than your spouse. Three women find themselves on the treacherous pathway to divorce.

The Greek Villa by *Judith Gould*

Tracy Sullivan recognizes world famous movie star, Urania Vickers, as the mother who abandoned her.

Babyville by *Jane Green*

Three friends lives are suddenly turned upside down by that life-changing event that hangs over the head of every single girl: motherhood.

Bleachers by John Grisham

When Coach Rake's football "boys" come home to bury him, they find themselves sitting in the bleachers deciding whether they loved or hated him. For Neely Crenshaw, the stakes are especially high. Can he forgive his past and get on with his future?

The Fortress of Solitude by Jonathan Lethem

Friends and neighbors, Dylan and Mingus have a friendship that isn't simple. One black and one white. This is the story of belonging to a society that doesn't accept you. A story of prison and of college, of Brooklyn and Berkeley, of soul and rap, of murder and redemption.

Wish Come True by Eileen Goudge

The last book in the Carson Springs trilogy begins with Anna Vincenzi's arrest for the murder of her sister, Monica, whose career as a movie star ended abruptly when an accident left her in a wheelchair.

Lucia, Lucia by Adriana Trigiani

In 1950's New York City, Lucia Sartori, apprentice to up-and-coming designer at chic B, is forced to choose between duty to her family and her own dreams.

Irish Girls About Town by Maeve Binchy et al.

The Emerald Isle's most popular women writers prove that when it comes to spinning a good yarn, the Irish are the best in the business.

Short & Tall Tales: Moose County Legends Collected by James Mackintosh

Qwilleran by Lilian Jackson Braun

Good news for fans of the bestselling "Cat Who" mysteries. Fictional columnist Qwilleran has finally completed his book showcasing Moose County, that famous region 400 miles north of everywhere.

The Center of Everything by Laura Moriarty

As Evelyn winces through adolescence, she realizes that luck as well as people can't always be categorized as good or bad.

The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath (b. 1932 - d. 1963)

The brilliant, beautiful, enormously talented and successful Esther Greenwood slowly goes toward a breakdown.

Sylvia married Ted Hughes in 1956. They had 2 children, divorced in 1962, and soon after, Sylvia committed suicide. Feminist critics lambasted him for his infidelity and abandonment of his wife; controversy surrounded his editorship of Plath's poems and prose. Ironically, the woman he allegedly left Plath for Assia Wevill also committed suicide, and by carbon monoxide poisoning, the same method Sylvia used. It took Hughes thirty-five years to break silence on the subject: his final collection, *The Birthday Letters* documents every phase of his relationship with Plath. Published a year before his death from cancer, the book re-ignited the

famous controversy and met with mixed critical response. Ted Hughes died in October 1998 in Devonshire, England.

Say When by *Elizabeth Berg*

Griffin is happy, settled and adores his wife and child. But when his wife requests a divorce, his view of life is irrevocably altered.

Flirting With Pete by *Barbara Delinsky*

Casey Ellis has arrived at a lonely place in her life. Her mother remains in a coma years after a terrible accident and now her estranged father has died. As she sets out on a journey of self-discovery, she finds a message from her father.

Over His Dead Body by *Leslie Glass*

Cassandra Sales is gifted for nurturing others, but after 26 years of marriage, she decides to do something for herself. As the surprise goes awry when her husband collapses in a coma, Cassie gets a shock of her own as she takes over the household finances.

Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons by *Lorna Landvik*

The women of Freesia Court have come together at life's table, strongly convinced that bon bons can fix everything. So they form a book group that becomes a lifeline, mending broken hearts and shattered dreams.

Armageddon: The Cosmic Battle of the Ages (Left Behind, Bk 11)

by *Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins*

New love is sparked, recent love is formalized, and old love is aggrieved while millions gather for war. Who will be left standing on the brink of the end of time and the Glorious Appearing?

Late Bloomer by *Fern Michaels*

Late bloomer, Cady Jordan, returns to Indigo Valley to care for her ailing grandmother - the only person she ever truly loved. In return, her grandmother helps her face the tragedy of her childhood.

Time Lottery by *Nancy Moser*

What would you do if you could do it all over again? Three people will be chosen to be transported one week back in time to explore an alternate reality and choose which path to take.

The Young Wan by *Brendan O'Carroll*

Young Agnes manages to survive the indignities of Catholic school, but on the eve of her wedding night, all are abuzz. For the whole parish knows Agnes's not-so-well-kept secret.

Sweet Hush by *Deborah Smith*

Hush's son puts her respectably sweet life to the test, when he brings home his new bride ... the rebellious daughter of the President of the United States. Life may not be so sweet afterall.

The Devil Wears Prada by *Lauren Weisberger*

Andrea Sachs, fresh out of college, lands the job "a million girls would die for." As the assistant to Miranda Priestly, the fabulously successful editor of Runway magazine, Andrea finds herself in a life that gossip columns only hint at.

The Last Promise by *Richard Paul Evans*

In America, Eliana's story was that of a fairy tale. But in Italy, in the small, rustic village nestled in the Chianti countryside, Eliana finds her husband to be a very different man.

The King of Torts by *John Grisham*

Clay Carter stumbles into a conspiracy too horrible to believe while in the middle of a case against one of the largest pharmaceutical companies. The case could make him the newest "king of torts"...

A Fine Dark Line by *Joe R. Lansdale*

In a rich stew of memory and mystery, Stanley Mitchel Jr., who is 13 yrs old in 1958, is writing down, in midlife, what he recalls. Stanley unravels race and power and what people do to each other in the name of desire and religion.

When The Women Come Out To Dance by *Elmore Leonard*

Nine stories in one: Sparks, Hanging Out at the Buena Vista, Chickasaw Charlie Hoke, When the Women Come Out to Dance, Fire in the Hole, Karen Makes Out, Hurrah for Capt. Early, The Tonto Woman and Tenkiller.

Along Came Mary by *Jo-Ann Mapson* [#2 in "Bad Girl Creek" trilogy]

Mary Madigan saddles up her twin Border Collies and takes her act on the road, leaving miles of heartache and highway behind. Her travels and tribulations eventually land her in Bad Girl Creek where she fits in the the rest of the women on the farm.

Life of Pi by *Yann Martel*

What begins as a zookeeper's family voyage to a new world, ends as a young man's adventure in knowledge. Young Pi finds himself adrift, trapped on a lifeboat with a zebra, hyena, orangutan, and 450-pound tiger. After much gore, Pi survives to tell the tale.

Someone To Watch Over Me by *Judith McNaught*

Leigh Kendall leaves her Broadway show one night to meet her husband at their cottage in the country, driving straight into a blinding blizzard. When she awakens in the hospital, the police inform her that her husband has disappeared.

The Speed of Dark by *Elizabeth Moon*

As a high-functioning autistic adult, Lou Arrendale lives an independent life. He has a steady job, a car, friends and a passion for fencing. Why should he take part in an experimental treatment to reverse his autism?

Bergerac and the Fatal Weakness by *Andrew Saville*

When a small boy called Matthew arrives at the police department and announces he has been kidnapped, only Bergerac takes him seriously.

All He Ever Wanted by Anita Shreve

Amid the chaos of a hotel fire, Nicholas Van Tassel glimpsed Etna Bliss. He is so overwhelmed by her that he rebuilds his life around a single goal: to marry her. But their life together is not blissful...

Tricky Business by Dave Barry

On board a gambling cruise one night, a wildly diverse group of people find themselves in the middle of a tropical storm. What happens to them all sends their lives ricocheting off each other like a pinball game.

Quentins by Maeve Binchy

As Ella uncovers more and more of Quentins' history, she begins to question the wisdom of capturing it all in a documentary. Are some stories too sacred to be told?

No Way to Treat a First Lady by Christopher Buckley

In a bedroom spat, First Lady, Beth MacMann, hurls a Paul Revere spittoon at the President who subsequently dies an hour later. The media terms her "Lady Bethmac" and puts her on trial.

Caramelo by Sandra Cisneros

This is a multi-generational story of a Mexican-American family whose voices create a dazzling weave of humor, passion, and poignancy.

Star Quality by Joan Collins

When gutsy Irish redhead Millie McClancey defies her humble beginnings to pursue a life on the stage, she becomes the first of four generations of unforgettable women in show business.

Three Junes by Julia Glass

The McLeod family during three vital summers is rich with implications about the bonds and stresses of kin and friendship, the ache of loneliness and the cautious tendrils of renewal blossoming in unexpected ways.

The Seduction of Water by Carol Goodman

Barely published writer Iris recounts an eerie Irish fairy tale her mother used to tell her at bedtime, but nestled inside it is the sad story of her mother's death a secret someone else would like to keep hidden.

The Sunday Wife by Cassandra King

Married for 20 years, Dean Lynch has never quite adjusted her temperament to the demands of the "Sunday wife" of a Methodist preacher.

Lullaby by Chuck Palahniuk

Carl Streator is a reporter doing a story on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. In his investigation, he uncovers an ominous thread: an African chant or "culling song" that turns out to be lethal when spoken.

I Dont Know How She Does It: the Life of Kate Reddy, Working Mother *by Allison Pearson*

Uproariously funny and achingly sad, the story captures the guilty secret lives of working women.

The Story of Lucy Gault *by William Trevor*

At 9 years old in the 1920s, Lucy runs away to convince her parents not to move to England from Ireland. She sets off a series of tragic misunderstandings that affect everyone in town.

Ruffian On the Stair *by Nina Bawden*

Wallis's voice quivers with rage, whispers dark secrets, and resounds with bravado as he undertakes the revelations of an unusual family, brilliantly reconstructed by one of Britain's master storytellers.

True to Form *by Elizabeth Berg*

This book is set in the summer of 1961, sandwiched between events portrayed in Durable Goods and Joy School. 13-yr old Katie hopes to do something more glamorous than the jobs arranged by her dad.

The Runaway Quilt: An Elm Creek Quilts Novel, #4 *by Jennifer Chiaverini*

Sylvia finds 3 quilts and a memoir in her attic, describing how the quilts were used to beckon fugitive slaves to Elm Creek Manor.

Titles in Elm Creek Quilts: Quilter's Apprentice, Round Robin, and Cross-Country Quilters.

The Nanny Diaries *by Emma McLaughlin & Nicola Kraus*

Nanny rapidly learns the insane amount of juggling involved to ensure that a Park Avenue wife has a smooth day.

Simple Gifts *by Jude Deveraux & Judith McNaught*

Four Heartwarming Christmas Stories

by Deveraux: Just Curious and Change of Heart

by McNaught: Miracles and Double Exposure

Flight Lessons *by Patricia Gaffney*

Follow-up novel to "Saving Graces." At 36, Anna Catalano is going home to the Eastern Shore of Maryland after finding her boyfriend in bed with her boss and best friend.

Pen Pals *by Olivia Goldsmith*

When "Wall Street showboater" Jennifer Spencer agreed to take the heat for her boss's insider trading, she thought at worst she'd be sent to some country club prison for white collar ladies.

Taste Of Honey: a Carson Springs Novel, Bk 2 *by Eileen Goudge*

28 years have elapsed since Gerry Fitzgerald gave her newborn daughter up for adoption.

At the time, it was one of the hardest choices she had to make--right after her decision not to take her final vows to become a nun.

In *Stranger in Paradise*, the first novel in the trilogy, Carson Springs unsuccessfully hides the murmurings of discontent of 48-yr old Samantha Kiley and her daughters, Alice and Laura.

Native Speaker by Chang-rae Lee

Henry Park, a 2nd-generation Korean who works as a spy, gets assigned to do things he has avoided all his life--face up to his roots, evaluate his loyalties, and understand the pain he carries deep within.

Heart and Soul by Sally Mandel

Bess Stallone, a potty-mouthed, tough Long Island girl, is a piano-playing prodigy whose ready to give up until the gorgeous, rich, and famous virtuoso David Montagnier picks her to be his new partner.

Driving In The Dark by Deborah Moggach

Desmond is at a crossroads in his life. After being thrown out by his wife, he steers on a reckless quest to find the son he has never seen.

Female Trouble by Antonya Nelson

Named one of the best writers of the 21st century, Nelson reveals ourselves through 13 stories in her trademark offbeat humor.

Step Ball Change by Jeanne Ray

This picture-perfect family dances off to a rollicking start that never lets up.

Miss Julia Throws a Wedding by Ann B. Ross

Intent on preserving the niceties, Miss Julia takes over the wedding for Coleman and Binkie, vetoing their plans for a quick courthouse union and struggling to pull together a tasteful formal event.

Sea Glass by Anita Shreve

Honora Beecher is a young newlywed who compulsively collects sea glass along the beach just as she collects unexpected friendship in her new depression-era beachside community.

Instances of the Number 3 by Salley Vickers

When Peter Handsome died in a car accident, people were surprised that his widow seemed to be spending so much time with his mistress. That is the first surprise in this comical love triangle.

The Christmas Train by David Baldacci

Journalist Tom Langdon must get from Washington to L.A. in time for Christmas. He begins a journey of self-discovery and thrilling adventure, screwball escapades and holiday magic.

Distant Shores by Kristin Hannah

After the children leave home, Elizabeth and Jackson Shore quietly drift apart. Faced with her own disillusionment, she makes a fateful decision, risking everything she has for a second chance at happiness.

Walters Purple Heart by Catherine Ryan Hyde

Michael Steeb, pot farmer in the 1980s, seeks answers to strange memories on the Ouija board. He finds Walter, the spirit of a young WWII soldier, and sets out to find Walters best friend and fiancée.

Some Days Theres Pie by Catherine Landis

Two women gain a mother-daughter friendship at a North Carolina five-and-dime. In Ruth, Rose finds someone who refuses to see old age as a handicap, giving her life new purpose.

The Beach House by Mary Alice Monroe

In reconnecting with her mother at the family beach house, Caretta learns lifes most precious lessons -- that mistakes of the past can be forgotten.

Sula by Toni Morrison [Oprah Book Club and winner Nobel Prize for Literature 1993]

Sula and Nel are friends, both black, smart and raised poor in a small Ohio town. What happens to change this bond from friendship to hatred?

The Dive From Clausens Pier by Ann Packer

Carrie Bell has lived in Wisconsin all her life and is feeling suffocated. She longs for change. When her fiance is injured in an accident, she questions how much we owe the people we love.

Bel Canto by Ann Patchett

At a party hijacked by terrorists, something unexpected happens an unusual bond is formed between the hostages and terrorists.

The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold

Susie watches life from heaven after her brutal death, her loved ones holding out hope shell be found, her killer covering his tracks.

Unless by Carol Shields

Retas happiness in life cracks one fearful day when her beloved eldest daughter goes to find her own happiness.

Put a Lid On It by Donald E. Westlake [comic crime caper]

Meehan is in federal prison for hijacking a mail truck he thought contained computer chips. A presidential reelection official offers him a pardon with a Watergate-type scheme to steal a video.

A Fine Balance by Rohinton Mistry [Oprah Book Club]

In 1975 India the government has just declared a State of Emergency. Four strangers are thrust together in a tale about the human spirit living in an inhuman state.

For Rouenna by Sigrid Nunez

The death of one friend motivates a novelist to write her friend's story, the story about a combat nurse in Vietnam.

Custody by Nancy Thayer

Kelly, a family court judge, begins to suspect that the adopted daughter of the man she loves is the baby she gave up when she was in college.

Stillwater by William F. Weld

A 1938 coming of age story for a 15 yr-old boy watching life unravel for the men and women around him

John Henry Days by Colson Whitehead

Juxtaposing the story of American folk hero John Henry and a 21st-century freelance writer J. Sutter who finds new dimension to his soul.

Letters for Emily by Camron Wright

In this tearjerker, author Wright delves into a family's struggle with a dying parent's mental illness, a broken marriage and a mysterious legacy left to Emily, a seven-year-old granddaughter.

Three Weeks in Paris by Barbara Taylor Bradford

Chronicles of the lives of four women, all alumni of an exclusive arts school in Paris, who must confront their stormy pasts when they are invited to attend a special birthday party

The Pickup: a novel by Nadine Gordimer

Julie, ashamed of her rich, white background, has left the suburbs to hang out with the hip multiracial crowd in the city; then one day she picks up an illegal Arab immigrant, "Abdu."

The Reconstructionist by Josephine Hart

Jack Harrington is a capable psychiatrist, but his own life is less than perfect. Although he has successfully suppressed the past, the present threatens to unravel around him.

Atonement by Ian McEwan

This sagalike book sweeps from prewar Britain to Dunkirk to a family reunion in 2001, propelled by a dark moment when three children lost their innocence.

Tea and Tiramisu by Karen Nelson

Venice is the setting for this romp of characters from would-be writer, Lissabelle, to the love-blinded Netty.

Man and Boy by Tony Parsons

Harry Silver is happily married to Gina and father to 4 year-old son, Pat. When Harry

rashly sleeps with a coworker after a tough day at work, Gina finds out and leaves him not only to figure out how to take care of his son but to make a living.

Safe Harbor *by Luanne Rice*

Dana and Lily were the closest of sisters. Now, Dana must find the strength to face her sister's suspicious death, raise her nieces and open her heart to the truth about her future.

The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari: a Fable About Fulfilling Your Dreams and Reaching Your Destiny *by Robin S. Sharma*

This inspiring fictional tale provides a step-by-step approach to living with greater courage, balance, abundance, and joy.

Miss Garnet's Angel *by Salley Vickers*

Retired teacher Julia Garnet does something completely out of character, she rents a modest appartamento in Venice. Julia, virgin, atheist, and Communist finds herself falling under the spell of Venice's intoxicating beauty and religiosity.

A False Sense of Well Being *by Jeanne Braselton*

A funny and engaging tale about marriage, confessions, and crossroads in life.

The Biographers Tale *by A. S. Byatt*

Phineas G. decides to write a biography about a biographer. But a whole life is hard to find.

Truelove and Homegrown Tomatoes *by Julie Cannon*

After 48 years of marriage, Imogene Lavender is shattered when her beloved husband dies. Can she find new love at the local grocery store? Imos search for love is sometimes painful, sometimes comical, and always surprising.

Getting Back Brahms *by Mavis Cheek*

Bookstore owner Diana is determined to get rid of painful memories by taking on a whole new project.

Good Harbor *by Anita Diamant*

Two women meet at a fragile time in their lives in Massachusetts. They become very good friends and help each other to confront life.

The Deadwood Beetle *by Mylene Dressler*

Tristan Martens, a retired entomologist, is shaken by the discovery of his mothers sewing table in an antique shop. Knowing the truth behind the scrawled inscription, he must confront the terrible secrets of his past.

Blue Diary *by Alice Hoffman*

A novel about the courage to face the truths in our lives and forgive the most unforgiving circumstances

Clays Quilt *by Silas House*

In the community of Clay's Quilt, moral and ethical dilemmas are not worked out in individual angst and isolation, but through the fabric of human relationships.

Lake Wobegon Summer 1956 *by Garrison Keillor*

Garrison writes a story about a young writer who grew up in a town which had no patience for his ungodly obsessions.

Bad Girl Creek *by Jo-Ann Mapson*

Wheelchair bound Phoebe Thomas inherits a flower farm. The three roommates she takes in to help run the farm form an invaluable bond with her.

The Persia Cafe *by Melany Neilson*

This novel examines racism and loyalty in a small Mississippi River town.

Suzannes Diary for Nicholas *by James Patterson*

Katie Wilkinson had found who she thought was the perfect man. But, suddenly he disappeared and left her with only a diary to read.

Stone Heart *by Luanne Rice*

Globe-trotting archaeologist Maria Dark desires to return to the comforts of family, but her homecoming is transformed into a hideous family tragedy.

Empire Falls *by Richard Russo*

Miles Roby is encircled by history and dreams in Empire Falls, Maine. He has witnessed the logging and textile industry go broke and now it affects his Empire Grill.

Big Cherry Holler: A Stone Gap Novel *by Adriana Trigiani*

When a long time spinster finally married, she hoped for happiness. But, ghosts of the past haunt her and test her love.

He Sees You When You're Sleeping *by Mary Higgins Clark and Carol Higgins Clark*

If you liked the movie *It's a Wonderful Life*, you'll love this book. Co-written by the Higgins-Clark mother-daughter team this novel is a tale of perseverance, redemption, and love filled with suspense and humor. An angel is sent to help 7-yr old Marissa return to her loved ones from the Witness Protection Program.

Between Lovers *by Eric Jerome Dickey*

The runaway bride abandons the ceremony for some much-needed self-exploration, and though she's still in love with her ex-fiance, she quickly moves in with female lover Ayanna, a fiery, cynical attorney.

The Corrections *by Jonathan Franzen*

All five members of the Lambert family get their due as everybody's lives swirl out of control. Mother Enid struggles to get her wayward children home for "one last Christmas" before father's alzheimers becomes irrevocable.

Not a Day Goes By by E. Lynn Harris

A lavish wedding is planned until the pasts threaten the future of this ultimate power couple. He is the ex-football player with a romantic history with men and women, and she, an ambitious and crafty Broadway star.

Rag Man by Pete Hautman

Enlivened with deadpan humor and crisp dialogue, Hautman ultimately confronts the darkness of a good man gone bad. When Mack finally realizes what he has become, it's too late for redemption.

Also available by Hautman a wild lottery winner Mrs. Million.

Bread Alone by Judith Ryan Hendricks

At the age of 30, Wynter Morrison has lost all that once defined her--her husband, her home, and her social life. She is left with one great friend, the city of Seattle and a job baking bread that renews her soul.

The Absence of Nectar by Kathy Hepinstall

Meg tells her children that they have wild imaginations, until she comes to kiss them one night. Instead of her usual endearments, she whispers a single word: Run.

How To Be Good by Nick Hornby

A hilarious romp into middle-class mores, Hornby paints a sympathetic portrait of a marriage on the rocks. It's hard to know whether to laugh or cry as the husband draws up schemes for the countrys redistribution of wealth.

Jacqueline Susanns Shadow of the Dolls by Rae Lawrence

When Susann died, she left notes for a sequel to Valley of the Dolls. Now, Valium and Xanax have replaced the 1960s "dolls," but the elements of steamy sex, love affairs, and nasty girl-fights remain.

Tishomingo Blues by Elmore Leonard

Tired of traveling from carnival to carnival performing dives from an 80-foot ladder, Dennis no sooner settles into Tishomingo Lodge when he becomes a witness to a cold-blooded killing.

Niagara Falls All Over Again by Elizabeth McCracken

The 30-year, vaudeville-like partnership of Mose and Rocky was a lot of laughs...until one unforgiveable act leads to another and their friendship begins to unravel.

This Rock by Robert Morgan

The Powell brothers, Muir and Moody, are as different as Cain and Abel. Jealous of Muir's favored position in the household, Moody derides his younger brother's efforts to support the family.

Also available in Large Print by Robert Morgan: Gap Creek

The Stone Flower Garden by Deborah Smith

The darker side of family myths wreak havoc on the lives of two young, Southern women immersed in complex situations of love, loss, and redemption.

Also available in Large Print by Smith: *A Place To Call Home*

A Second Legacy by Joanna Trollope writing as Caroline Harvey

This is a follow-up novel about the descendants of *Legacy of Love*. Two generations of women encounter romance and adventure from a crumbling family estate in Scotland to a war-torn Kabul.

Grace and Favor by Caroline Upcher

As estranged sisters Grace and Favor gradually reconnect family ties, an unforgettable story unfolds, pulling the sisters back home.

The Book of Illusions by Paul Auster

Watching television one night, Vermont professor David Zimmer stumbles upon a clip from a lost film by silent comedian Hector Mann. Zimmer embarks on a journey to study Mann who vanished from sight in 1929.

China Run by David Ball

Allison Turk was a strait-laced civil engineer from Denver who was now hunted by police and huddled in the bowels of a broken-down cargo boat on the Wan Li Chang.

P. G. County by Connie Briscoe

Meet the women of Prince George County whose lives intersect in this swanky and raucous community.

Street Boys by Lorenzo Carcaterra

In Naples, Italy in the fall of 1943, orphaned street boys rely on their own ingenuity fighting to save the city from the Nazis or die trying.

Big If by Mark Costello

As a brother and sister are reeling from the death of their father, their professional lives take a turn for the worse.

The Terminal Man by Michael Crichton

The tension rises as the reader becomes a witness to an experiment just short of the ultimate computer control of a human being. Psychosurgery.

Fire Ice: a novel from the NUMA Files by Clive Cussler

In the heart of the old Soviet Union, a mining tycoon has proclaimed himself czar of Russia. He plans to keep the Americans busy exploding fire ice all along the eastern seaboard.

The Monk Downstairs by Tim Farrington

Rebecca Martin is a single mother with an apartment to rent. Her new tenant turns out to be Michael Christopher, a monk just out of the monastery.

Blood of Victory by Alan Furst

Russian writer I.A. Serebin, facing his 5th war, has been recruited for an operation run by a Hungarian master spy working for the British secret services.

The Future Homemakers of America by Laurie Graham

For 5 American Air Force wives, Norfolk, England, in 1952 is a long way from home. While their husbands patrol, the high-spirited wives make the most of their overseas mission.

A Parchment of Leaves by Silas House

Raised in Kentucky in the early 1900s, Cherokee-born Vine has settled in with a young white man, and its worse than she ever imagined. It becomes a test of the spirit.

Charleston by John Jakes

Charleston follows one unforgettable family from the American Revolution through the Civil War, delving into the loves and shifting fortunes of Bells, saints and evil-doers.

Blue Shoe by Anne Lamott

Mattie Ryder is marvelously neurotic, and her life at the moment is a wreck. Then she comes upon a small rubber blue shoe left in her deceased fathers car which holds the clue to her messy upbringing.

A Gesture Life by Chang-Rae Lee

The return of "Doc" Hatas estranged adopted daughter and her young son cause him to reexamine his facade while trying to keep his current life from unraveling.

Malaise by Nancy Lemann

Fleming Ford is a New York journalist, born in Mississippi, whose husband's work takes the family to Esperanza, a San Diegoesque resort city not far from the Mexican border.

Between Friends by Debbie Macomber

As Jillian and Lesley go through the years, they confide everything in each other every grief and every joy.

Swan by Frances Mayes

The body of Ginger Mason's mother, a suicide nineteen years earlier, has been mysteriously exhumed in the small Edenic, Georgia town of Swan.

In Revere, In Those Days by Roland Merullo

The Benedetto family is a hard-working Italian American family living north of Boston forty years ago, struggling to live out their lives with extraordinary dignity in the freight train that is America.

Kentucky Sunrise by Fern Michaels

Michaels completes the saga of the Coleman and Thornton families with this follow-up to Kentucky Rich and Kentucky Heat. She focuses on the relationship between Nealy, a one-time runaway unwed mother who became the indomitable horsewoman-proprietor of Blue Diamond Farms, and her daughter, Emmie.

The Art of Deception by Ridley Pearson

Seattle police psychologist Daphne Matthews has her hands full with a pregnant, addicted, runaway teenager, a murder victim's brother whose strange behavior unnerves her, and a deputy sheriff she once treated who's now stalking her.

That Old Ace In The Hole by Annie Proulx

Bob Dollar, a young Denver man is trying to make good in a bad world. His task at the Global PorkRind corporation is to purchase big spreads of land to be converted into hog farms.

The First Billion by Christopher Reich

Former fighter pilot turned CEO is banking on the riskiest gamble of his career. But when rumors of fraud surface, he finds himself trapped in a conspiracy that could plunge the global economy into chaos.

Chesapeake Blue by Nora Roberts

In the long-awaited conclusion to her breathtaking Chesapeake Bay saga, Roberts returns to Maryland's Eastern Shore and her beloved Quinn family.

The Whore's Child and Other Stories by Richard Russo

A jaded Hollywood moviemaker uncovers a decades-old flame. A precocious 5th grader watches his parents marriage dissolve. A Septuagenarian nun invades a college writing workshop. And more.

McNally's Alibi (character by Lawrence Sanders) by Vincent Largo

When the supposed owner of a rare manuscript meets with misadventure in a sleazy motel, and Archy McNally awakens with a bump on the head, there is no end to the finger-pointing going on between a bunch of scoundrels.

All Is Vanity by Christina Schwarz

Margaret and Letty, childhood friends living on opposite coasts, have a sense of not being where they ought to be in their mid-thirties. Against her better nature, Margaret pushed Letty into taking risks.

Tourmaline by Joanna Scott

Desperate in 1950 to escape the embarrassment of his financial failures in America, Murray struggles to establish a homestead and a fortune on the island of Elba.

Lines of Defense by Barry Siegel

When a deadly house fire claims the lives of a local retiree and his 11-yr old piano student, DA Angela Stark wastes no time declaring the blaze a mishap to keep the case open.

The Last Girls by Lee Smith

Five college pals grew up in an era when they were called girls. As adults they learned to negotiate life as "women."

December 6 by Martin Cruz Smith

In the crazed, nationalistic Tokyo of late 1941, missionary born American Harry Niles must decide where his allegiance lies.

Better To Rest by Dana Stabenow

A grisly discovery leads Liam Campbell to the site of a crashed WWII army plane frozen in a glacier. The case will pit Liam against his father, Colonel Charles Bradley Campbell of the USAF.

Down To a Soundless Sea by Thomas Steinbeck

In 7 stories, John Steinbeck's son traces the fates and dreams of an extraordinary cast of characters as each struggles to carve out a living in 1930s California.

Reversible Errors by Scott Turow

An inmates execution is close when new evidence appears that may exonerate him. Further complicating things is the fact that the judge recently got out of prison herself for taking bribes.

MULTI-CULTURAL FICTION

Iqbal by *Francesco D'Adamo* [Pakistan]

For Iqbal, one of the "unseen" children working in a Pakistani carpet factory, he knew no matter how many inches of rug he made, or how perfect the pattern, his family's debt would never be cancelled. Believing that his life was worth more than a rug, he broke the chain that bonded him to the loom.

Laughing Boy: a Navajo Love Story by *Oliver La Farge* [winner of the Pulitzer]

"Laughing Boy" knew nothing of the white man, as he grew up worshiping Indian gods. Slim Girl knew too much about the white man, turned by his schools dreaming of revenge. Slim Girl saw Laughing Boy as her only hope and her salvation.

Ties That Bind, Ties That Break by *Lensey Namioka* [China]

Ailin rebels against the torturous tradition of binding girls' feet. When the family of her intended husband breaks the marriage agreement, Ailin feels no remorse, but as she enters adolescence and her family is no longer willing to support her, she realizes how powerless she is because no one will marry her. Defying tradition, she learns English to make her own living.

Homeless Bird by *Gloria Whelan* [India]

Like many girls her age in India, 13-yr old Koly is getting married. When she discovers that her husband is a sickly boy with wicked parents, she wishes she could flee. On her wedding day her fate is sealed.