Susan Abulhawa

**Mornings in Jenin** (Historical). 322 pages.

Taking the enduring Middle Eastern conflict as its theme, this moving and compassionate novel follows the fortunes over ensuing decades of one Palestinian family forced into exile in 1948.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

**Purple Hibiscus** (General). 307 pages.

This tense narrative captures both a country and an adolescence at a time of tremendous change. Shortlisted for the Orange Prize for Fiction.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

**Half of a Yellow Sun** (General). 433 pages.

Told from the point of view of three very different witnesses to the horrors of the Biafran war, this Orange Prize winner is an uncompromising and deeply moving tale of survival against all odds.

Boris Akunin

**The Winter Queen** (Crime). 249 pages.

This lively romp introduces us to Erast Fandorin, a dashing young detective brought in to investigate the mysterious death of an industrialist's son in 1870s Moscow. From a bestselling Russian author.

Mitch Albom

**For One More Day** (General). 197 pages.

Charley Benetto is at the end of his tether and feeling suicidal. But then fate allows him to spend a day with his mother, who died 8 years before. It's his opportunity to make amends, and could just save his life. A touching and uplifting tale.

Naomi Alderman

**The Lessons** (General). 278 pages.

A group of naïve Oxford undergraduates find themselves drawn towards a wealthy and overprivileged young man who exerts a powerful influence over their lives. A must-read for fans of 'Brideshead' and Donna Tartt's 'Secret History'.

Isabel Allende

**Zorro** (Historical). 390 pages.

A brisk and entertaining swashbuckler charting the life of Diego de la Vega, the man who was to become Zorro. The legendary hero is given a new lease of life in this original and colourful tale.
Karin Altenberg  
**Island of Wings** (Historical). 368 pages.  
In 1830, a Scottish clergyman arrives with his wife on the remote island of St Kilda, determined to bring the word of God into the lives of the inhabitants. The harshness of island life is sensitively explored in this poignant debut novel.

Maya Angelou  
**I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings** (Biography). 309 pages.  
Life as a black child in the Deep South of the 1930s is described in vivid detail in this lyrically written first volume of autobiography from this major figure in the civil rights movement. A classic of Afro-Caribbean literature.

Jeffrey Archer  
**And Thereby Hangs a Tale** (Short stories). 274 pages.  
From an author well known both for his real and fictional escapades, this collection of short stories is sure to be a pageturner.

Simon Armitage  
Tackling the Pennine Way back to front, poet Simon Armitage tries his hand as a penniless travelling player, performing readings in village halls in exchange for a meal and a bed for the night. A quirky and touching travelogue.

Diana Athill  
**Somewhere Towards the End** (Biography). 182 pages.  
After a distinguished career as a literary editor, Diana Athill turned her hand to memoirs. Here are her frank and lively thoughts on old age.

Kate Atkinson  
**Life After Life** (General). 608 pages.  
An intriguing tale of birth, death and rebirth played out during the first half of the twentieth century, and is sure to appeal to her ever growing army of dedicated fans. Winner of the Costa Novel Award 2013.

Jane Austen  
**Northanger Abbey** (Classic). 346 pages.  
After two centuries, Jane Austen is as popular as ever, so this modest volume offers Janeites the chance to read her famous Gothic tale, along with three further notable short works.
Pam Ayres
The Necessary Aptitude (Biography). 404 pages.
Life in a large family in a small council house, and the comings and goings of country folk in postwar Berkshire are vividly depicted in this charming and poignant memoir from Britain's favourite comic poet.

Fredrik Backman **NEW TITLE**
Man Called Ove (General). 294 pages.
At first sight, Ove is almost certainly the grumpiest man you will ever meet but in the end, you will see, there is something about Ove that is quite irresistible... A funny, moving, uplifting tale of love and community that will leave you with a spring i

Jean Baggott
The Girl on the Wall (Biography). 334 pages.
As a Millennium project, a Black Country grandmother decided to record her life in cross-stitch. Inspired by the resulting tapestry and the memories and events it depicts, she went on to write this fascinating and entertaining memoir.

Joan Bakewell
All the Nice Girls (General). 337 pages.
When a wartime girls' school is visited by sailors from their adopted ship, the sixth formers, not to mention their headmistress, are eager to make new acquaintances amongst the crew. What follows has long lasting repercussions for all of them.

Lynne Reid Banks
The L-shaped Room (Classic). 269 pages.
This classic tale of a pregnant young woman forced to fend for herself in a squalid boarding house, gives pause to reflect on how far society has come in fifty years, but also serves as a reminder that social stigma is never far away.

Maria Barbal
Stone in a Landslide (General). 126 pages.
An old and careworn Catalan woman reflects on her younger years before the Spanish Civil War in this resonant short novel. A modern Catalan classic with echoes of Laurie Lee.

Muriel Barbery
The Elegance of the Hedgehog (General). 320 pages.
A Parisian concierge and a young resident of the same exclusive apartment block both live unfulfilled lives, but for very different reasons, until fate intervenes. A quirky yet very accessible French novel
Pat Barker

A young art student finds his life turned upside down by the outbreak of the First World War. As a Red Cross volunteer he witnesses the horrors taking place at Ypres, and in the aftermath of this experience, comes to question his future.

Julian Barnes

*The Sense of an Ending* (General). 505 pages.
A spiteful letter written by an overwrought young man leads to consequences which only become clear to him many years later. This cleverly crafted but controversially short novel won the Man Booker Prize for 2011.

H.E. Bates

*Fair Stood the Wind for France* (War). 255 pages.
Published at the height of the Second World War, this stirring tale of love and survival in Occupied France is a notable contrast to H E Bates' later, lighter Larkin novels.

Jean-Dominique Bauby

*The Diving-Bell and the Butterfly* (Biography). 139 pages.
Felled by a massive stroke, a vigorous French magazine editor was left unable to communicate other than by moving one eyelid. In the short time remaining to him, he dictated this astounding and truly humbling book.

M C Beaton

*The Skeleton in the Closet* (Crime). 262 pages.
Convinced his family is working class, and obliged to work to keep his ungrateful mother until her death, Fellworth Dolphin is shocked to discover he has inherited a fortune, and wonders how this can be. Cue the skeletons in this quirky crime caper.

Being Alive

*The Sequel to 'Staying Alive'* (Poetry). 512 pages.
This second volume of uplifting poems is a worthy successor to the hugely popular 'Staying Alive', and is sure to get your group talking.

Arnold Bennett

*Anna of the Five Towns* (Classic). 236 pages.
Set against the harsh backdrop of the Staffordshire potteries, this is the memorable tale of one woman’s struggle to defy the conventions of Victorian society.
John Berendt
Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil (Non-fiction). 386 pages.
The old adage 'truth is stranger than fiction' really does apply in the case of this scandalous but extremely entertaining book, whose author describes the seamy side of life in the southern town of Savannah, Georgia.

Paul Binding
After Brock (General). 266 pages.
With a wealth of Shropshire and borderland references, 'After Brock' is a contemporary tale of mystery and strange coincidences with a strong ecological theme. From a notable Bishop's Castle based author.

Ronald Blythe
Akenfield (Non-fiction). 287 pages.
First published in 1969, this affectionate portrait of a rural Suffolk village captured the authentic voices of labourers and landowners alike, and stands today as a record of a way of life almost lost to history.

S J Bolton
Awakening (Adventure). 538 pages.
Rural life has its hazards, but when wildlife Vet Clara Benning is brought in for an expert opinion on a fatal snake bite incident involving a local man, she soon discovers things aren't at all what they seem.

Jane Borodale
The Knot (Historical). 430 pages.
In 16th century Somerset, botanist Henry Lyte dreams of establishing an exquisite garden complete with a knot of herbs. But his work is hampered by something eerie in the air. An atmospheric period drama.

Frank Cottrell Boyce
Framed (Humour). 312 pages.
Life in a tiny Welsh village is pretty humdrum for young Dylan and his family. But what's going on at the local slate mine? A funny and heartwarming tale that appeals to all ages.

William Boyd
Waiting for Sunshine (General). 403 pages.
Vienna, 1913. Lysander Rief, a young English actor, sits in the waiting room of the city's preeminent psychiatrist. When beautiful Hettie Bull walks in he is immediately drawn to her, unaware of how destructive the consequences of their subsequent affair.
William Boyd  
Ordinary Thunderstorms (General). 416 pages.  
What starts out as a perfectly ordinary day for climatologist Adam Kindred, ends with him on the run from the authorities and the target of a ruthless hitman. A fast paced contemporary thriller with a clever and resourceful hero.

William Boyd  
An Ice Cream War (Historical). 429 pages.  
Unaware of the 1918 Armistice, fighting continues in one forgotten East African enclave in this engrossing tale of love and the futility of war.

John Boyne  
The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas (War). 216 pages.  
Moved to a strange new home because of his father's work, young Bruno makes friends with a boy dressed in pyjamas who lives beyond a huge wire fence. But this is no fairy story.

John Boyne  
The Absolutionist (War). 427 pages.  
Following the end of WW1 Tristan Sadler travels to Norwich to deliver a clutch of letters to Marian Bancroft from her brother Will, who brought disgrace on the family when he laid down his guns on the battlefield and declared himself a conscientious objector.

Ray Bradbury  
Fahrenheit 451 (Classic). 227 pages.  
This chilling classic tale of a society where books are forbidden and routinely burned is a worthy companion to dystopian novels such as Orwell's '1984' and Huxley's 'Brave New World'.

Alan Bradley  
The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie (Crime). 363 pages.  
Distracted from her plan to get her own back on her older sisters, eleven year-old Flavia de Luce turns her attention to the body in the garden in this charming country house murder mystery.

Melvyn Bragg  
Soldier's Return (General). 375 pages.  
A demobbed soldier returns to his wife and young son in 1946 but finds that adapting to civilian life is far from straightforward. Set in the author's native Cumbria, this is a finely wrought and satisfying novel.
Jo Brand
**The More You Ignore Me** (Humour). 344 pages.
Growing up in the 1980s in an unconventional Herefordshire family, Alice finds an equally unconventional soulmate in Morrissey, lead singer of the Smiths. The only drawback is she's never actually met him.

Charlotte Bronte
**Jane Eyre** (Classic). 447 pages.
Charlotte Bronte's classic tale of a humble governess and her forbidden love for a married man is still a powerful and compelling book. Filmed 1944, 1996.

Jessie Burton
**The Miniaturist** (Historical). 427 pages.
On an autumn day in 1686 Nella Oortman has come from the country to the wealthiest quarter of Amsterdam to begin a new life as the wife of illustrious merchant trader Johannes Brandt. Her new husband presents her with an extraordinary wedding gift: a cabi

Michael Byers
**The Unfixed Stars** (Historical). 414 pages.
Based on the true story of the discovery of Pluto in 1930, this lively and engrossing period tale with a large cast of well-drawn characters should appeal directly to fans of Steinbeck and Scott Fitzgerald.

Michael Cannon
**Lachlan's War** (General). 258 pages.
Rural Scotland, 1941. A village doctor takes in a traumatised evacuee boy, and three English land girls arrive to do their bit for the war effort. Together these events uncover dark secrets in the close-knit local community.

Truman Capote
**In Cold Blood** (Non-fiction). 336 pages.
Following the notoriously brutal and senseless murder of an entire family in Holcomb, Kansas, Truman Capote travelled to the town and immersed himself in the case. This seminal work of literary non-fiction was the result. Filmed 1967.

Raphael Cardetti
**Death in the Latin Quarter** (Adventure). 312 pages.
When a young restorer is commissioned to work on a faded medieval manuscript, little does she know that there are more than just academics keen to decipher its content. An atmospheric Parisian tale of intrigue.
J L Carr  
**A Month in the Country** (Historical). 85 pages.  
In 1920, a young man recently back from the war spends an idyllic summer restoring a medieval wall painting in the church of a sleepy Yorkshire village. A beautifully written and memorable novella. Filmed 1987.

Angela Carter  
**Wise Children** (Humour). 234 pages.  
This witty and irreverent tale is set in the world of the theatre, where the fortunes of two acting dynasties, one 'high' and the other 'low' are inextricably entwined to comic effect.

Camilla Ceder  
**Frozen Moment** (Crime). 378 pages.  
DI Christian Tell investigates possible links between murders in the bleak countryside surrounding Gothenberg. The story of a young girl at odds with her family adds a disturbing counterpoint to this dark debut Swedish crime novel.

Bruce Chatwin  
**On the Black Hill** (General). 262 pages.  
Twin brothers Benjamin and Lewis Jones spend their whole lives toiling on a remote farm on the Welsh border, hardly aware that they belong to the modern age. A lyrical tale reminiscent of Mary Webb.

Tracy Chevalier  
**Remarkable Creatures** (Historical). 352 pages.  
This is a touching fictionalised tribute to Mary Anning, the nineteenth century fossil hunter whose discoveries on the beach at sleepy Lyme Regis set the scientific world alight, and whose influence is still felt today.

Tracy Chevalier **NEW TITLE**  
**The Last Runaway** (Historical). 386 pages.  
Starting a new life in 1850's Ohio, a Dorset Quaker woman finds herself at odds with her new kinsfolk when the unsavoury subject of slavery rears its head, and prepares to risk everything for her principles. Exciting period drama from this hugely popular

Amy Chua  
**Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother** (Biography). 244 pages.  
This startling memoir from a Chinese American mother who wants the best for her children at all costs, makes for riveting reading, and is sure to lead to a lively discussion.
Harlen Coben  
**Caught** (Crime). 380 pages.  
A TV reporter specialising in ensnaring paedophiles finds a seemingly straightforward case take a sinister turn in this fast-moving suburban thriller.

Jonathan Coe  
**The Rain Before it Falls** (General). 278 pages.  
Largely set in Shropshire, this poignant and atmospheric tale of family secrets is written by one of the most renowned English novelists working today.

Jonathan Coe  
**The Terrible Privacy of Maxwell Sim** (General). 339 pages.  
A middle aged man sets off on a symbolic journey to Shetland in a hybrid company car to promote ecologically friendly toothbrushes, but on the way undergoes a personal voyage of self-discovery. An amusing yet poignant novel.

Barbara Comyns  
**Our Spoons Came from Woolworths** (Classic). 196 pages.  
A young and naïve woman with a penchant for newts is the heroine of this charmingly eccentric novel set in bohemian circles in the London of the 1930s. A quirky rediscovered classic.

Evan. S. Connell  
**Mrs Bridge** (General). 187 pages.  
In pre-war Kansas City, a straight-laced housewife begins to wonder what the world is coming to and where she went wrong. A touchingly humorous American classic recommended in 'The Guardian' by Lionel Shriver.

Karen Connelly  
**The Lizard Cage** (General). 424 pages.  
Teza is seven years into a twenty-year sentence in solitary confinement, cut off from his family and contact with other prisoners. Enduring the harsh conditions with resourcefulness, Buddhist patience and humour, he searches for news and human connection.

Helen Constantine  
**French Tales** (Short stories). 340 pages.  
For the francophiles amongst us, here is a cleverly chosen collection of French short stories, each one set in a different region of the country.
Amanda Coplin
The Orchardist (Historical). 426 pages.
A haunting debut with shades of Steinbeck about a makeshift family in the untamed American West. An astonishing and unforgettable epic about a man who disrupts the lonely harmony of his life when he opens his heart and lets the world in.

Bernard Cornwell
1356 (Historical). 433 pages.
Thomas of Hookton, leader of a gang of mercenaries fighting for the English cause in the lead up to the infamous battle of Poitiers, is the hero of this action-packed historical adventure from the author of the 'Sharpe' novels.

Edith Cotterill
Nurse on Call (Biography). 320 pages.
Anyone with a hankering for days gone by need only read a few pages of this lively yet touching memoir of a Black Country district nurse to realize just how lucky they are to live in modern times, especially where medical matters are concerned!

Gil Courtemanche
A Sunday at the Pool in Kigali (Historical). 258 pages.
This life-changing tale is a love story set against the chilling backdrop of the Rwandan genocide. Be prepared to be moved - it is an unsettling but compelling read.

Jim Crace
The Pesthouse (General). 309 pages.
A very human tale and an unlikely love story, set in a ruined vision of America where society has broken down. As Franklin and Margaret travel eastwards, they begin to find strength in one another despite the catastrophe around them.

Terry Darlington
Narrow Dog to Carcassonne (Travel). 397 pages.
The comic adventures of a retired couple and their dog, sailing a narrowboat through France. With equal doses of courage, madness and optimism they tackle the various perils along the way - the result is an entertaining and life-affirming read.

Hunter Davies
George Stephenson (Biography). 284 pages.
This affectionate biography brings to life the extraordinary story of the railway pioneer whose 'Rocket' remains to this day the world's most famous locomotive. No technical knowledge required!
Peter Ho Davies
As World War II begins to draw to a close, three very different characters cross paths in a remote Welsh community. A young Welsh barmaid, a German POW, and a Jewish refugee working for the British army.

Jill Dawson
The Great Lover (Historical). 301 pages.
This atmospheric and thoroughly researched novel brings to life the young Rupert Brooke whose poems we know, but whose pre-war liaison with a maid at the old vicarage in Grantchester may or may not have been a matter of fact

Edmund De Waal
The Hare with Amber Eyes (Non-fiction). 354 pages.
On inheriting a collection of exquisitely carved Japanese netsuke, the author decided to trace their history through several generations of his family, resulting in this beautifully written work of historical detection.

Friedrich Christian Delius
Portrait of the Mother as a Young Woman (General). 125 pages.
In January 1943, a young and unworldly German woman living in Rome and untouched by the war, sets off to listen to a Bach concert, little realising the danger her soldier husband is facing in Africa. An unusual and thought-provoking novella.

Rene Denfeld
The Enchanted (General). 233 pages.
A powerful and hauntingly beautiful novel set on death row. Drawn from the author's personal experience of working as a death-penalty investigator this is a debut that oozes authenticity, a novel of atrocity, redemption, justice and mercy, swinging back a

Patrick Dennis
Auntie Mame: an Irreverent Escapade (Humour). 316 pages.
Orphaned at the age of ten, young Patrick is left in the charge of his Auntie Mame - a notorious New York socialite, whose ideas of education and nurturing differ somewhat from the norm. Classic 1950s comedy, filmed 1958.

Charles Dickens
Great Expectations (Classic). 406 pages.
The stirring tale of Pip and his elevation from blacksmith's boy to gentleman must surely rank as one of Dickens' most enduring classics. Notably filmed by David Lean in 1946.
Emma Donoghue  
**Room** (General). 401 pages.  
A five-year old boy narrates this unsettling yet compelling tale of a young life spent entirely within the confines of one small windowless room with only his mother and a television set for company.

Nicholas Drayson  
Mr Malik's interest in birdlife is heightened by his interest in Rose Mbikwa, the lady who leads the weekly bird walk. But can he overcome the many and varied obstacles which litter the path to romance? A gentle, lighthearted satire.

Daphne Du Maurier  
**Frenchman's Creek** (Historical). 253 pages.  
Mills & Boon it is definitely not - this swashbuckling tale of a bored lady aristocrat and her thirst for adventure is a real page turner and one not to be missed. Filmed 1944.

Roberts Edric  
**Gathering the Water** (Historical). 282 pages.  
A dam has been built and the waters are slowly rising, destined to engulf the scattered settlements of a remote valley. A water company employee is sent to oversee the flooding, but the rising waters expose his own doubts and loss.

G B Edwards  
**The Book of Ebenezer Le Page** (General). 400 pages.  
An elderly Guernseyman reminiscences about his long and eventful life in this entertaining and poignant novel. Published posthumously, this is the author's only novel - a gem from a sadly undiscovered talent.

Kim Edwards  
**The Memory Keeper's Daughter** (General). 408 pages.  
March 1964. A doctor, after delivering his wife of twins, tells her one has died rather than admit that the child has Downs Syndrome. The child is secretly committed to an institution, an act which leads to heart-wrenching consequences.

Justin Evans  
**A Good and Happy Child** (General). 320 pages.  
When George Davies finds he cannot bear to hold his newborn son, he delves back into his own childhood for answers. Was he traumatised by the death of his own father, or were more sinister forces at work?
Nicholas Evans

The Brave (General). 373 pages.
His own life blighted by a childhood incident, it is only when his son is charged with murder that Tom Bedford confronts his past and fights for his family's survival. An atmospheric tale from the author of the 'Horse Whisperer'

Nicholas Evans

The Divide (General). 438 pages.
An epic mystery, unravelling events leading up to the death of a young woman whose body is discovered frozen in ice in the wilderness. Part crime thriller, part family drama, this is an involving story of a family in crisis.

Justin Evans

Andrew Taylor is sent to spend his final year at Harrow public school where his resemblance to Lord Byron, a former pupil, is commented on. Following the death of a classmate and the illness of another Andrew discovers old letters hidden in a bricked-up b

J G Farrell

The Siege of Krishnapur (Historical). 314 pages.
Described by one reviewer as 'Zulu' meets 'A Passage to India', this gripping tale of colonial arrogance is a worthy Booker Prize winner and must surely rate as a masterpiece of late twentieth century fiction.

William Faulkner

As I Lay Dying (Classic). 248 pages.
This classic story of a Deep South family honouring a dying woman's wish to be buried with her own people uses vernacular language and a sometimes rambling style, making it a challenging read. But don't we all like a challenge?

Sebastian Faulks

A Week in December (General). 390 pages.
Seven days in the lives of seven disparate characters in contemporary London are explored in this cleverly plotted satire from the highly respected author of 'Birdsong'

Patrick Leigh Fermour

This lively and informative account of a young man's walk across Europe in the 1930s is an enduring classic of travel writing from one of the twentieth century's most renowned adventurers
Zoe Ferraris
Night of the Mi’raj (General). 360 pages.
After the death of a young girl, Saudi desert guide Nayir is drawn to discovering the truth about what happened in this thought-provoking literary thriller with an unusual and exotic setting.

Jasper Fforde
The Eyre Affair (Humour). 373 pages.
In an alternative world, someone is kidnapping fictional characters, and Jane Eyre has just gone missing. Suspend disbelief and immerse yourself in a tale of light-hearted literary fantasy.

William Fiennes
The Snow Geese (Non-fiction). 243 pages.
A blend of travel, memoirs and natural science. As Fiennes joins the snow geese on their migration he finds they inspire him to write a book that does more than just record his journey, but also touches upon autobiography and philosophy.

Sebastian Fitzek
Splinter (General). 299 pages.
With a main character who can't be sure that what he is experiencing is real or imaginary and wonders if he is going mad, this dark and atmospheric thriller leads the reader on a psychological rollercoaster ride around modern day Berlin.

Penelope Fitzgerald
The Gate of Angels (Historical). 218 pages.
Cambridge, 1912. A young academic and champion of the new scientific age wonders what strange force draws him towards Daisy, the girl of his dreams. An elegant and atmospheric romantic comedy.

Richard Flanagan
Narrow Road to the Deep North (War). 448 pages.
In the despair of a Japanese POW camp on the Burma Death Railway, surgeon Dorrigo Evans is haunted by his love affair with his uncle’s young wife two years earlier. Struggling to save the men under his command from starvation, from cholera, from beatings.

Gustave Flaubert
Madame Bovary (Classic). 311 pages.
A bored young housewife seeks excitement in the arms of a lover, but her romantic ideals lead only to tragedy. A classic tale from one of France’s greatest novelists. Filmed 1933, 1949, 1991.
Margaret Forster  
**Keeping the World Away** (General). 338 pages.  
The story of a painting, and of the women who come into contact with it.  
As the painting changes hands over the years, a series of women are captivated by its tranquillity.

Adam Foulds  
**The Quickening Maze** (General). 259 pages.  
This atmospheric novel imagines vividly and sympathetically the tortured life of nature poet John Clare, whose constant battle with alcoholism and madness resulted in long periods of incarceration.

Essie Fox  
**The Somnambulist** (General). 405 pages.  
With a naïve young heroine and a story ranging from the famous Wilton's Music Hall to a gloomy Herefordshire mansion, this slice of Victorian melodrama is sure to appeal to fans of Sarah Waters.

Ronald Frame  
**Havisham** (Historical). 360 pages.  
Doomed forever to relive her disastrous wedding day, Miss Havisham is one of Dickens' most unforgettable characters. If you ever wondered what could have brought things to such a pass, her early life is cleverly imagined in this moving prequel to 'Great E

Tom Franklin  
Two Mississippi boys, one black and one white, become close friends until a girl's disappearance and the finger of suspicion forces them apart. An atmospheric deep south thriller.

Michael Frayn  
**Skios** (General). 278 pages.  
The distinguished scientist who arrives to deliver a keynote lecture at a symposium on a Greek island seems much more vigorous than most academic types. This is because he is someone else, and the real scientist is nowhere to be seen. Comic chaos ensues.

Charles Frazier  
**Nightwoods** (General). 322 pages.  
1950s North Carolina. Luce enjoys her tranquil existence as caretaker of a mountain lodge until her peace is shattered with the arrival of her murdered sister's children and their volatile father. A gripping and atmospheric tale of suspense.
Alan Furst

Mission to Paris (General). 255 pages.
Just as war breaks out, a Viennese-born Hollywood star rashly decides to make a film in Paris. Once there, his neutrality and celebrity status single him out for special attention, but from whom? An espionage thriller from a master at the game.

Patrick Gale

Notes from an Exhibition (General). 374 pages.
After her sudden death, troubled artist Rachel Kelly remains an enigma to her grieving family, all of whom are touched in some way by the force of her personality. A sensitive and convincing family drama.

Roger Garfitt

The Horseman's Word (Biography). 378 pages.
Shropshire based poet Roger Garfitt recalls with great candour his country childhood in Norfolk and his subsequent adventures on the seamier side of life which led him to a spell in an institution. A moving read.

Martin Gayford

A fascinating account of the two months in 1888 that Van Gogh and Gauguin spent living and working together in the French town of Arles, resulting in some of the most memorable paintings in the history of art.

Stella Gibbons

Cold Comfort Farm (Humour). 233 pages.
Comic rural tale famed for its feisty heroine and 'something nasty in the woodshed'.

Elizabeth Gilbert

Eat, Pray, Love (Humour). 348 pages.
Written with great wit and insight, this true story of the author's quest for the meaning of life is much more than just a 'self-help' book.
Recommended by Tanat Valley Reading Group.

Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The Yellow Wallpaper and Selected Writings (Short stories). 366 pages.
Some people will know the disturbing short story 'The Yellow Wallpaper', but not so many will have discovered the other notable writings of this American pioneer of women's rights.
Lesley Glaister

Little Egypt (General). 311 pages.
Nonagenarian twins, Isis and Osiris, still live in the home they were born in, and from which in the 1920s their obsessive Egyptologist parents left them to search for the fabled tomb of Herihor a search from which they never returned.

Laurie Graham

Mr Starlight (Humour). 290 pages.
Two brothers set out from Birmingham (England, not Alabama) for New York to find show business success. The glamour and glitz are alluring, but apron strings are hard to break. A fresh and funny novel.

Great Loves Lucky Dip

(Selection). pages.
If your group is feeling jaded, why not try this elegant selection of slim volumes from Penguin Books on the enduringly popular theme of love? Lively discussion guaranteed!

Philippa Gregory

The White Queen (Historical). 455 pages.
The life and tumultuous times of Elizabeth Woodville, the fiercely ambitious wife of Edward IV and mother of the Princes in the Tower is explored in this first volume in a new series from acclaimed historical novelist Philippa Gregory.

Kate Grenville

The Secret River (Historical). 349 pages.
Forced by poverty to steal, a hard-working Thames waterman finds himself and his family transported for life to New South Wales. A powerful and moving tale from a prize-winning Australian author.

Sarah Gruen

Water for Elephants (Historical). 331 pages.
Roll up for a lively story set in the circus world during the Great Depression. Jacob takes the job of caring for the animals, and is soon immersed in love, intrigue, and the hurly burly of circus life. An original and heartwarming tale.

Yasmin Hai

The Making of Mr Hai’s Daughter (Biography). 334 pages.
A touching memoir written by a British Muslim woman, describing her upbringing in an increasingly multi-cultural 80’s Britain. With humour and insight, her story captures the confusions and conflicts of growing up as a Muslim in this country.
Mohsin Hamid
**The Reluctant Fundamentalist** (General). 209 pages.

Patrick Hamilton
**The Slaves of Solitude** (Classic). 352 pages.
Whiling away the years in a wartime boarding house, Miss Roach has only old age to look forward to. Will the sudden appearance of a lively American soldier be the answer to her prayers? A powerful work from a much neglected novelist

Rex Harper
With over 40 years experience of running an animal sanctuary, the author recalls some of the memorable events from those times. An inspiring, funny and sometimes heartbreaking read with a colourful cast of animal characters

Shelley Harris
**Jubilee** (General). 325 pages.
The year of the Jubilee. Amid the street party food, bunting, pop music and platform shoes tensions erupt in Cherry Gardens. Years later Satish must confront the truth about that day and the events that changed the course of his life.

Robert Harris
**The Fear Index** (General). 385 pages.
Seemingly safe in his high-tech hideaway, a billionaire financial mastermind suddenly discovers his security system has been breached and someone is out to get him. Another quality thriller from this bestselling author

John Harwood
**The Séance; A Victorian Mystery** (Horror). 294 pages.
A sinister old mansion on the Suffolk coast harbours dark secrets in this chilling Victorian thriller. When Constance inherits the dilapidated Wraxford Hall, she is compelled to unravel its mysteries, and those of her troubled forebears.

Roy Hattersley
This cleverly themed collection of Roy Hattersley’s articles on English life revels in everything from our quirky sense of humour to our particular passion for fish and chips and a nice cup of tea.
Kristan Hawkins

Dona Nicanora’s Hat Shop (General). 324 pages.
Life in the remote South American town of Valle de la Virgen is quiet and uneventful until a mysterious foreigner arrives, bringing with him a hint of the wider world outside. An enchanting tale with a cast of charmingly eccentric characters.

Emma Healey

Elizabeth is Missing (General). 275 pages.
Maud has dementia but one thing she knows is her friend Elizabeth went missing. Although everyone else has forgotten Maud has not and somewhere in her damaged mind lies the answer to this seventy year old mystery. Winner of the Costa First Novel Award 201.

Ernest Hemingway

A Moveable Feast (Biography). 144 pages.
Published posthumously, this charming collection of Paris sketches brings to life the hustle and bustle of the city during the 1920s and 1930s and introduces the reader to the literary names of the day.

Philip Hensher

Scenes from Early Life (General). 307 pages.
Seen through the eyes of a Bangladeshi boy living through the brutal civil war of 1971, this compelling collection of stories is a remarkable feat of imagination from this acclaimed British author.

David Hewson

With the city full of tourists for Holy Week, the last thing Detective Felipe Torillo of the Seville police wants to hear is that there is a sadistic serial killer at work. A gripping crime thriller.

Patricia Highmith

Carol (General). 307 pages.
Originally published as ‘The Price of Salt’, this unconventional love story from the author of the Ripley novels, was voted one of the BBC’s ‘Neglected Classics.’

Peter Hill

Stargazing (Biography). 324 pages.
This humorous and evocative memoir harks back only thirty years to a less hurried age when the author was a student of 19, spending one memorable summer on some of the last few manned Scottish lighthouses.
Susan Hill

The Various Haunts of Men (Crime). 236 pages.
After a number of disappearances from a usually tranquil beauty spot, DCI Simon Serrailler is brought in and soon discovers he is dealing with a psychopathic killer. A promising crime debut from established novelist Susan Hill.

Susan Hill

The Woman in Black (General). 562 pages.
A young solicitor is sent to sort out the affairs of a reclusive woman who has recently died, but he is unprepared for what happens at the empty house. A real spine chiller, not to be read on a dark night!

Susan Hill

Howard’s End is on the Landing (Non-fiction). 160 pages.
Susan Hill spent an enjoyable year revisiting favourite books from her own shelves and reading other previously overlooked titles for the first time. This charming and informative book charts her literary voyage of discovery.

Jim Hinks

The Book of Istanbul (Short stories). 114 pages.
Inspired by their experience of this cosmopolitan city that straddles both eastern and western cultures, ten contemporary Turkish writers shed their own light on life amidst the hustle and bustle of Istanbul. A lively and fascinating collection.

Victoria Hislop

The Thread (General). 465 pages.
Set in Thessaloniki, a young Anglo-Greek hears his grandparents life story for the first time and how they have looked after the memories and treasures of the people they were forced to leave.

Victoria Hislop

The Island (General). 473 pages.
Set against a seemingly idyllic Mediterranean backdrop, this is the engrossing story of a young woman's search for her family’s past. A visit to her mother's former home in Crete reveals secrets that have long been hidden.

Alice Hoffman

The Dovekeepers (Historical). 501 pages.
Trapped by the Romans in a desert fortress, four Jewish women fight against the odds for the survival of their kinfolk. A stirring and memorable tale based on the siege of Masada in 70 AD.
Emma Hooper **NEW TITLE**

*Etta and Otto and Russell and James* (General). 278 pages.
Etta's greatest unfulfilled wish is to see the sea and so, at the age of eighty-two, she gets up very early one morning, takes a rifle, some chocolate, and her best boots, and begins walking the 2,000 miles to water. The author is an Amazon Rising Star 2

Nancy Horan

*Loving Frank* (Historical). 417 pages.
In the early 1900s the affair between architect Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Cheney caused widespread scandal. Although she was vilified at the time, this debut novel portrays Mamah as a brave heroine, flouting convention for the sake of love.

Khaled Hosseini

*A Thousand Splendid Suns* (General). 404 pages.
The brutality of life for Afghan women is brought into sharp focus in this moving and memorable tale from the author of 'The Kite Runner'.

Khaled Hosseini **NEW TITLE**

*And the Mountains Echoed* (General). 466 pages.
It is 1952 in Afghanistan and a father sets off on a journey with his children. So begins this moving story of a family spanning 60 years and three continents.

Richard Hughes

*The Fox in the Attic* (General). 412 pages.
From its haunting opening scene on the Welsh coast, this book opens out to portray a family and two countries, England and Germany, between two wars. Augustine struggles to understand his Anglo-German heritage while the world around him is reshaped.

Victor Hugo

*The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Classic). 429 pages.
This classic of French literature is familiar to most people thanks to Charles Laughton's classic portrayal of Quasimodo in the 1939 Hollywood production, but how many can say they have actually read the book?

Keri Hulme

*The Bone People* (General). 540 pages.
Set on the South Island of New Zealand, this singular novel is both a love story and modern-day fable, and won the Booker Prize in 1985.
Zora Neale Hurston

**Their Eyes Were Watching God** (General). 272 pages.
A young girl dreams of avoiding the well-trodden path to prejudice and drudgery for negro women in the southern states, and, whatever life throws at her, her irrepressible spirit shines through. A classic of black American literature. Filmed 2005

Ewart Hutton

**Good People** (Crime). 326 pages.
A troublesome Welsh-Italian cop is moved sideways from Cardiff to sleepy mid-Wales where he is least likely to cause damage, but things don't stay quiet for long. A gritty and humorous crime debut

Adrian Hyland

No sooner has she returned to her childhood home in an outback Aboriginal community, than Emily Tempest is confronted by the brutal murder of a close family friend. An intriguing Australian whodunnit.

Arnaldur Indridason

**Voices** (Crime). 352 pages.
When a man is found dead in a Reykjavik hotel room, dressed as Santa Claus but naked from the waist down, Christmas cheer is in distinctly short supply. A gripping Icelandic murder mystery.

Christopher Isherwood

**A Single Man** (General). 152 pages.
This poignant short novel explores the loneliness and alienation of middle-aged Englishman living in California in the early 1960s, and was filmed in 2009 with Colin Firth in the starring role.

Kazuo Ishiguro

**Never Let Me Go** (General). 282 pages.
Kathy looks back on her time at an idyllic countryside school, where there were secrets behind the veneer of perfection. As the truth unfolds, Kathy is forced to confront the past, taking the reader on a chilling and gripping journey.

Eowyn Ivey

**The Snow Child** (General). 432 pages.
A childless couple on a remote Alaskan homestead are enchanted to discover a small girl who mysteriously comes into their lives. But is she real or just too good to be true?
Roy Jacobsen
Child Wonder (General). 264 pages.
Living with his mother in Oslo in the 1960s, young Finn's life suddenly changes with the arrival of a mystery half-sister, closely followed by a gentleman lodger. Is there something his mother isn't telling him? A touching coming-of-age tale

P D James
Death Comes to Pemberley (General). 324 pages.
The genteel world immortalised by Jane Austen takes a darker turn in this cleverly imagined sequel to 'Pride and Prejudice' from top crime author P D James.

Tove Jansson
Summer Book (Short stories). 172 pages.
From the author of the Moomin stories, this uplifting tale of an elderly artist and her young grand-daughter spending their summer together is a modern Scandinavian classic.

Tove Jansson
A Winter Book (Short stories). 208 pages.
A second collection of charming and evocative short stories from this widely acclaimed Finnish author.

Robin Jenkins
The Cone Gatherers (General). 180 pages.
Two brothers employed to gather pine cones in a Scottish forest unwittingly become the subjects of a local gamekeeper's irrational hatred. A powerful tale of suspense with echoes of Steinbeck's 'Of Mice and Men'.

Suzanne Joinson
Set in 1920s China and modern-day London, this parallel tale of friendship and adventure is an appealing debut novel with a distinct touch of the exotic.

Jonas Jonasson
The Hundred-Year-Old-Man Who Climbed Out of the Window (General). 394 pages.
Not wishing to attend his hundredth birthday party, Alan Karlsson absconds from the old people's home and makes good his escape, leading to a highly eccentric and extremely entertaining comic adventure. A word-of-mouth bestseller.
Wendy Jones
**The Thoughts and Happenings of Wilfred Price** (General). 263 pages.
After proposing on impulse, Wilfred Price soon realises his mistake, but finds himself unable to extricate himself from the nuptial rollercoaster he has set in motion. An endearing and nostalgic debut novel set in 1920s Wales.

Hillary Jordan
**Mudbound** (General). 324 pages.
In 1945, two young men return home from war to the Mississippi Delta. They find a land still rife with racial prejudice, but after the comradeship of war they cannot accept the blind bigotry of their countrymen. A tense and dramatic story.

Morag Joss
**Across the Bridge** (General). 310 pages.
After surviving a bridge collapse tragedy, but mistakenly numbered amongst the dead, a woman uses her new-found anonymity to set out on a completely new path in life. But where will it lead? An intriguing and thought-provoking novel.

Rachel Joyce
**The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry** (General). 225 pages.
When Harold sets off for the post box from his home in Devon, little does he know his journey won’t end until he reaches Berwick-upon-Tweed and delivers the letter in person. A charming and poignant first novel.

James Joyce
**Dubliners** (Short stories). 368 pages.
Written before 1905 and nearly ten years in publication, this vibrant and graphic collection of stories depicting everyday life in Dublin represents James Joyce’s first major work, and is considered by many to be his most accessible writing.

Jackie Kay
**Red Dust Road** (Biography). 289 pages.
A black child brought up in a white Scottish family, the poet Jackie Kay decided as an adult to trace her birth parents. This touching and evocative memoir is the record of her quest.

N M Kelby
**White Truffles in Winter** (Historical). 313 pages.
This cleverly imagined novel explores the extraordinary talent and tangled love life of legendary French chef Auguste Escoffier, a man whose culinary creations were enjoyed by the great and the good.
Daniel Keyes  
**Flowers for Algernon** (Science fiction). 216 pages.  
Flowers for Algernon  (Science Fiction). 1966. A janitor of low intelligence receives a revolutionary brain operation, successfully pioneered on a laboratory mouse, which hugely enhances his IQ. Then the mouse begins to act oddly. A sci-fi classic which p

Stephen King **NEW TITLE**  
**Joyland** (Crime). 283 pages.  
A summer job at a North Carolina amusement park in the 1970s leads to more than Devin Jones bargained for in this creepy coming-of-age tale from master storyteller Stephen King.

Rudyard Kipling  
**Kim** (Classic). 289 pages.  
Life under the Raj is vividly depicted in this classic tale of derring-do featuring the orphaned son of an Irish soldier. Filmed in 1950 with Errol Flynn in the title role.

Matthew Kneale  
**When We Were Romans** (General). 297 pages.  
This story is narrated by nine-year-old Lawrence, as he and his mother and sister move to Rome. His mother proposes the trip as a great adventure, but as the story unfolds through Lawrence's eyes, the fragility of the family is exposed.

Milan Kundera  
**The Joke** (General). 317 pages.  
A silly prank in postwar Chechoslovakia lands popular student Ludvik in a work camp. Once released, he vows to get even with those who shopped him to the Communists. The darkly humorous first novel from this renowned author.

Vanessa Lafaye **NEW TITLE**  
**Summertime** (General). 349 pages.  
In the small town of Heron Key, where the relationships are as tangled as the mangrove roots in the swamp, everyone is preparing for the 4th of July barbecue, unaware that their world is about to change for ever. Captures racial and social tensions.

Stieg Larsson  
**The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo** (Adventure). 533 pages.  
This is the first in a trilogy of high octane thrillers from a Swedish author who sadly didn't live to see his books become a worldwide publishing phenomenon. Definitely not for the faint-hearted.
D H Lawrence
*Sons and Lovers* (Classic). 464 pages.
Gertrude Morel is determined her sons won't become miners like their father, but her cosseting leads to conflict when the boys grow up. A powerful and largely autobiographical tale of family strife. Filmed 1960.

Mary Lawson
*The Other Side of the Bridge* (General). 273 pages.
This finely wrought tale of sibling rivalry in a remote Canadian farming community is one of those books that stays with you long after you've turned the last page. From the acclaimed author of 'Crow Lake'.

Laurie Lee
Laurie Lee's childhood memoir paints a charming and poetic picture of rural Gloucestershire in the early years of the twentieth century.

Harper Lee
*To Kill a Mockingbird* (Classic). 231 pages.

Rosamond Lehmann
*The Echoing Grove* (General). 300 pages.
After years married to one sister whilst carrying on a secret affair with another, Rickie Masters dies, leaving both sisters to reassess their relationships with him and with each other. A classic tale of families and their foibles

Elmore Leonard
Life plying your trade as a loan shark has its share of ups and downs, but nowhere more than in Hollywood, as Chili Palmer finds out in this lively crime caper from a master of the genre. Filmed 1995 with John Travolta.

Andrea Levy
*The Long Song* (Historical). 421 pages.
This profoundly moving winner of the Orange Prize for Fiction handles the weighty themes of empire, prejudice, war and love in 1940s England.
Marina Lewycka

**Various Pets Alive and Dead** (Humour). 384 pages.
Set half in Doncaster, half in London, this is a very funny riff on modern values, featuring hamsters, cockroaches, poodles, a chicken and multiplying rabbits, told by Marina Lewycka in her unique and brilliant combination of irony, farce and wit.

Joan Lindsay

**Picnic at Hanging Rock** (Classic). 189 pages.

Penelope Lively

**Oleander, Jacaranda** (Biography). 180 pages.
An evocative and beautifully written memoir of a lonely colonial childhood from an author perhaps better known for her prizewinning children’s books.

David Lodge

**Deaf Sentence** (General). 309 pages.
Desmond Bates is getting on in years, newly retired, and going rather deaf. As his life begins to fill with new confusions, misunderstandings and frustrations, the story unfolds with humour and melancholy.

Rosamund Lupton

**Sister** (General). 358 pages.
When her sister goes missing and fails to reappear despite a thorough investigation, Beatrice remains determined to find her, come what may. An unusual and intriguing psychological thriller.

Helen Macdonald **NEW TITLE**

**H is for Hawk** (Biography). 283 pages.
As a child, Helen Macdonald was determined to become a falconer, years later, when her father died and she was struck deeply by grief, she became obsessed with the idea of training her own goshawk. Winner of the Costa Book of the Year and the Samuel Johnson Prize

Robert Macfarlane

Concerned that there were no truly wild places left in the British Isles, Robert Macfarlane set out to find out for himself. This lyrical and evocative book is the result of his quest.
Stuart Maconie

Is 'Middle England' just a myth? Broadcaster Stuart Maconie set out from Meriden (where else?) to find out, and this charming and witty travelogue is the result.

Andrei Makine

The Life of an Unknown Man (General). 250 pages.
After years spent abroad, a disillusioned Russian writer returns home only to have his own woes brought sharply into perspective by the extraordinary testimony of an ailing Red Army soldier. A novel of great poignancy

Eve Makis

In an idyllic Cypriot village, Socrates is a young boy ready to cause mischief. But as summer draws closer, darker tensions lurk behind the surface of this island paradise.

Rebecca Makkai

The Borrower (General). 324 pages.
When a misunderstood young boy decides to run away from home, his local lady librarian foolishly agrees to go with him, but their plan, fuelled by a mutual love of books, is sure to end in failure. Or is it? A charming fable for our times.

Henning Mankell

Chronicler of the Winds (General). 233 pages.
A young street urchin lies wounded, and is compelled to tell his story of living rough in an African city. A memorable exotic fable from the well-known author of the Wallender crime series

Katherine Mansfield

The Garden Party and Other Stories (Short stories). 153 pages.
This vibrant collection of stories was written shortly before the author died at the early age of 34, leaving behind a body of work which clearly demonstrates her mastery of the format.

Hilary Mantel

Wolf Hall (Historical). 650 pages.
This vibrant collection of stories was written shortly before the author died at the early age of 34, leaving behind a body of work which clearly demonstrates her mastery of the format.
Daniel Mason
The Piano Tuner (Adventure). 348 pages.
A Victorian piano tuner is given a rare task - to leave London to tune a
doctor's piano in Burma. His journey is one of self-discovery and
romance and soon he starts to share the doctor's passion for life in the
jungle.

Simon Mawer
The Glass Room (General). 404 pages.
The various incarnations of a landmark Modernist house on a Czech
hillside, and the changes in fortune of its owners over forty turbulent
years form the themes of this engrossing Booker shortlisted novel.
Contains description of a sexual nature.

F M Mayor
The Rector's Daughter (Classic). 347 pages.
After many years of quiet and devoted service to her family, a rector's
daughter falls prey to the powerful emotions unleashed by love. A
poignant study of life in a society far more restrained than our own, yet
still just outside living memory.

James McBride
Song Yet Sung (Historical). 359 pages.
Set just before the American Civil War, this is the story of an escaped
slave girl. Sustained by her dreams of what the future might hold, she
encounters both danger and hope as the slave catchers give pursuit.

Colum McCann
Let the World Spin (General). 349 pages.
In the shadow of the famous 1974 tightrope walk between New York’s
twin towers, a cast of characters play out their everyday lives. A skilfully
woven and engrossing tale from a notable Irish born novelist.

Grace McCleen
The Land of Decoration (General). 291 pages.
In the sanctuary of her bedroom, young Judith builds a model world
where she can leave the bullies outside and take control of events. But
where does her new-found feeling of power lead? A moving story of life
outside the mainstream.

Ian McEwan **NEW TITLE**
Children Act (General). 213 pages.
For religious reasons, a seventeen-year-old boy is refusing the medical
treatment that could save his life. Fiona Maye, a leading High Court
judge, must ultimately decide whether he lives or dies and her
judgement will have momentous consequences for them both.
Ian McEwan

**Solar** (General). 283 pages.
Ian McEwan turns his hand to humour in this satirical story of a washed-up Nobel prize-winning physicist who may just find a way to get his life back on track and at the same time avert global environmental disaster.

Darragh McKeon **NEW TITLE**

**All That is Solid Melts in the Air** (General). 388 pages.
For a child piano prodigy, a dissident factory worker, a broken-hearted surgeon and unknowing others, the disaster that is Chernobyl will change their lives forever . . .

Jennifer McVeigh

**The Fever Tree** (General). 343 pages.
When circumstances force a young Victorian woman to emigrate to South Africa and to marry a distant cousin, she is unprepared for life in the shadow of the diamond mines, with danger and squalor at every turn. An engrossing tale of love and endurance, based on historical events.

Jed Mercurio

**American Adulterer** (General). 351 pages.
The main character of this uncompromisingly titled novel is John F Kennedy, as famous for his tragic death as for his achievements as President of the United States. Fewer people know about his cleverly concealed private affairs.

A D Miller

**Snowdrops** (General). 273 pages.
A British lawyer living in Moscow finds himself drawn into the shady world of corruption and intrigue in this highly rated contemporary psychological drama. Shortlisted for the 2011 Man Booker Prize.

Madeline Miller

**The Song of Achilles** (Historical). 352 pages.
The gods and heroes of ancient Greece are brought to life for a modern-day audience in this vivid retelling of the legend of Patroclus and Achilles. Winner of the Orange Prize 2012.

Mark Mills

Tuscany, 1958. A young English student researching a mysterious Renaissance garden uncovers much more than he bargains for. An enigmatic tale of murder and suspense.
Nancy Mitford
This charming and witty coming-of-age novel is one of the better-known works of Nancy, eldest of the Mitford sisters, and is reputed to be largely autobiographical.

Deborah Moggach
Heartbreak Hotel (General). 387 pages.
In a bid to make a go of a dowdy B & B in rural Wales, ex-actor Buffy decides to corner the market in teaching life skills to the newly single, and soon has a house full of lonely hearts of all shapes and sizes. A lively social comedy.

Sue Monk Kidd
The Secret Life of Bees (General). 374 pages.
In 1960s South Carolina, circumstances force a young girl to run away in the company of her only friend, a black servant woman. Afraid of being arrested and worse, they find refuge in a most unusual place.

Jude Morgan
He was the greatest writer of them all. He was an ordinary man. He was a mystery. So what was it like to be William Shakespeare? How did it feel to meet him, to know him – to love him?

Michael Morpurgo
Private Peaceful (War). 179 pages.
Told in the words of Private 'Tommo' Peaceful, this simple tale is a poignant reminder of the countless young men who gave their lives in the First World War, not to mention the 300 shot by their own comrades for desertion.

Kate Mosse
The Winter Ghosts (General). 239 pages.
Sheltering from a snowstorm in a French mountain village, Freddie Watson meets a beautiful woman who captures his heart, but vanishes overnight, leaving him the key to a medieval mystery. A ghostly tale from the author of 'Labyrinth'.

Alice Munro
Dear Life (Short stories). 319 pages.
A new collection of contemporary stories set in her native Canada from the recent winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature.
Iris Murdoch
The Bell (General). 316 pages.
Considered by many to be Iris Murdoch's best novel, 'The Bell' is an atmospheric study of relationships within an eccentric religious community.

Irene Nemirovsky
Suite Francaise (War). 344 pages.
Set during the year France fell to the Nazis. Irène Némirovsky began writing Suite Française in 1940, but her death in Auschwitz prevented her from seeing the day, sixty-five years later, that the novel would be discovered by her daughter and hailed worldwide as a masterpiece.

Hakan Nesser
Borkmann’s Point (Crime). 321 pages.
Introducing Inspector Van Veeteren, a Scandinavian detective who already has a following in Europe. The Swedish landscape is used to great effect, adding to the tense atmosphere of this intelligent and thoughtful crime thriller.

David Nicholls
One Day (General). 435 pages.
'One Day' revisits two characters of brief acquaintance on the same day each year for twenty years from the late 1980s onwards, cleverly drawing the reader into their lives, and leaving one wondering what might have been. Filmed 2011.

David Nobbs
Obstacles to Young Love (Humour). 423 pages.
This tale of childhood sweethearts and how their paths cross over the ensuing decades is written with David Nobbs' trademark gentle humour and clear eye for life's little oddities.

Non-Fiction Lucky Dip
(Selection).
With fifteen exciting examples of writing from the infinitely varied world of human experience, here's a chance for everyone to learn some new and interesting facts, then share them with the group.

Tea Obreht
The Tiger's Wife (General). 352 pages.
Written as a mixture of folklore and recent Balkan history, this memorable first novel from a young Yugoslavan now living in America won the 2011 Orange Prize for Fiction.
Maggie O'Farrell
*The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox* (General). 277 pages.
Young Esme is a social embarrassment to her family who resort to drastic measures to curb her behaviour. Years later, a relative finds Esme in a psychiatric hospital, her life stolen from her. A highly acclaimed and hugely engrossing novel.

Catherine O'Flynn
*What was Lost* (General). 242 pages.
A highly original debut from a Birmingham-based writer. It involves the mystery of a missing girl, who disappeared 20 years previously in a huge shopping mall. Intriguing and slightly spooky, it won the Costa First Novel Award for 2007.

Michael Ondaatje
*The Cat's Table* (General). 384 pages.
In the early 1950s, eleven year old Michael boards a huge liner in Colombo bound for England. On board he meets two other boys and as the ship crosses the Indian Ocean they tumble from one adventure to another, and at night they spy on a shackled prisoner

George Orwell
*Nineteen Eighty-Four* (Classic). 326 pages.
George Orwell's final masterpiece is one of the twentieth century's most remarkable and influential novels - if you haven't read this yet, be sure to put it on your list. Filmed 1954, 1984.

Mirabel Osler
Laced with horticultural musings and titbits of garden wisdom, this delightful little book describes the trials and tribulations of designing and creating one of Shropshire's most notable gardens.

Orhan Pamuk
*My Name is Red* (Historical). 671 pages.
Set in the enchanting but dangerous city of Istanbul in the 1590s, this atmospheric and engrossing novel is a heady mixture of romance, art and mystery. Orhan Pamuk won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2006

Gaile Parkin
*When Hoopoes go to Heaven* (General). 325 pages.
Young Benedict is fascinated by the world about him and in his innocent way makes the best of every situation, even when it may seem less promising to more mature eyes. A heartwarming tale of everyday life in modern day Swaziland
Ann Patchett

**Run** (General). 343 pages.
A death in the family has deep repercussions for the Doyles in this suspenseful drama. Tip and Teddy are adopted sons, and the intervention of a stranger forces them to face certain truths about themselves and their family.

Laline Paull **NEW TITLE**

**Bees** (General). 344 pages.
Born into the lowest class of her society, Flora 717 is a sanitation bee, only fit to clean her orchard hive. But Flora is not like other bees. This is the story of a heroine who changes her destiny and her world. This thrilling and imaginative novel was shortlisted for the 2015 Baileys Prize.

Michelle Paver

**Dark Matter; a Ghost Story** (Horror). 252 pages.
In 1937, Jack Miller takes up the job of radio operator on an Arctic expedition. However, as the ship forges northwards, there begins a series of unexplained occurrences, faithfully recorded in Jack's journal. Does he live to tell the tale?

Tim Pears

**Blenheim Orchard** (General). 403 pages.
A modern tale of the Pepin family - husband, wife, and three children. As they go through the stresses and strains of life, the cracks begin to appear, and difficult adolescents make things even harder.

Pierre Peju

**The Girl from the Chartreuse** (General). 165 pages.
A little girl is knocked over in the street by a van driven by a bookshop owner. In his guilt, he keeps vigil at the girl's hospital bedside and reads her stories. A moving novel about the power of books and reading.

Stef Penney

**The Invisible Ones** (General). 525 pages.
Seven years after her disappearance, a gypsy girl's family belatedly call in a private investigator. But why let the trail grow so cold before making a move? A dark and atmospheric thriller from the author of 'The Tenderness of Wolves'.

Stef Penney

**The Tenderness of Wolves** (Historical). 450 pages.
Set in the frozen wastes of Canada in 1867, this remarkable debut novel is a thrilling tale of murder and retribution. Costa Book of the Year 2006.
Arturo Perez-Reverte

**The Painter of Battles** (General). 278 pages.
In a coastal watchtower, a man paints a vast mural depicting the nature of war. Then a visitor arrives, a shadow from the past, intent on killing the artist. As the two men talk a tragic story unfolds, of love, war and art.

Jeff Phelps

**Box of Tricks** (General). 336 pages.
All human life can be found in and around a New Brighton boarding house in the early 1960s, as naïve young Eddie is about to find out for himself. A touch of nostalgia from a Bridgnorth based author.

Jodi Picoult

**Plain Truth** (General). 469 pages.
When a high-powered city attorney is called upon to defend a young Amish girl on a charge of murder, she finds her own values brought into question by those of the closed society. A moving and memorable courtroom drama.

Sylvia Plath

**The Bell Jar** (General). 234 pages.
With hopes of a glamorous job in New York, life seems full of promise to Esther Greenwood, but soon leads her to the brink of suicide. The sharply observed and darkly humorous only novel from the poet renowned for her tragic early death.

Poetry Lucky Dip 1

(Poetry).
Take your pick from a selection of poetry books to suit all tastes.

Poetry Lucky Dip 2

(Poetry).
Take your pick from a second selection of poetry books to suit all tastes.

Oliver Postgate

**Seeing Things** (Biography). 425 pages.
This charming memoir from the driving force and memorable voice behind such TV classics as Ivor the Engine, Pogle's Wood, The Clangers and Bagpuss, is a treat for all fans of loveable English eccentrics.
Pete Postlethwaite  
**A Spectacle of Dust** (Biography). 279 pages.  
In this charming memoir written shortly before his untimely death, adopted Shropshireman and hugely respected actor Pete Postlethwaite tells the story of his remarkable career.

John Preston  
**The Dig** (General). 231 pages.  
In pre-war Suffolk, a local archaeologist makes a momentous discovery, but the academic big guns soon descend, sparking tensions and jealousies. A subtle and atmospheric novel that captures a small moment in history.

Barbara Pym  
**Quartet in Autumn** (General). 186 pages.  
The little eccentricities of everyday life are gently satirised in this humorous yet poignant tale of four office workers approaching retirement. From a noteworthy Shropshire-born author.

Barbara Pym  
**Jane and Prudence** (General). 240 pages.  
A comedy of manners originally published in 1953, but which remains fresh and funny today. The well-meaning Jane finds that matchmaking leads to a variety of pitfalls - despite her good intentions.

Barbara Pym  
**A Glass of Blessings** (General). 277 pages.  
A young married woman with a little too much time on her hands starts to speculate about her friends and acquaintances with humorous consequences. A lively satirical portrait of 1950s London society.

Anthony Quinn  
**The Streets** (Historical). 260 pages.  
London, 1882. An idealistic young journalist documents the squalor of the city’s slums, hoping that it will help to alleviate the poverty. But he reckons without powerful vested interests whose aim is to keep things just as they are.

Tom Rachman  
**The Imperfectionists** (General). 351 pages.  
In this sharply observed and bittersweet debut novel, a once-popular international newspaper with a dwindling readership slides into obscurity while its staff for the most part remain blissfully oblivious.
Ross Raisin
God’s Own Country (General). 211 pages.
Sam Marsdyke is a Yorkshire farmer’s son, resentful of the out-of-towners invading his beloved countryside. But there are darker undercurrents to his personality, and the reader is drawn in as Sam’s delusions take hold. An uncompromising read.

Ian Rankin
The Complaints (Crime). 452 pages.
Whereas DCI Rebus hunts villains on the streets of Edinburgh, Inspector Fox from the Professional Standards Unit hunts them from within the ranks of the force, so has few policeman friends. Quality crime from this bestselling author.

Gwen Raverat
This charming memoir of a leisured Victorian childhood is written and illustrated by one of Charles Darwin's granddaughters who later became a noted wood engraver.

Sarah Rayne
Ghost Song (Adventure). 471 pages.
An air of menace and mystery surrounds an old theatre that has been closed for years. As the planned re-opening approaches, the theatre's Edwardian past begins to reveal sinister secrets.

Piers Paul Read
The Misogynist (General). 257 pages.
A man whose retirement promises only loneliness after the breakup of his marriage, finds things improve when he meets a new partner, yet he struggles to get over his grievances and start to look forward. A thought-provoking study of a grumpy old man.

Erich Maria Remarque
All Quiet on the Western Front (Classic). 207 pages.
Narrated by a young German soldier, this powerful tale is the definitive First World War novel. Filmed 1930.

Nick Rennison
Carver’s Quest (Historical). 436 pages.
A London gentleman and his trusty manservant tumble headlong into a tale of adventure, murder and blackmail in this first title in a lively new series. Ideal for fans of Victorian high-jinks.
Jean Rhys

Written late in her life, *Wide Sargasso Sea* brought Jean Rhys huge acclaim, and is seen by many as the perfect companion volume to Charlotte Bronte’s *Jane Eyre*. Filmed 1993.

James Robertson

This quirky tale of an aimless man who drifts into the priesthood and experiences a brush with Satan is difficult to categorize, but is a captivating and very enjoyable novel.

Marilynne Robinson

*Home* (General). 339 pages.
After twenty years away, Jack, the black sheep of the Boughton family, returns to make amends with his sister and ailing father. A moving tale of love and redemption.

Deborah Rodriguez

*The Little Coffee Shop of Kabul* (General). 408 pages.
Five women, each with their own story to tell, share their experiences at a coffee shop. Nothing unusual in that, except when the coffee shop is in Afghanistan where rules of behaviour are quite a different matter. A life-affirming tale of courage and determination.

James Runcie

*East Fortune* (General). 240 pages.
Three brothers, each of whose lives has gone off the rails, prepare to meet up for their annual family reunion, which experience tells them will only lead to bad feeling. A sensitively written tale of family fortunes.

James Runcie

14th century Siena. A young painter's assistant with a special talent for colour perception sets out on a quest to find the perfect ultramarine blue. His exhilarating voyage of discovery leads him across the Medieval world to the mysterious east.

Richard Russo

When Richard Russo set off from his mid-century hometown for university, he didn't realise his ambitious mother would be beginning life’s great adventure with him. A funny and poignant memoir from a Pulitzer prize-winning author.
Robert Ryan  
Empire of Sand (Adventure). 429 pages.  
An epic adventure based on the experiences of T.E. Lawrence. In 1915, Lawrence is a British intelligence officer in Cairo. With a small team, he sets off on a dangerous mission across the Persian desert, in a hunt for a deadly German agent.

Sankar  
Chowringhee (General). 396 pages.  
First published in Bengali in 1962, this epic tale of the comings-and-goings in a distinguished Calcutta hotel is a lively and uplifting read with timeless characters and a surprisingly contemporary feel.

Dorothy L Sayers  
The Documents in the Case (Crime). 260 pages.  
From the creator of Lord Peter Wimsey, this ingenious murder mystery is presented entirely in the form of letters, newspaper clippings and court reports.

Frank Schatzing  
Death and the Devil (Historical). 550 pages.  
In medieval Cologne, when the new cathedral's architect is ruthlessly murdered, it becomes clear that someone will stop at nothing to sabotage the project. A gripping gothic thriller.

Danny Scheinmann  
In 1917, a soldier undertakes a perilous journey to find his sweetheart. In 1992 a man discovers that his girlfriend has been killed, but he can't remember what happened. The sustaining power of love is the theme of this impressive debut novel.

Lisa See  
Snow Flower and the Secret Fan (Historical). 333 pages.  
Set in 19th century China, this is a vivid and moving tale of ordinary women - the hardships they undergo and the betrayals they endure. Epic in scope and beautifully written, this story is sure to stay with you.

Mary Ann Shaffer  
This heart-warming novel is an international word-of-mouth bestseller with glowing reviews all round. Told mostly through letters, the story portrays life in Guernsey during German occupation.
Mark Shand
River Dog: a Journey Down the Brahmaputra (Travel). 332 pages.
This lively true story of an epic river journey is written with great humour, and bears out the old adage that 'a man's best friend is his dog.'

Fiona Shaw
Tell it to the Bees (General). 336 pages.
In 1950s middle England, a young mother turns to a female doctor for support when her marriage falls apart, but tongues soon start to wag. A deftly crafted indictment of small-town prejudice in the Sarah Waters vein.

Owen Sheers
White Ravens (General). 197 pages.
Based on one of the tales from the Mabinogion, the medieval works of Welsh mythology and mysticism, 'White Ravens' is an intriguing and memorable novella from a notable poet and broadcaster.

Owen Sheers
Resistance (General). 354 pages.
Set in the aftermath of a German invasion in 1944, 'Resistance' cleverly portrays the imagined effects of occupation on the inhabitants of a remote valley in the Welsh borders.

Anita Shreve
Testimony (General). 305 pages.
A sex scandal in a New England boarding school sends shockwaves through the community of parents, teachers and pupils. The gripping drama unfolds, as each of the characters involved tell their own side of the story.

Anita Shreve
A Wedding in December (General). 328 pages.
Old friends gather for a wedding, and emotional dramas soon begin to unfold. Strong characters and complex relationships are the hallmark of Shreve's novels, and this is no exception.

Lionel Shriver
Big Brother (General). 404 pages.
When her beloved older brother comes to visit after an absence of several years, Pandora is shocked to see that his weight has ballooned, making him barely recognizable. What has caused this drastic change? A thought-provoking family drama.
Lionel Shriver

**We Need to Talk About Kevin** (General). 468 pages.
Narrated by the mother of a boy who has killed seven students and two adults in his school, this powerful and uncompromising novel makes for thought-provoking reading.

Craig Silvie

**Jasper Jones** (General). 299 pages.
Set in an Australian mining town in the 1960s, this engrossing coming-of-age tale of race and identity is a worthy stablemate to classics such as 'To Kill a Mockingbird' and 'Huckleberry Finn', although it does contain some hard-hitting description.

Helen Simonson

**Major Pettigrew's Last Stand** (General). 388 pages.
In a quiet English village, the growing friendship between an elderly military gentleman and a Pakistani lady shopkeeper causes tongues to wag, but what do appearances matter? A light-hearted and uplifting tale.

Rebecca Skloot

Although she died in 1951, Henrietta Lacks lives on in laboratories worldwide in the form of cultured cells which were taken from her during her final illness, and which continue to save lives today. This is her fascinating true story.

Mark Slouka

**The Visible World** (General). 242 pages.
In this powerful and atmospheric novel, a young man attempts to unravel the truth about his parents' past. He travels from New York to their Czech homeland and uncovers a tragic love affair, as well as a daring story of wartime heroism.

Jane Smiley

**Private Life** (General). 480 pages.
When Margaret Mayfield marries the eminently eligible Captain Andrew Early in late 19th century Missouri, people think that she has made a lucky catch. Events soon prove otherwise in this thought-provoking historical novel.

Tim Rob Smith

**Child 44** (Adventure). 496 pages.
Moscow under Stalin 1953. Inspired by a real-life investigation, Child 44 is a relentless story of love, hope and bravery in a totalitarian world.
Carol Smith
  **Twilight Hour** (Adventure). 407 pages.
  Dark and brooding Dartmoor provides the backdrop to this eerie thriller, featuring a varied cast of characters all with their own secrets, mysterious figures in the woods, Russian assassins and general ghostly goings-on

M M Smith
  **The Servants** (General). 233 pages.
  As his mother's health fades away, 11-year-old Mark is drawn to the old lady who lives downstairs. But it is a locked door that really grabs his curiosity, and the secret which lies beyond it. An imaginative story with a ghostly atmosphere.

Ali Smith **NEW TITLE**
  **How to be Both** (General). 371 pages.
  A novel about the versatility of art where two tales of love and injustice twist into a singular yarn. Which story is read first depends on which copy is being read. Winner of several prizes including the 2014 Costa and 2015 Baileys Prize.

Betty Smith
  **A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (General). 409 pages.
  A child growing up in the slums of Brooklyn in the early 1900s learns valuable lessons for life in this classic coming-of-age novel first published in 1943

Zadie Smith
  **NW** (General). 470 pages.
  Four people originally from the same London council estate meet by chance in their thirties, bringing their respective life choices under the spotlight. A sharply observed portrait of modern city life from the acclaimed author of 'White Teeth'.

Maggies Smith-Bendell
  **Raddit Stew and a Penny or Two** (Biography). 306 pages.
  Life in a traditional Gypsy family is remembered in all its ups and downs in this fascinating memoir of a survivor from the days of campfires and horse-drawn wagons.

Natasha Solomons
  **Mr Rosenblum's List** (General). 328 pages.
  Trying to make a new life in 1950s Dorset, a Jewish refugee couple find they each have different priorities: Mr Rosenblum is keen to fit in, but his wife Sadie is reluctant to give up the past. A gently nostalgic yet thought-provoking read
Muriel Spark

The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie (Classic). 128 pages. Although only written in the 1960s, Muriel Spark's memorable tale of a progressive schoolmistress and her 'crème de la crème' must surely rank amongst the classics of English fiction. Filmed 1969.

Elizabeth Speller

The Return of Captain John Emmett (Historical). 436 pages. London, 1921. A First World War veteran is asked by the sister of an old friend to investigate the cause of her brother's sudden suicide. A compelling mystery and a poignant exploration of the long-term effects of war.

Francis Spufford

The Child that Books Built (Biography). 211 pages. Revisiting his favourite children's books, the author recalls the impression they made upon him at the time, and how misfortune led him to be a schoolboy bookworm. A fascinating and poignant memoir.

Michael Stanley

A Carrion Death (Crime). 557 pages. Although featuring a detective in Botswana, this is altogether darker than the Ladies' Detective Agency tales. Detective Kubu's Africa is filled with corruption, blackmail and smugglers - as he picks his way through a mysterious murder investigation.

Staying Alive

Real Poems for Unreal Time (Poetry). 456 pages. This bumper anthology contains 500 timeless poems from across the world which are guaranteed to lift the spirits: there really is something here for everyone.

John Steinbeck

Travels with Charley in Search of America (Travel). 210 pages. Approaching sixty, John Steinbeck set out in a truck-cum mobile home to rediscover the real America, taking his poodle Charley along as ambassador. This humorous and sharply observed narrative is the result.

Kathryn Stockett

The Help (General). 451 pages. This fascinating novel is a moving tribute to the thousands of black women employed as maids in prosperous southern US households where they were trusted to raise white children, but not permitted basic civil rights. Filmed 2011.
Julia Stuart
The Matchmaker of Perigord (Humour). 382 pages.
A fragrant slice of romance and comedy, set in a French village where love seems thin on the ground. Determined to change all this, the local barber turns matchmaker - but he has his work cut out for him with this eccentric array of characters.

Kate Summerscale
The Suspicions of Mr Whicher (Non-fiction). 372 pages.
An engrossing true story about an infamous murder in 1860, and the advent of the first modern police detective, whose methods influenced the writings of Dickens and Wilkie Collins amongst others.

Graham Swift
Waterland (General). 358 pages.
Set in the mysterious Fenland of East Anglia, this evocative tale of one family's history makes for compelling reading. From the Booker Prize winning author of 'Last Orders'. Filmed 1992.

Katherine Swift
The Morville Hours (Non-fiction). 368 pages.
The author spent 20 years creating a country house garden at the Dower House in Morville. This extraordinary book not only describes the genesis of the garden, but also draws from local history, archaeology, folklore and a moving family story.

Amy Tan
Saving Fish From Drowning (General). 474 pages.
When their guide is killed, a group of tourists become lost in the jungles of Burma. Based on fact, this is a clever tale that weaves mystery and travel, as the group encounter a tribe who are looking for salvation.

Elizabeth Taylor
Angel (General). 252 pages.
A young woman of modest talent becomes hugely famous as a novelist, but makes the mistake of believing her own publicity. A sharply observed and witty tale from a now mostly overlooked author.

Josephine Tey
The Daughter of Time (General). 222 pages.
With the discovery of his grave, Richard III's role in history has come under intense scrutiny from experts armed with an array of technical gadgetry. This classic tale of scholarly sleuthing is a welcome antidote to the 21st century hyperbole.
Johan Theorin

Years after his disappearance from the Baltic island of Oland, someone knows what became of a missing child and is determined to torment his family. The gripping first novel from a noted Scandinavian author.

Paul Theroux

The Lower River (General). 323 pages.
A middle-aged American with fond memories of Africa from time spent there in his youth, returns to find things have gone downhill. Undaunted, he resolves to stay, but falls prey to local exploiters keen to deprive him of his dollars. An eye-opening explor

Aeronwy Thomas

My Father's Place (Biography). 216 pages.
Written by Dylan and Caitlin Thomas's only daughter shortly before her death, this touching and lyrical memoir sheds new light on the poet's last years at Laugharne.

Brian Thompson

Keeping Mum (Biography). 258 pages.
Neglected by his eccentric parents and cared for by a parade of colourful relatives, the author spent a very unusual childhood. Told with humour and affection, this is his highly entertaining wartime memoir.

Alan Titchmarsh

Nobbut a Lad; a Yorkshire Childhood (Biography). 327 pages.
The much-loved TV presenter recalls his early childhood in Yorkshire. Full of gentle nostalgia, it paints a rosy picture of growing up in the 1950s. As warm and affable as the man himself, this is a charming memoir.

Alan Titchmarsh

The Haunting (General). 338 pages.
Harry Flint's research into his family tree leads him to uncanny parallels with an ancestor from two centuries ago in this cleverly plotted interlocking tale.

Colm Toibin

Brooklyn (General). 252 pages.
In the 1950s a young Irishwoman emigrates to New York. Just when she starts to settle in, an incident calls her back home where her loyalties are torn between family duty and her exciting new life. A sensitively written period title.
Colm Toibin **NEW TITLE**  
**Nora Webster** (General). 311 pages.  
Nora Webster is living in a small town in late 1960’s Ireland, looking after her four children and trying to rebuild her life after the death of her husband. Shortlisted for the 2014 Costa Novel Awards and the 2015 Folio Prize.

Claire Tomalin  
**The Invisible Woman** (Biography). 268 pages.  
Although female Dickensian characters such as Miss Havisham and Little Nell are household names, few have ever heard of Nelly Ternan, the real-life mistress Dickens was only too keen to keep in the background. This is her fascinating story.

Paul Torday  
**The Hopeless Life of Charlie Summers** (General). 329 pages.  
Set in the murky world of dodgy business schemes run by equally dodgy entrepreneurs, this finely crafted and entertaining novel is the fourth from the author of ‘Salmon Fishing in the Yemen’.

Paul Torday  
**Salmon Fishing in the Yemen** (Humour). 282 pages.  
A jaded fisheries scientist tasked with introducing salmon to a Yemeni river starts his mission a sceptic, but makes surprising discoveries on the way. A lively and entertaining comedy.

Sue Townsend  
The title says it all with this comic tale of Eva who takes to her bed when she’s had enough of being a wife and mother, but unwittingly becomes the figurehead for a Twitter-based protest movement.

Travelling in Time Lucky Dip  
(Travel).  
Take your pick from a fine selection of historical novels from contemporary authors - there’s something here for every taste.

Travelogue Lucky Dip 1  
(Travel).  
Why not take your pick from an eyecatching selection of contemporary and classic travel writings, then meet up at base camp to plan your next expedition?
Travelogue Lucky Dip 2
(Travel).

Why not take your pick from a second eyecatching selection of contemporary and classic travel writings, then meet up at base camp to plan your next expedition?

Rose Tremain
Trespass (General). 372 pages.
When a jaded London antiques dealer sells up and joins his sister in a secluded French valley, he is unaware of simmering tensions within a local landowning family which threaten to erupt into violence. A well-crafted psychological tale.

William Trevor
Love and Summer (General). 212 pages.
In a sleepy farming community, a young wife's head is turned by a handsome stranger, leading to a clandestine affair. But nothing stays secret for long. An atmospheric tale of illicit passion.

Anthony Trollope
The Warden (Classic). 185 pages.
Inspired by a pleasant evening stroll around Salisbury cathedral, 'The Warden' is Trollope's first novel in the much-loved 'Chronicles of Barsetshire' series and tells the story of the saintly Mr Harding.

Lynne Truss
Tennyson's Gift (Humour). 262 pages.
Loosely based on real events, this light-hearted and entertaining novel explores the comic foibles of a cast of famous Victorians, including Alfred Lord Tennyson, Ellen Terry and Lewis Carroll.

Jenny Uglow
A fascinating biography of the humble Tyneside wood engraver whose book illustrations led the field for generations, and whose name is still a byword for impeccable detail and craftsmanship.

Cathi Unsworth
Bad Penny Blues (Crime). 287 pages.
A series of murders in Soho form the basis for this unconventional mystery with a cast of corrupt policemen, musicians and prostitutes. A hard-hitting crime novel exploring the darker side of the Swinging Sixties.
Barry Unsworth  
**Land of Marvels** (Historical). 430 pages. 
An idealistic archaeologist, convinced that with more resources his 
excavation will bear fruit, finds his efforts are placed in jeopardy by the 
increasingly belligerent powers encroaching on the Middle East.

Salley Vickers  
**Dancing Backwards** (General). 264 pages. 
Aiming to meet an old friend in New York, crossing the Atlantic by boat 
instead of flying gives Violet a chance to take stock of her life and 
prepare for what lies ahead. A tender and thoughtful novel by the 
author of 'Miss Garnet's Angel'.

Salley Vickers  
**The Cleaner of Chartres** (General). 297 pages. 
Set in and around the magnificent gothic cathedral of Chartres in rural 
France, this tender tale of mystery and redemption is sure to delight 
Salley Vickers' many fans.

Carolyn Wall  
**Sweeping Up Glass** (General). 320 pages. 
As a child in 1930s Kentucky, Olivia Harker's choice of friends from the 
black community is frowned upon by her white neighbours. Forty years 
on, secrets from those unenlightened times come to the surface, forcing 
Olivia to reassess her life.

Jill Paton Walsh  
Fans of Lord Peter Wimsey will be be delighted to see that his 
legendary deductive skills are called upon once more in this newly 
imagined follow-on to his very first case. A convincing and entertaining 
period piece.

Giles Waterfield  
**Markham Thorpe** (Historical). 280 pages. 
Ellen starts work as a servant at Markham Thorpe, but the housekeeper 
has more influence than her station would normally allow. In fact, the 
balance between 'upstairs' and 'downstairs' is in danger of collapsing 
altogether - how can this be?

Robin Waterfield  
**The Greek Myths** (Mythology). 294 pages. 
The extraordinary feats of the Ancient Greek gods are rendered into 
glorious technicolour in this modern collection of stories from a 
prominent British scholar.
Sarah Waters

The Little Stranger (General). 499 pages.
A doctor called out to a crumbling country mansion in post-war Warwickshire, finds himself confronted with more than just his human patients in this gripping supernatural tale from an author renowned for period atmosphere.

Winifred Watson

Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (Humour). 234 pages.
When her employment agency mixes up her assignment, dowdy governess Guinevere Pettigrew finds her life changed in the blink of an eye. A delightful pre-war comic version of the Cinderella story. Filmed 2008

Evelyn Waugh

Scoop (Classic). 222 pages.
In these times of phone hacking, cosying up with politicians and other such underhand practices, this pre-war satire on the newspaper industry is sure to raise a knowing smile. Some things never change!

Mary Webb

Gone to Earth (Classic). 288 pages.
Classic Shropshire tale, filmed by Hollywood in 1950 with local people as extras.

Fay Weldon

Habits of the House (Historical). 314 pages.
When their investments fail, an aristocratic family is forced to look for American money to keep the wolf from the door. But will a Chicago heiress fit in with the late Victorian country house set? First in a new trilogy from this well-loved author

Mary Wesley

Harnessing Peacocks (General). 263 pages.
Determined to be a free spirit, Hebe uses her talents to her best advantage, but before too long her past starts to catch up with her. An entertaining and racy romp from an unconventional author. Recommended by Hopesay Reading Group.

V.M. Whitworth

The Bone Thief (Historical). 450 pages.
Set in the years following the death of Alfred the Great, this stirring tale of a trainee priest on a perilous mission into hostile Viking territory will keep you on the edge of your seat. A treat for devotees of Brother Cadfael
Ben Wicks
No Time to Wave Goodbye (Non-fiction). 270 pages.
Former World War II evacuees tell their own stories, experiences that for many were to shape their entire lives. These touching accounts capture vividly the heady mix of fear, excitement and confusion from that period of unprecedented upheaval.

Oscar Wilde
The Picture of Dorian Gray (Classic). 256 pages.
In exchange for eternal youth and pleasure, Dorian Gray sells his soul, and while he remains young and virile his portrait grows old and corrupt. Oscar Wilde's controversial only novel. Filmed 1945.

John Williams
Stoner (General). 288 pages.
This beautifully written novel from a recently rediscovered American author explores in intimate detail the humble life of an unassuming university lecturer. A truly memorable read.

Kate Williams **NEW TITLE**
The Pleasures of Men (General). 391 pages.
With a serial killer stalking young women in London's East End, Catherine, herself a potential victim, becomes unhealthily obsessed with the dead girls and their fate. An atmospheric Victorian thriller.

Nigel Williams
No-one would take quiet, unassuming Henry Farr for a murderer, yet he hatches the perfect plot to dispose of his domineering wife. However, his plan takes an unforeseen turn with increasingly tragicomic results

Robert Winder
The Final Act of Mr Shakespeare (Historical). 436 pages.
This audacious historical novel imagines that an ageing Shakespeare came out of retirement to write one last play, a scurrilous attack on Henry Tudor, a subject forbidden to him during Elizabeth's reign.

Jeanette Winterson
Why be Happy When You Could be Normal (Biography). 230 pages.
The author of 'Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit' recalls growing up with Mrs Winterson, the inspiration for the terrifying mother in her bestselling fictional tale of an unconventional childhood. A frank and bittersweet memoir.
Tim Winton

**Cloudstreet** (General). 431 pages.
This lively and very enjoyable Australian novel explores the comings and goings of two ordinary families sharing a tumbledown house in Perth from the 1930s to the 1960s.

Virginia Wolf

**Orlando** (Classic). 215 pages.
During the course of this extraordinary novel, an Elizabethan nobleman not only transforms into a woman, but is also no older than thirty-six over three centuries later. Intrigued? You will be!

Esther Woolson

**Corvus; a Life With Birds** (Non-fiction). 337 pages.
This charming true story of a rook named Chicken and her life in a suburban villa in Aberdeen is sure to make you think differently the next time you see a magpie looking furtive in your garden.

Doug Worgul

**Thin Blue Smoke** (General). 454 pages.
A Kansas City barbecue joint is home to a cast of memorable characters in this quirky debut novel - a bittersweet slice of American life in the tradition of Garrison Keillor.

Evie Wyld

**After the Fire, a Still Small Voice** (General). 296 pages.
Two Australian men, separated by several decades, both learn life's lessons the hard way in this cleverly wrought and engrossing debut novel from an ex-pat now living in London.

John Wyndham

**The Chrysalids** (Science fiction). 204 pages.
Written at a time when nuclear fears were becoming widespread, John Wyndham's classic post-apocalypse novel explores the darker realms of human nature when faced with anything or anyone considered outside of the norm.

John Wyndham **NEW TITLE**

**The Midwich Cuckoos** (Science fiction). 220 pages.
In the sleepy English village of Midwich a mysterious silver object appears and the the inhabitants fall unconscious. A day later the object is gone and everyone awakens unharmed - except that all the women in the village are discovered to be pregnant. The Midwich Cuckoos is the classic tale of aliens in our midst, exploring how we respond when confronted by those who are innately superior to us in very conceivable way.
Richard Yates

*Revolutionary Road* (General). 337 pages.
A young American couple become tired of ordinary life and decide that a move to France will lead to greater fulfilment. A rediscovered masterpiece recently filmed with Kate Winslet.

Carlos Ruiz Zafon

Anyone looking for a literary thriller where books play a major role need look no further than this stirring Spanish tale set in the aftermath of the Civil War, featuring a resourceful boy hero.

Farahad Zama

A colourful contemporary romance set in South India, where Mr Ali opens a marriage bureau. It turns out that his young assistant Aruna is the one that really needs a helping hand, as she harbours secrets of the heart.

Marcus Zusak

*The Book Thief* (Historical). 554 pages.
The highly acclaimed story of a young girl living in Nazi Germany, after her parents have been taken to a concentration camp. Narrated by death, it is a memorable tale of books and their power to change lives.