GROW YOUR COMMUNITY with

One Book

Suggested Titles for Community Reads Programs from Random House, Inc.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

NANCY PEARL
COMMUNITY READING PROJECTS BENEFIT A LIBRARY

in several ways, some quantifiable, others not. The most important non-quantifiable benefit is this: Community Reading projects position the library as a major player in the cultural life of a community. The library is no longer simply a place to come to use the computers, or to find information, or the most recent best-seller (all vital aspects of the library’s mission in themselves, of course); rather, the library becomes a destination for people who are interested in discussing books, a venue for author visits and for other cultural and humanities programs. One Book, One Community projects are an excellent way to start building a community of readers that finds its home base in the library.

There are several basic questions that need to be answered before you even begin the hands-on work of designing a Community Reading project for your community. Remember that the beauty of these projects is that they are infinitely adaptable; they will benefit your community whatever you are able, or choose, to do. It’s through the process of answering these questions that you will discover that you have, in fact, planned your own community reading program.

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF YOUR PROGRAM?

Perhaps, as with many libraries, it’s to address a particular issue, such as multiculturalism, racism, or economic injustices, for instance. Others have looked at the project as a way of highlighting a local author. Still others have seen this as an opportunity to acquaint readers with books they might not ordinarily discover on their own. Once you’ve articulated the goal of the program, you’ll find that choosing a book that fits those goals suddenly becomes much easier. As you work through the answer to this question, you’ll also be figuring out who the audience for the program is. Some libraries collaborate with the schools in their community and select a children’s or young adult book. Others try to find a book that appeals to all ages, while other libraries select books that appeal primarily to adult readers. It’s relatively easy to select a book for a particular age group, and, of course, much harder to find a book that will resonate with everyone from age 9 to 99, but not necessarily impossible.

WHAT KIND OF BOOK SHOULD YOU PICK, AND HOW SHOULD YOU GO ABOUT SELECTING IT?

What I’ve found is that the best books for book discussions—whether it be for the neighborhood soccer moms who get together once a month or for community wide reading projects—have certain characteristics in common. First, the book needs to be eminently, or, even better, compulsively, discussable. It should be a book that offers readers different ways of understanding or interpreting the actions of the main character. What you’re going to be discussing is everything that the author hasn’t told you, so you want to select a book that encourages you to read between the lines. It always helps if the ending of the novel is somewhat ambiguous (books like Kevin Brockmeier’s The Brief History of the Dead or Donna Tartt’s The Little Friend, for example) or books in which the main character is forced to make a decision that will provoke strong agreement or disagreement with the readers (try The Dive from Clausen’s Pier by Ann Packer, Amy and Isabel by Elizabeth Strout, Edwidge Danticat’s The Dew Breaker, or any of Margaret Atwood’s novels for a start) or books that challenge our complicity (Night by Elie Wiesel, Robert Cormier’s I Am the Cheese or The Chocolate War, Lorene Cary’s The Price of a Child, Mitch Albom’s Tuesdays with Morrie, Walter Van Tilburg Clark’s The Ox-Bow Incident, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou, or To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee) or are controversial or disturbing in subject matter (Ernest Gaines’s A Lesson Before Dying, Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi, David Simon’s The Corner, War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning by Chris Hedges, Abraham Verghese’s My Own Country: A Doctor’s Story, Under the Banner of Heaven by J. Krakauer, or There Are No Children Here by Alex Kotlowitz. (As you can see, it’s with these latter two categories where nonfiction works particularly well.)

Or consider books that have a particular meaning for your community. The committee planning the first “One Book, One Community” project for the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library asked for nominations from the community and they received almost 1,000 separate titles from enthusiastic readers, who took the time to write reviews about their choices. A committee made the final selection, an older title that was both uniquely right for Indiana residents and had resonated with current events: Jessamyn West’s The Friendly Persuasion. Not only was the author from Indiana, but the book takes place during the Civil War years in the state, and offers much food for thought as it profiles a community in crisis.

Or perhaps there’s a local author whose work is particularly relevant and therefore makes a good book for the project, such as Kent Haruf’s Plainsong for libraries in Colorado, or a Florida library selecting Peter Matthiessen’s Killing Mr. Watson, or an Australian library selecting The True History of the Kelly Gang by Peter Carey.

Sometimes committees narrow down their choice to a few books and let the public vote on the final selection. One Canadian community asked 5 local celebrities to champion one of the finalists, and following a public (and spirited) debate over the merits of each, the community voted on their selection. Whatever book you choose, and however you select it, make sure it has enough “meat” to sustain a discussion that rises above the level of “did you like the book or not?”

-Nancy Pearl
John Irving

**Last Night in Twisted River**

In 1954, in the cookhouse of a logging and sawmill settlement in northern New Hampshire, a twelve-year-old mistakes the local constable's girlfriend for a bear and kills her. Forced to flee from the accident, the boy and his father become fugitives.

Vermont and Toronto

978-1-4000-6384-0 | $28.00/NCR

Random House | HC | Fiction | October 2009

---

Alan Drew

**Gardens of Water: A Novel**

Set in a small town outside Istanbul, Drew’s “remarkable” (NYTBR) novel tells the story of a man and his family whose lives are thrown into chaos when the earthquake of 1999 destroys their home and way of life. When his daughter falls in love with an American boy whose father intercedes to help, the tensions between the two cultures, two fathers, two faiths, explode.

Cincinnati, OH

978-0-8129-7844-5 | $14.00/$16.50C

RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction

---

Mark Haddon

**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**

Christopher is fifteen, gifted, and autistic. His carefully constructed world falls apart when the neighbor's dog is killed. As he sets out to solve the mystery of the dog’s murder, Christopher must fall back on his own deductive logic to navigate the emotional complexities of a social world that remains a puzzle to him.

Oxford, England

WINNER: ALA Alex Award
WINNER: YALSA Best Books for Young Adults.

978-1-4000-3271-6 | $13.95/NCR

Vintage | TR | Fiction

---

Ursula K. Le Guin

**A Wizard of Earthsea**

Ged was the greatest sorcerer in all Earthsea, but once he was called Sparrowhawk, a reckless youth, hungry for power and knowledge, who tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. This is the tale of his testing.

WINNER: New York Public Library Books for the Teen Age
WINNER: YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

978-0-553-38304-1 | $15.00/NCR

Spectra | TR | Fiction

978-0-553-26250-6 | $7.99/NCR | Spectra | MM

---

Sandra Cisneros

**The House on Mango Street**

Through a series of vignettes, Cisneros tells the story of Esperanza Cordero, a young girl growing up in the Latino section of Chicago, whose neighborhood is one of harsh realities and harsh beauty. Esperanza doesn’t want to belong—not to her rundown neighborhood, and not to the low expectations the world has for her.

San Antonio, TX

978-0-679-73477-2 | $10.95/$12.99C

Vintage | TR | Fiction

---

Homer H. Hickam, Jr.

**Rocket Boys**

A powerful story of coming of age and of a group of young men who dreamed of launching rockets into outer space and who made those dreams come true. Alabama and the Virgin Islands.

O-385-33321-6 | $14.00/$21.00C

Delta | TR | Nonfiction

O-385-33320-X | $26.00/$37.00C

Delacorte | HC

---

Henry J.ames

**Washington Square**

This Henry James coming-of-age novel follows the life of Catherine Sloper, a kind-hearted, plain-faced woman finding her way in New York City in the mid-19th century.

978-0-375-76122-5 | $7.95/$10.50C

Modern Library | TR | Fiction

---

John Irving

**Last Night in Twisted River**

In 1954, in the cookhouse of a logging and sawmill settlement in northern New Hampshire, a twelve-year-old mistakes the local constable's girlfriend for a bear and kills her. Forced to flee from the accident, the boy and his father become fugitives. Vermont and Toronto

978-1-4000-6384-0 | $28.00/NCR

Random House | HC | Fiction | October 2009

---

Ursula K. Le Guin

**A Wizard of Earthsea**

Ged was the greatest sorcerer in all Earthsea, but once he was called Sparrowhawk, a reckless youth, hungry for power and knowledge, who tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. This is the tale of his testing.

WINNER: New York Public Library Books for the Teen Age
WINNER: YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

978-0-553-38304-1 | $15.00/NCR

Spectra | TR | Fiction

978-0-553-26250-6 | $7.99/NCR | Spectra | MM

---

**SELECTED BY:**

Guntersville, AL; Jackson County, AL; Scottsboro, AL; Central Florida; Greenwood, IN; Northwest, IN; Tøpeka, KS; Athol, MA; Easthampton, MA; Southwest Mi; Bowling Green, OH; Cleveland, OH; Findlay, OH; Tiffin, OH; Central Pennsylvania; Warren County, PA; Beauford County, SC; Memphis Shelby County, TN; Portland, TN; Alexandria, VA; Winchester, Frederick and Clark Counties, VA; Sioux City, IA; Waco, TX

**SELECTED BY:**

Chicago, IL, The State of Arkansas; Commerce, Escandida, CA; Los Angeles, CA; Pico Rivera, CA; Sonoma County, CA; Jacksonville, FL; Miami, FL; Multnomah County, OR; Brazo Valley, TX; College Station-Bryan, TX; El Paso, TX; Milwaukee, WI

**SELECTED BY:**

Santa Barbara, CA; Gunnison, CO; Westport, CT; North Atteboro, MA; North Reading, MA; West Boylston, MA; Kalamazoo, MI; Wake County, NC; Cincinnati, OH; Central Valley, NY; New Paltz, NY; Galveston, TX; Salt Lake City, UT

**SELECTED BY:**

The Mercantile Library Center for Fiction

**SELECTED BY:**

Jackson District Library, MI; Huntsville Public Library, TX; Timberland Regional Library, WA
Daniel Mason

**A Far Country**

A stunning new novel from the best-selling author of *The Piano Tuner*: the story of a remarkable 13-year-old girl from the backlands of an unnamed country who goes to the big city in search of her missing brother. This is an astonishing, beautiful book about love and faith, endurance and survival, and the bonds of family.

Berkeley, CA
978-3-400-32089-2 | $13.95/$15.95C

*Vintage | TR | Fiction*

---

Sonia Nazario

**Enrique’s Journey**

The breathtaking eyewitness account of a young Honduran boy’s perilous efforts to reunite with his mother in the U.S. An intense timely story of one family’s embodiment of a national issue, illegal immigration, and the toll it takes on the parents and children involved and on the nation’s resources and moral standing.

Los Angeles, CA
978-0-8129-7178-1 | $14.95/$19.95C

*Random House | TR | Nonfiction*

---

Ron Suskind

**A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League**

Cedric Jennings is a bright and determined honor student at a high school in one of D.C.’s most dangerous neighborhoods. He eats lunch in a classroom most days, plowing through the extra work he has asked for. Cedric Jennings’s driving ambition is to attend a top college. In September 1995, he realizes that ambition when he begins as a freshman at Brown University. Washington, D.C
978-0-7679-0126-0 | $15.95/$22.95C

*Broadway | TR | Nonfiction*

---

Mark Twain

**Adventures of Huckleberry Finn**

Epic in scope and alive with the vigor of the American people, Mark Twain’s story about a young boy and his journey down the Mississippi was the first great novel to speak in a truly American voice. The tale of Huck’s journey is a timeless look at prejudice, the bonds of friendship and the attainment of maturity.

978-0-449-91272-0 | $14.95/$22.95C

*Ballantine | TR | Fiction*

---

Hannah Tinti

**The Good Thief**

A Dickensian cast of characters in 19th century New England come brilliantly to life in this wondrous debut novel about an orphan boy and the colorful conman who claims to be his brother.

**WINNER: 2008 John Sargent, Sr. First Novel Prize**

*A Washington Post Best Book of 2008*  
*A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2008*

978-0-385-33745-8 | $15.00/$18.95C

*Dial Press | HC*

---

Said Sayrafiezadeh

**When Skateboards Will Be Free: A Memoir of a Political Childhood**

This stunning memoir of growing up in America as the child of would-be socialist revolutionaries during the twilight of Communism will take its place alongside *This Boy’s Life* and *Fierce Attachments* as a vital work of personal narrative.

978-0-385-34069-4 | $15.00/$18.95C

*Dial Press | TR | Nonfiction | Available March 2010*

---

Mark Twain

**Adventures of Huckleberry Finn**

978-0-385-33746-5 | $15.00/$18.95C

*Dial Press | TR | August 2009*

---

**TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:**

DO consider having a public program with the author answering questions from the audience, rather than offering a reading from the book.
Mark Twain

**The Adventures of Tom Sawyer**

One of the most splendid portraits of youth in all of literature, the light-hearted Tom Sawyer is written just as much for adults as it is for young boys and girls.

- Modern Library | TR
- Bantam | MM | Fiction

**SELECTED BY:** Fresno County Public Library, CA; Norwalk Public Library, CT; Massanutten Regional Library, VA; Muscogee County Friends of Libraries, GA; Heerman Memorial Library, NY; Galesburg Public Library, IL

Tobias Wolff

**Old School**

A brilliant literary novel about a young writer and his secret life at a New England prep school in the 1960s.

“A sharply drawn, acutely felt novel of moral inquiry…. Wolff has put his readers in the landscape tracked across by writers as different as J. M. Coetzee, Philip Roth, and, going back, Conrad and Hawthorne.” —The Washington Post Book World

**A New York Times Notable Book**

**WINNER: Booklist Editor's Choice for Young Adults**

**WINNER: PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction**

- Vintage | TR | Fiction

**SELECTED BY:** The Libraries of Greater Kansas City, MO; Roseville Public Library, CA; Bellingham Public Library, WA; Ephrata Public Library, PA

Markus Zusak

**The Book Thief**

Set during World War II in Germany, this groundbreaking novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can’t resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement before he is marched to Dachau. Sydney, Australia

- Modern Library | TR | Fiction

**SELECTED BY:** Salt Lake City, UT; Loudon County, VA; Fairhaven, WA

H. G. Adler;

Translated by Peter Filkins

**The Journey: A Novel**

From one of four known German-speaking Jewish novelists who survived the Holocaust and wrote about it, The Journey is a devastating novel based on Adler’s own experience, prescient in the way it anticipates how future generations of writers would grapple with nearly unfathomable events. Deceased

- Modern Library | TR | Fiction

Maya Angelou

**I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings**

A phenomenal #1 bestseller, this memoir traces Maya Angelou’s childhood in a small, rural community in Arkansas during the 1930s. Filled with images and recollections that point to the dignity and courage of black men and women, Angelou paints a sometimes disquieting, but always affecting, picture of the people—and the times—that touched her life. New York, NY and Winston-Salem, NC

- Random House | TR | Nonfiction

**SELECTED BY:** Forsyth County, NC; Rome/Floyd County, GA

Christina Asquith

**Sisters in War:**

A Story of Love, Family, and Survival in the New Iraq

Four very different women confront their futures in post-war Iraq, illuminating women’s changed circumstances after the fall of Saddam. Washington, D.C.

- Random House | HC | Nonfiction

**SELECTED BY:** Forsyth County, NC; Rome/Floyd County, GA
Ray Bradbury

**Fahrenheit 451**

The landmark novel of a future society where books are outlawed and only one man awakens to the evils of censorship. An important novel for readers of all ages that is pertinent to today’s society where some books are still censored. This title is perfect for libraries interested in reaching out to students in the community. Los Angeles, CA
978-0-345-41001-6 | $13.95/$21.00C
Ballantine | TR | Fiction
978-0-345-34296-6 | $6.99/$10.99C | Del Rey | MM
978-0-307-47531-2 | $13.00/$16.00C
Vintage | TR | January 2010

SELECTED BY: Bakersfield, CA; Long Beach, CA; Los Angeles, CA; Nevada County, CA; Silicon Valley, CA; Eastern Connecticut; Jacksonville, FL; Miami, FL; Palm Beach, FL; Boise, ID; Allen County, IN; Carmel, IN; Lafayette, IN; East Lansing, MI; Kalamazoo, MI; Omaha, NE; New Jersey; Buffalo, NY; Utica, NY; Wake County, NC; Cleveland, OH; Delaware County, OH; Enterprise, OR; Mulnomah County, OR; Erie, PA; Houston, TX; Tacoma, WA

James Bradley with Ron Powers

**Flags of Our Fathers**

In February 1945, American Marines plunged into the surf at Iwo Jima—and into history. An epic look at a generation at war, this is history told with keen insight, enormous honesty, and the passion of a son paying homage to his father. It is the story of the difference between truth and myth, the meaning of being a hero, and the essence of the human experience of war. New York
978-0-553-38415-4 | $14.95/$21.00C
Bantam | TR | Fiction
978-0-345-40006-6 | $6.99/$10.99C | Del Rey | MM
978-0-307-47531-2 | $13.00/$16.00C
Vintage | TR | January 2010

SELECTED BY: Delaware County, PA; Lafayette, IN; Traverse City, MI

Donovan Campbell

**Joker One: A Marine Platoon’s Story of Courage, Leadership, and Brotherhood**

After graduating from Princeton, Campbell joined the service and was given just months to train and transform a ragtag group of forty brand-new Marines into a first-rate cohesive fighting unit. Known as Joker One, the unit was assigned to the city of Ramadi, an explosion just waiting to happen. A gripping story of loyalty, faith, brotherhood, and of the making of an extraordinary leader. Dallas, TX
978-1-4000-6773-2 | $26.00/$30.00C
Random House | HC | Nonfiction
978-0-8129-7966-5 | $16.00/$19.95C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | January 2010

SELECTED BY: Marin County, CA; San Mateo County, CA; Philadelphia, PA; Thousand Oaks, CA

E.L. Doctorow

**The March**

With scope and an enormous cast of characters—generals, enlisted men, freed slaves, plantation owners, men and women, blacks and whites, the uprooted, the dispossessed and the triumphant—here is a war novel written with insight and compassion. Sherman’s great march in Doctorow’s hands becomes something more—a floating world, a nomadic consciousness with awesome relevance to our own times. New York, NY
978-0-8129-7615-1 | $14.95/$21.00C
Random House | TR | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Delaware County, PA; Lafayette, IN; Traverse City, MI

Dave Eggers

**What is the What**

A moving, extraordinary new novel about one of the Sudanese Lost Boys and his struggle for survival. Written with expansive humanity and surprising humor, we come to understand the nature of the conflicts in Sudan, the refugee experience in America, the dreams of the Dinka people, and the challenge one indomitable man faces in a world collapsing around him. San Francisco, CA
978-0-307-38590-1 | $15.95/NCR
Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Marin County, CA; San Mateo County, CA; Philadelphia, PA; Thousand Oaks, CA

Daoud Hari

**The Translator: A Memoir**

The thrilling, powerful story of a man who escaped the genocide in Darfur and then risked his life and returned as a guide and translator for Western journalists so they could tell the world about what was happening. This is both an astonishing eyewitness account of today’s greatest crisis and an unforgettable adventure story. Asbury Park, NJ
978-0-8129-7917-6 | $13.00/NCR
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Delaware County, PA; Lafayette, IN; Traverse City, MI
Lloyd Jones
Mister Pip
On a remote war-ravaged island, all of the teachers have fled, disrupting school for thirteen-year-old Matilda and the other village children. Eccentric Mr. Watts, the only white man who has stayed on the island, agrees to become their teacher and commences reading to them from Great Expectations. Pip’s story revitalizes the small community, giving hope to those who have never before considered an outside world. But imagination is a dangerous thing on an island at war.
Wellington, New Zealand
978-0-385-34107-3 | $12.00 | Dial Press | TR | Fiction
978-0-676-97928-2 | $21.00C | Vintage Canada | TR

Carlotta Walls Lanier and Lisa Frazier Page
A Mighty Long Way: My Journey to Justice at Little Rock Central High School
The youngest of the Little Rock Nine tells her tale of how an unsuspecting 14-year-old girl and her supportive African-American family found themselves at the center of a struggle that permanently altered the landscape of American education.
Englewood, CO
978-0-345-51100-3 | $26.00/$32.00C
One World | HC | Nonfiction | August 2009

Jack London
The Call of the Wild
The story of Buck, a dog stolen from his home and thrust into the merciless life of the Arctic north to endure hardship, bitter cold, and the savage lawlessness of man and beast.
978-0-553-21233-4 | $4.99/$6.99C
Bantam | MM | Fiction

Somaly Mam
The Road of Lost Innocence
The true, inspiring life story of a Cambodian heroine who emerged from a childhood of sexual slavery to become a rescuer of girls from the hellish brothels of Southeast Asia. Phnom Penh, Cambodia
978-0-307-38789-9 | $14.95/$21.00C
Vintage | TR | Fiction
Vintage | MM (Movie Tie-in Ed.)

Cormac McCarthy
The Road
The story of a father and son struggling to survive as they move through the desolate ruins of a world that is no more. The man can still remember the time before; the boy knows only this time. A fierce and haunting meditation on the tenuous divide between civilization and savagery and the power of filial love. Film adaptation releasing October 2009. Tesuque, NM
Pulitzer Prize Winner
National Book Critic’s Circle Award Finalist

Julie Otsuka
When the Emperor Was Divine
Julie Otsuka paints a portrait of the World War II Japanese internment camps unlike any we have ever seen. In five chapters, each flawlessly executed from a different point of view—the mother receiving the order to evacuate; the daughter on the long train ride to the camp; the son in the desert encampment; the family’s return to their home; and the bitter release of the father after more than four years in captivity—she has created a small tour de force.
New York City
978-0-307-38781-3 | $10.95/$15.95C
Anchor | TR | Fiction

Nancy Rawles
My J im: A Novel
To help her granddaughter accept the risks of loving, Sadie Watson recounts the tale of the unquenchable love of her life, J im. Sadie’s J im was an ambitious young slave who escaped down the Mississippi with a white boy named Huck Finn, leaving Sadie alone, worried about her children, reviled as a witch, punished for J im’s escape, and convinced her husband was dead. Mirroring the true stories of countless slave women, My J im is an inspiring story about freedom, longing, and the remarkable endurance of love that recreates one of the most controversial characters in American literature.
Seattle, WA
An ALA Alex Award Winner.

SELECTED BY:
Jacksonville Public Libraries Foundation, Inc., FL; Aurora Public Library, CO; King County Library System, WA; Hudson Area Association Library, NY

SELECTED BY:
Santa Barbara, CA; Silicon Valley, CA; Westport, CT; Winnetka-Northfield, IL; Carmel, IN; Iowa City, IA; Shawnee County, KS; St. Peter, MN; Seattle, WA

SELECTED BY: Seattle, WA
Courage

Deborah Rodriguez and Kristin Ohlson
Kabul Beauty School:
An American Woman Goes
Behind the Veil
The story of the beauty school Debbie Rodriguez founded in Kabul, woven through with the stories of Debbie’s students—including the newlywed who must fake her own virginity, the 12-year-old bride who has been sold into marriage to pay her family’s debts and the brilliant former medic who has not left her house for thirty years. Kabul, Afghanistan
978-0-8129-7673-1 | $14.95/$19.95C
Random House | HC | Nonfiction

Jo Tatchell
Poet of Baghdad:
A True Story of Love and Defiance
The gripping story of a family and its fateful encounter with history. From a warm, light-hearted look at the Yasin family before the Saddam dictatorship, to the tale of Nabeel’s persecution and daring flight, and the suspense-filled account of his family’s rebellion against Saddam’s regime, this is an intimate, illuminating, deeply human chronicle of a country and a culture devastated by political repression and war. London, UK
978-0-7679-2697-3 | $14.00/NCR
Broadway | TR | Nonfiction

Dang Thuy Tram
Last Night I Dreamed of Peace:
The Diary of Thuy Tram
Brutally honest and rich in detail, this posthumously discovered diary of a young, 27-year-old Vietcong doctor, saved from destruction by a young American soldier, gives us fresh insight into the lives of the Vietcong during the Vietnam war. It is a story of the struggle for one’s ideals, the despair and grief of war, but most of all, it is a story of hope in the most dire of circumstances from the perspective of our historic enemy. Deceased.
978-0-307-34738-1 | $12.95/$14.95C
Harmony | TR | Nonfiction

Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows
The Guernsey Literary and
Potato Peel Pie Society
January 1946: writer Juliet Ashton receives a letter from a stranger, a founding member of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society. And so begins a remarkable tale of the island of Guernsey during the German occupation, and of a society as extraordinary as its name. Northern CA
978-0-385-34100-4 | $14.00/$16.50C
The Dial Press | TR | Fiction

Alissa Torres; Illustrated by Choi
American Widow
An autobiographical graphic novel written by Alissa Torres, who, when she was nearly eight months pregnant, lost her husband in the World Trade Center attack. The story and art powerfully portray a woman’s very private crisis against a backdrop of events that have touched us all. Ultimately, the book offers a universal message of hope and redemption in the face of tragedy.
New York, NY
978-0-345-50069-4 | $22.00/$25.00C
Villard | HC | Nonfiction
978-0-345-50070-0 | $15.00/$18.95C
Villard | TR | August 2010

Mary Shelley
Frankenstein
Written in 1816 when she was only nineteen, Mary Shelley’s novel of “The Modern Prometheus” chillingly dramatized the dangerous potential of life begotten upon a laboratory table. It is a subversive and morbid story warning against the dehumanization of art and the corrupting influence of science. Packed with allusions and literary references, it is also one of the best thrillers ever written. Deceased
978-0-375-75341-1 | $7.95/$10.95C
Modern Library | TR | Fiction
978-0-553-21247-1 | $4.95/$6.95C
Bantam Classics | MM

Mary Shelley
Frankenstein
Written in 1816 when she was only nineteen, Mary Shelley’s novel of “The Modern Prometheus” chillingly dramatized the dangerous potential of life begotten upon a laboratory table. It is a subversive and morbid story warning against the dehumanization of art and the corrupting influence of science. Packed with allusions and literary references, it is also one of the best thrillers ever written. Deceased
978-0-375-75341-1 | $7.95/$10.95C
Modern Library | TR | Fiction
978-0-553-21247-1 | $4.95/$6.95C
Bantam Classics | MM

SELECTED BY: Colorado Springs, CO; Allen County, IN; Valparaiso, IN; Duluth, MN; Ithaca, NY; Milwaukee, WI; Tacoma, WA
Chris Bohjalian

**Before You Know Kindness**

On a balmy July night in New Hampshire a shot rings out in a garden, and a man falls to the ground, terribly wounded. The wounded man is Spencer McCullough, and the shot was fired by his adolescent daughter Charlotte. A timely family saga that examines some of the most important issues of our era. Vermont 978-1-4000-3166-5 | $14.95/$21.00C Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Augusta, ME; Wilmette, IL; Wilmington, MA

AND ALSO:

- **The Buffalo Soldier: A Novel**
  978-0-375-72546-3 | $14.95/$21.00C Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Martha’s Vineyard, MA; Windsor, CT; Evansville, IN; Rochester, NY

- **Skeletons at the Feast: A Novel**
  978-0-307-39496-5 | $14.95/$17.50C Three Rivers Press | TR | Fiction

AND ALSO:

- **The Double Bind: A Novel**
  978-1-4000-3165-8 | $14.95/$21.00C Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Springfield, IL

John Grisham

**The Innocent Man: Murder and Injustice in a Small Town**

In 1982, a 21-year-old cocktail waitress was raped and murdered; with a case built on junk science and the testimony of jailhouse snitches, Ron Williamson was sent to death row. If you believe that in America you are innocent until proven guilty, this book will shock you; if you believe in the death penalty, it will disturb you; if you believe the criminal justice system is fair, it will infuriate you.

Mississippi and Charlottesville, VA 978-0-385-34091-5 | $16.00/$20.00C Delta | TR | Nonfiction

978-0-440-24383-0 | $7.99/$11.99C | Dell | MM

Ethan Canin

**America America: A Novel**

Sweeping in its evocation of America, and its exploration of a political tragedy, intimate in its exploration of the heart of a man’s life, this magnificent novel is the story of how a modest young man becomes witness to public and private greatness, crimes and tragedies, and how in witnessing those events he discovers himself and goes on to create a life. Iowa 978-0-8129-7969-3 | $15.00/$17.50C Houghton Mifflin | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Sno-Isle Libraries, NE; Grand Rapids Public Library, MI; Phoenix Public Library Foundation, AZ; City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, CA; Scranton Public Library, PA; Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, NY; Peoria Public Library, NC; Champaign Public Library, IL; Caldwell County Public Library, AZ

Thomas Cahill

**A Saint on Death Row: The Story of Dominique Green**

The story of the hard life and unjust death of Dominique Green, a good and godly man, which shines a light on our racist and profoundly flawed U.S. legal system. New York, NY and Rome, Italy 978-0-385-52019-5 | $14.95/$14.95C Nan A. Talese | HC | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Martha’s Vineyard, MA; Windsor, CT; Evansville, IN; Rochester, NY

- **The Daybreakers: The Sacketts**
  978-0-553-27674-9 | $4.99/$6.99C Bantam | MM | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Augusta, ME; Wilmette, IL; Wilmington, MA

AND ALSO:

- **The Buffalo Soldier: A Novel**
  978-0-375-72546-3 | $14.95/$21.00C Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Martha’s Vineyard, MA; Windsor, CT; Evansville, IN; Rochester, NY

- **Skeletons at the Feast: A Novel**
  978-0-307-39496-5 | $14.95/$17.50C Three Rivers Press | TR | Fiction

AND ALSO:

- **The Double Bind: A Novel**
  978-1-4000-3166-5 | $14.95/$21.00C Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Springfield, IL

Dashiel Hammett

**The Maltese Falcon**

The legendary Sam Spade tracks down a treasure worth killing for in Hammett’s indelible classic, which remains known as one of the best detective stories ever written. ”The Maltese Falcon is not only probably the best detective story we have ever read, it is an exceedingly well written novel.” - The Times Literary Supplement (London)

978-0-679-72264-9 | $12.95/$14.95C Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Sno-Isle Libraries, NE; Grand Rapids Public Library, MI; Phoenix Public Library Foundation, AZ; City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, CA; Scranton Public Library, PA; Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, NY; Peoria Public Library, NC; Champaign Public Library, IL; Caldwell County Public Library, AZ

Louis L’Amour

**The Daybreakers: The Sacketts**

L’Amour is one of the most frequently-read novelists of our time, his stories passed from generation to generation. Tyrel Sackett was born to trouble, but vowed to justice. Those were the years when decent men and women lived in fear of Indians, rustlers, and killers, but the Sackett brothers worked to make the West a place where people could raise their children in peace.


SELECTED BY: Augusta, ME; Wilmette, IL; Wilmington, MA

AND ALSO:

- **The Buffalo Soldier: A Novel**
  978-0-375-72546-3 | $14.95/$21.00C Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Martha’s Vineyard, MA; Windsor, CT; Evansville, IN; Rochester, NY

- **Skeletons at the Feast: A Novel**
  978-0-307-39496-5 | $14.95/$17.50C Three Rivers Press | TR | Fiction

AND ALSO:

- **The Double Bind: A Novel**
  978-1-4000-3166-5 | $14.95/$21.00C Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Springfield, IL

L TIPS FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO choose a character driven book.
DO know your capacity for programming before you begin planning.
Naguib Mahfouz
The Thief and the Dogs
Naguib Mahfouz’s haunting novella of post-revolutionary Egypt combines a vivid psychological portrait of an anguished man with the suspense and rapid pace of a detective story.

“[Naguib Mahfouz] is not only a Hugo and a Dickens, but also a Galsworthy, a Mann, a Zola, and a Jules Romains.”
978-0-385-26462-4 | $12.95/$14.95C
Anchor | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Florida Center for the Literary Arts at Miami Dade College, FL; Columbia University in the City of New York, NY; South Dakota Humanities Council, SD; Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, AL

Alexander McCall Smith
The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency
Precious Ramotswe is drawn to her profession to “help people with problems in their lives.” Mma Ramotswe’s keen knowledge of the human mind and heart, and steadfast sense of right and wrong, makes her a heroine whose personality inspires trust, warmth, and generosity in all who meet her.

Scotland
978-1-4000-3477-2 | $12.95/$18.95C
Anchor | TR | Fiction
978-1-4000-9688-6 | $6.99/$10.99C | Anchor | MM

SELECTED BY: Grand Rapids, MI; Monterey, CA; Carlsbad, CA; Howard County, IN; Marquette, MI; Pierce County, WA

Susan Carol McCarthy
Lay That Trumpet In Our Hands
Inspired by true events, this explosive novel brings to light a racially charged murder in the spring of 1951—a crime that sparks an extraordinary act of courage and sweeps an entire nation toward change. Carlsbad, CA

“Reminiscent of To Kill A Mockingbird... McCarthy realistically portrays race in a small southern town, showing how good people are tainted by generations of hate... a tale of growth and triumph.”
—Library Journal
978-0-553-38103-0 | $15.00/$18.95C
Bantam | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Tampa-Hillsborough County, FL; St. Augustine-St. Johns County Libraries, FL; East Lansing, MI; Montcalm, MI; City of East Lansing, MI

Thomas Mullen
The Last Town on Earth
Set in the Pacific Northwest in 1918, The Last Town on Earth is the ambitious, deeply moving, and morally complex story of a small mill town that votes to quarantine itself as the deadly influenza epidemic begins to rage through the region. When a young guard accidentally kills an American soldier seeking shelter in the town, a series of events unfolds that threatens the beliefs — and the very survival— of everyone in the community. Washington, DC
978-0-8129-7592-5 | $13.95/$17.95C
Random House | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Western NY

Naseem Rakha
The Crying Tree: A Novel
Could you forgive the man who murdered your son? A powerful novel about redemption, resilience and the secrets that break one family apart and bring them back together. Silverton, OR
978-0-7679-3140-3 | $22.95/$26.95C
Broadway | HC | Fiction

Walter Van Tilburg Clark
The Ox-Bow Incident
Set in 1885, The Ox-Bow Incident is a realistic portrait of frontier life and mob violence in the American West. First published in 1940, it focuses on the lynching of three innocent men and the tragedy that ensues when law and order are abandoned. The result is an emotionally powerful, vivid, and unforgettable re-creation of the Western novel, which Clark transmuted into a universal story about good and evil, individual and community, justice and human nature.
978-0-375-75702-0 | $10.95/$16.95C
Modern Library | TR | Fiction
978-0-8129-7592-5 | $5.95/$7.50C
Modern Library | MM

SELECTED BY: Chicago, IL
Bill Bryson

A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail
Back in America after twenty years in Britain, Bill Bryson decided to reacquaint himself with his native country by walking the 2,100-mile Appalachian Trail, which stretches from Georgia to Maine. More than just a laugh-out-loud hike, Bryson’s acute eye is a wise witness to this beautiful but fragile trail, and as he tells its fascinating history, he makes a moving plea for the conservation of America’s last great wilderness. England
978-0-7679-0252-6 | $14.95/NCR
Broadway | TR | Nonfiction

*SELECTED BY:* Augusta, ME; South Portland, ME; Cambria County, PA; Erie, PA; Milwaukee, WI

Dan Chaon

Await Your Reply
From National Book Award-nominated author comes a spellbinding literary novel of three strangers, drawn into a world in which identities are invented and reinvented, pasts are erased, and the future is both seductively uncharted and perilously unmoored. Cleveland, OH
978-0-345-47602-9 | $25.00/$29.95C
Ballantine | HC | Fiction
978-0-345-47603-6 | $14.00/$17.99C
Ballantine | TR

Emily Dickinson

Selected Poems of Emily Dickinson
While relatively unknown during her life, the oft-quoted Emily Dickinson is now considered one of the finest poets of the 20th century. This slim volume highlights her greatest works.
978-0-679-78335-0 | $12.00/$15.00C
Modern Library | TR | Poetry

*SELECTED BY:* New York Botanical Garden

Firoozeh Dumas

Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America
In 1972, when she was seven, Firoozeh Dumas and her family moved from Iran to Southern California, arriving with no firsthand knowledge of America. This unforgettable story of identity, discovery, and the power of family love chronicles the American journey of Firoozeh’s wonderfully engaging family and Firoozeh herself. Northern California
978-0-8129-6837-8 | $14.00/$16.50C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction

*SELECTED BY:* Orange County and Whittier, CA; Berkeley, CA; Carlsbad, CA; Palo Alto, CA; Dayton, OH; Bensenville, IL

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Laughing Without an Accent
978-0-345-49957-8 | $15.00/$17.50C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction

TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:
DO plan related programs to build up interest in the main event.
DO understand what your goals of the community reading program are.

Ta-Nehisi Coates

The Beautiful Struggle: A Father, Two Sons, and an Unlikely Road to Manhood
Coates grew up in the crack-and-blood-soaked 1980’s in America’s murder capital, Baltimore, with seven siblings, four mothers, and one highly eccentric father: Paul Coates, a larger-than-life Vietnam Vet cum Black Panther cum polygamous Afrocentric scholar whose mission was to spritz his rambunctious brood across the deadly minefield of adolescence and into college. This is the story of a family of daring improvisers, the myths that sustained them in a dark age, and the eternal struggle for peace between fathers and sons. New York, NY
978-0-385-52746-0 | $14.00/$16.50C
Spiegel & Grau | TR | Nonfiction

*SELECTED BY:* New York Botanical Garden

Ta-Nehisi Coates

The Beautiful Struggle: A Father, Two Sons, and an Unlikely Road to Manhood
Coates grew up in the crack-and-blood-soaked 1980’s in America’s murder capital, Baltimore, with seven siblings, four mothers, and one highly eccentric father: Paul Coates, a larger-than-life Vietnam Vet cum Black Panther cum polygamous Afrocentric scholar whose mission was to spritz his rambunctious brood across the deadly minefield of adolescence and into college. This is the story of a family of daring improvisers, the myths that sustained them in a dark age, and the eternal struggle for peace between fathers and sons. New York, NY
978-0-385-52746-0 | $14.00/$16.50C
Spiegel & Grau | TR | Nonfiction

*SELECTED BY:* New York Botanical Garden

Firoozeh Dumas

Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America
In 1972, when she was seven, Firoozeh Dumas and her family moved from Iran to Southern California, arriving with no firsthand knowledge of America. This unforgettable story of identity, discovery, and the power of family love chronicles the American journey of Firoozeh’s wonderfully engaging family and Firoozeh herself. Northern California
978-0-8129-6837-8 | $14.00/$16.50C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction

*SELECTED BY:* Orange County and Whittier, CA; Berkeley, CA; Carlsbad, CA; Palo Alto, CA; Dayton, OH; Bensenville, IL

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Laughing Without an Accent
978-0-345-49957-8 | $15.00/$17.50C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction

TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:
DO plan related programs to build up interest in the main event.
DO understand what your goals of the community reading program are.
Jamie Ford

**Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet: A Novel**

When Seattle’s famed Panama Hotel undergoes renovation in 1986, Henry Lee, now 56 years old, comes face to face with a relic from his past that unearths memories of his experiences during World War II—the young Japanese woman he loved and lost, the father who betrayed him—and sets him on a journey to repair the errors of his past. Great Falls, MT  
978-0-345-50533-0 | $24.00/$28.00C  
Ballantine | HC | Fiction  
978-0-345-50534-7 | $15.00/$19.95C  
Ballantine | TR | November 2009

Brian Leung

**Lost Men: A Novel**

A stunning and emotional literary novel that explores the meaning of cultural and ethnic identity, the tensions that exist between fathers and sons, and the lengths we will go to reconnect with those we fear we have lost. After a twenty-year estrangement, Westen Chan reconnects with his father for an emotionally charged trip to China, where a sealed envelope will finally reveal some long-held family secrets. Louisville, KY  
978-0-307-35165-4 | $13.00/$15.00C  
Three Rivers Press | TR | Fiction

Ha Jin

**A Free Life**

From the award-winning and widely acclaimed author of *Waiting* and *Trash*, a new novel about a family of Chinese immigrants struggling to fulfill the American dream following the massacre at Tiananmen Square. Ha Jin’s story of Chinese immigration is one that has been less frequently told, and, given its contemporary setting, has a great deal of resonance in an increasingly diverse America. Boston, MA  
978-0-307-27860-9 | $15.95/$18.95C  
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Phillipp Meyer

**American Rust: A Novel**

A raw and gripping novel in the tradition of *Pete Dexter* (and that evokes the movie *No Country for Old Men*), set in a dying steel town in Pennsylvania and centering on the fates of two young men stuck in a world of violence and poverty despite their talents and desire to escape. Austin, TX  
978-0-385-52751-4 | $24.95/$27.95C  
Spiegel & Grau | HC | Fiction  
978-0-385-52752-1 | $15.00/$18.95C  
Spiegel & Grau | TR | January 2010

Sandra Kring

**Carry Me Home**

For simple-minded and sweet Earl “Earwig” Gunderman, life revolved around working in his family’s grocery store and his older brother Jimmy. But when the country is thrust into the Second World War, Earwig’s young life is forever changed when Jimmy is sent to the Pacific. When his brother returns three years later, he comes home a deeply changed man. Now Earwig is the protector, trying to soothe the wounds of war, women, and life inflicted upon Jimmy, and to bring his family together once again. Wisconsin  
978-0-307-33813-4 | $13.00/$15.00C  
Delta | TR | Fiction

Toni Morrison

**A Mercy**

One of New York Times Best Books of 2009  
A powerful tragedy distilled into a small masterpiece by the Nobel Prize-winning author of *Beloved* and, almost like a prelude to that story, set two centuries earlier. It is the ambivalent, disturbing story of a mother and a daughter—a mother who casts off her daughter in order to save her, and a daughter who may never exorcise that abandonment. New York & New Jersey  
978-0-307-27676-6 | $15.00/NCR  
Vintage | TR | Fiction

**TIPS FROM NANCY PEARL:**

DO check out the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress’s website to see what other communities have selected at www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/onebook/index.php
Joseph O’Neill
*Netherland*
Joseph O’Neill’s rapturously acclaimed novel—a modern-day *Great Gatsby*, set in post-9/11 New York—tells the story of an unlikely friendship between a Dutch-born financial analyst and a charismatic, mysterious Trinidadian entrepreneur. This new presidential favorite was long listed for the Man Booker Prize and has been heralded for its treatment of immigrants and American culture. New York, NY 978-0-307-38877-3 | $14.95/$17.50C
*TR | Fiction*

Barack Obama
*Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance*
In this lyrical, unsentimental, and compelling memoir, the son of a black African father and a white American mother searches for a workable meaning to his life as a black American. The sudden death of his father inspires an emotional odyssey—first to a small town in Kansas, from which he retraces the migration of his mother’s family to Hawaii, and then to Kenya, where he meets the African side of his family, confronts the bitter truth of his father’s life, and at last reconciles his divided inheritance. Washington D.C. 978-1-4000-8277-3 | $14.95/$21.00C
*Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction*  

Azar Nafisi
Every Thursday morning for two years in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a bold and inspired teacher named Azar Nafisi secretly gathered seven of her most committed female students to read forbidden Western classics. A remarkable exploration of the liberating power of literature. Washington, D.C. 978-0-307-3863-4-3 | $15.00/$17.90C
*Riv Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction*

SELECTED BY: Bloomington, IN; Hartford, CT; Rolette, ND; South Hadley, MA

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Azar Nafisi
*Things I’ve Been Silent About*
From the beloved New York Times bestselling author of *Reading Lolita In Tehran*, comes this much-anticipated memoir of growing up in a difficult family in Iran. Washington, DC 978-1-4000-6361-1 | $27.00/$32.00C
*Random House | HC | Nonfiction*  

Philip Roth
*Everyman*
The fate of Roth’s everyman is traced from his first shocking confrontation with death on the idyllic beaches of his childhood summers through the family trials and professional achievements of his vigorous adulthood and into his old age, when he is rended by observing the deterioration of his contemporaries and stalked by his own physical woes. Connecticut 978-0-37-27771-8 | $13.00/$16.00C
*Vintage | TR | Fiction*

John Elder Robison
*Look Me in the Eye: My Life with Asperger’s*
From the younger brother of Running With Scissors author Augusten Burroughs, this New York Times bestseller chronicles the author’s extraordinary life with Asperger’s syndrome, a form of autism, before such a diagnosis even existed. This strange, sly, indelible account may be slightly alien to some but it reminds us all that we are all deeply human. Amherst, MA 978-0-307-39618-1 | $14.95/$16.95C
*Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction*  

Gaile Parkin
*Baking Cakes in Kigali*
In a Rwanda struggling to heal from a civil war, in a vibrant community ravaged by AIDS, people from all walks of life come to see Angel. They come to order a cake—as a gift, for celebration, or simply to remember. Africa 978-0-385-34343-5 | $24.00
*Delacorte Press | HC | Fiction*
978-0-7710-6901-7 | $28.99C
McClelland & Stewart | HC

Warren St. John
*Outcasts United: A Refugee Soccer Team, an American Town*
The profoundly moving story of a group of remarkable refugee kids who are The Fugees, a youth soccer team based in a small town in Georgia, their struggle to make a new life in the American South, and their astonishing Jordanian coach Luma, who holds together the team, the community, and the hopes of every kid in her charge during one drama-filled season. New York, NY 978-0-385-52204-5 | $15.00/$17.00C
*Spiegel & Grau | TR | February 2010*
Lisa See
Snow Flower and the Secret Fan: A Novel
A brilliantly realistic journey back to an era of Chinese history that is as deeply moving as it is sorrowful. An intimate, absorbing story of two women’s lives, and of the secret language they used to communicate their most private thoughts. Perfect for communities interested in learning about other cultures through a novel that suggests the spectrum of human emotions—including love and forgiveness—are universal, despite cultural differences. Los Angeles, CA
978-0-8129-6806-4 | $13.95/$21.00C
Random House | TR | Fiction
SELECTED BY: Brookline, MA; Naperville, IL; Roseville, CA

Carolyn Turgeon
Godmother: The Secret Cinderella Story
This re-imagined version of an iconic and classic fairy tale begins with Lil, an old woman who spends her days shelving rare books in a tiny Manhattan bookstore. Tucked and bound behind her back are white feathery wings—the only key to who she once was: the fairy godmother responsible for getting Cinderella to the ball to unite with her Prince Charming, banished for falling in love with the prince herself.
New York City
978-0-375-41449-7 | $26.95 | Knopf | HC | Fiction

Richard Yates
Revolutionary Road
In the hopeful 1950s, Frank and April Wheeler appear to be a model couple: bright, beautiful, talented, with two young children and a starter home in the suburbs. In this heartbreaking contemporary classic, Richard Yates addresses the idealism of the American Dream—its myths and realities.
978-0-307-45462-1 | $14.95/$16.95C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Abraham Verghese
Cutting for Stone
Marion and Shiva Stone are twin brothers born of a secret union between a beautiful Indian nun and a brash British surgeon at a mission hospital in Addis Ababa. Orphaned by their mother’s death in childbirth and their father’s disappearance, bound together by a preternatural connection and a shared fascination with medicine, the twins come of age as Ethiopia hovers on the brink of revolution.
Palo Alto, CA
“Verghese’s weaving of the practice of medicine into the narrative is fascinating even as the story bobs and weaves with the power of the best 19th-century novels.” —PW (starred review)
978-0-375-41457-3 | $12.95/$14.95C
Pantheon | TR | Nonfiction

Marjane Satrapi
The Complete Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood
Marjane Satrapi’s best-selling, internationally acclaimed memoir-in-comic-strips. Persepolis is the story of Satrapi’s unforgettable childhood and coming of age within a large and loving family in Tehran during the Islamic Revolution; of the contradictions between private life and public life in a country plagued by political upheaval; of her high school years in Vienna facing the trials of adolescence far from her family; of her homecoming—both sweet and terrible; and, finally, of her self-imposed exile from her beloved homeland. Paris
An ALA Alex Award Winner.
978-0-375-71483-2 | $24.95/$29.95C
Pantheon | TR | Nonfiction

Persepolis 1: The Story of a Childhood
978-0-375-71457-3 | $12.95/$14.95C
Pantheon | TR | Nonfiction
SELECTED BY: Chelsea, MI; Seattle, WA; Arlington, VA; Martha’s Vineyard, MA

Persepolis 2: The Story of a Return
978-0-375-71466-5 | $11.95/$16.95C
Pantheon | TR | Nonfiction
SELECTED BY: Miami, FL

Lisa See
Shanghai Girls
When their well-to-do father falls into gambling debt, the only way to pay it off is to sell the two sisters to wealthy suitors from Los Angeles. Forced to leave China for good as Japanese bombs fall on their beloved city, all these two girls have is each other, their integrity, and their memories of Shanghai.
978-1-4000-6711-4 | $25.00/$28.95C
Random House | HC | Fiction
Tracy Kidder

Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World

Pulitzer Prize winner Tracy Kidder tells the true story of eccentric medical genius Paul Farmer, an “American male Mother Teresa.” Farmer shows how one person can effect global progress against seemingly impossible problems—TB, AIDS, poverty—with creativity, knowledge and determination. Williamsburg, MA and South Bristol, ME

978-0-8129-7301-3 | $15.95/$21.00C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction
978-0-8129-8055-4 | $18.00/$21.00C
RH Trade Paperbacks | Deluxe TR | Nonfiction
August 2009

SELECTED BY: Concord, MA; Dover, MA; Falmouth, MA; and Winchester, MA; Syracuse, NY; Minnetonka, MN; Sarasota, FL; San Diego, CA; Ann Arbor, MI; Southeastern, CT; Summit, NJ; Bozeman, MT

AND:

Tracy Kidder

Strength in What Remains

The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of the phenomenal bestseller Mountains Beyond Mountains returns with the inspiring story of a young man’s odyssey in America—from an immigrant delivering groceries in New York City to graduating from the Dartmouth Medical School. A brilliant testament to the power of second chances, and an inspiring account of one immigrant’s remarkable American journey. Williamsburg, MA and South Bristol, ME

978-1-4000-6621-6 | $26.00/$30.00C
Random House | HC | Nonfiction

Sy Montgomery

The Good Good Pig: The Extraordinary Life of Christopher Hogwood

Sy Montgomery had always felt more comfortable with animals than with people, so she gladly opened her heart to a sick piglet and soon found herself engaged with her small-town community in ways she had never dreamed possible. Sy reveals what she and others learned from this generous soul—lessons about self-acceptance, the meaning of family, the value of community, and the pleasures of the sweet green Earth. Hancock, NH

978-0-345-49609-6 | $15.00/$18.95C
Random House | TR | Nonfiction

Tawni O’Dell

Sister Mine

Two years ago, five of Shae-Lynn’s miner friends were catapulted into media stardom when they were pulled from a cave-in. As they cope with the “be careful what you wish for” fallout of a nation’s fleeting embrace, Shae-Lynn is forced to mediate between three angry couples and an ambitious New York lawyer, all of whom are searching for her runaway sister who has reappeared after seventeen years—pregnant and accused of blackmail. State College, PA

978-0-307-35167-8 | $14.95/$16.95C
Three Rivers Press | TR | Fiction

Mary Doria Russell

Dreamers of the Day

“All men dream, but not equally,” wrote Lawrence of Arabia. “Those who dream at night awaken to find it vanity, but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men...” Mary Doria Russell’s fourth novel, Dreamers of the Day, takes us behind the scenes at the 1921 Cairo Peace Conference when Winston Churchill, Lady Gertrude Bell and T.E. Lawrence himself invented the modern Middle East. Cleveland, OH

978-0-345-48555-7 | $14.00/$16.50C
Ballantine | TR | Fiction

TIPS FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO find out before you decide to bring in the author if he or she is both easy to work with and comfortable meeting the public.
Bernhard Schlink
*The Reader*

When he falls ill on his way home from school, fifteen-year-old Michael Berg is rescued by Hanna, a woman twice his age. In time she becomes his lover—then she inexplicably disappears. When Michael next sees her, he is a young law student, and she is on trial for a hideous crime. Hailed for the moral claims it makes upon the reader, this mesmerizing novel unfolds against the haunted landscape of postwar Germany. A story of love and secrets, horror and compassion.

Germany
978-0-307-45489-8 | $13.95/$15.95
Vintage | TR | Fiction

**Also Available By This Author:**

*Homecoming*
978-0-375-72957-9 | $14.95/$16.95
Vintage | Fiction

---

C. Vivian Stringer
*Standing Tall: A Memoir of Tragedy and Triumph*

With nothing more than true grit, hard work, and a dream, this coal miner's daughter became one of the winningest and most beloved coaches in basketball and has shown countless young women that the impossible is possible. Now she lifts us up with her extraordinary life story.

Princeton, NJ
978-0-307-40627-9 | $14.95/$16.95
Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction

---

Mitch Albom
*Tuesdays with Morrie: An Old Man, a Young Man, and Life's Greatest Lesson*

For Mitch Albom, his college professor from nearly twenty years ago, Morrie Schwartz, was the one person who understood him when he was young and searching. Mitch rediscovered Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class": lessons in how to live.

Michigan
978-0-7679-0592-3 | $13.95/$15.95
Broadway | TR | Nonfiction
978-0-385-49649-0 | $7.50/NCR

**Selected By:**

- Long Beach, CA
- Grand County, CO
- Middletown, CT
- Broward County, FL
- Princeton, IL
- Brownsville, IN
- Connemonke, IN
- Jay County, IN
- Madison, IN
- Shelby County, IN
- Valparaiso, IN
- Vincennes, IN
- Quincy, MA
- Duluth, MN
- Virginia, MN
- Cape Girardeau, MO
- Roswell, NM
- Clayton, OH
- Lancaster and York Counties, PA

---

Kevin Brockmeier
*The Brief History of the Dead: A Novel*

A mesmerizing and inventive novel that vividly imagines the world of the afterlife, its relationship with the world of the living, and what happens in the final days of both.

978-1-4000-9595-7 | $13.95/$17.95
Vintage | TR | Fiction

**Selected By:**

Arkansas State-Wide Reading Program

---

Edwidge Danticat
*Brother, I’m Dying*

From the best-selling author of *Breath, Eyes, Memory* and *The Dew Breaker*, her first major work of nonfiction: a deeply moving family story that centers around her father and her uncle—the two brothers who shared in raising her when her parents left Haiti for the United States. It is a universal tale across two countries and cultures: of love and sorrow, family and humanity, and the triumph of hope over tragedy.

Miami, FL
978-1-4000-3430-7 | $14.95/$16.95
Vintage | TR | Nonfiction

**Selected By:**

Arlington, VA

---

**Tip from Nancy Pearl:***

**Do** involve the larger community in your planning and implementation of the program.

**Do** consider selecting a nonfiction title.
Joan Didion
The Year of Magical Thinking
Joan Didion’s intensely personal, brilliantly and movingly reported account of one death—her husband’s—and two near-deaths—those of their daughter—leaving her alone to navigate her grief, her memories, and her daughter’s recovery. Winner of the National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize, successfully adapted into a Broadway play and upcoming made-for-TV movie. New York, NY 978-0-307-27800-5 | $10.00/NCR
Vintage | TR | Nonfiction

Leo Tolstoy
The Death of Ivan Ilyich
This story of a judge who slowly comes to realize that his illness is fatal represents perhaps the most keenly realized melding of Tolstoy’s spirituality with his artistic skills. 978-1-933633-54-1 | $10.00/$13.00C
Melville House | TR

Carson McCullers
The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter
Carson McCullers was all of 23 years old when she finished this enduring classic, first published in 1940. J ohn Singer, a deaf-mute in a small Georgia mining town, becomes the confidant of choice for several of the misfit townspeople, all yearning for escape. 978-0-553-26963-5 | $6.99/$10.99C
Bantam | MM | Fiction

Diana Welch, Liz Welch, Amanda Welch and Dan Welch
The Kids Are All Right: A Memoir
The extraordinary and inspiring story of how four orphaned siblings, torn apart by tragedy came to terms with their past and found the strength and courage to reunite as a family. Written in four alternating voices, and told with stunning emotional restraint, it is an eloquent testament to the power of shared history, forgiveness, acceptance, and above all, unconditional love. 978-0-307-39604-4 | $24.99/$29.99C
Harmony | HC | Nonfiction | September 2009

Cynthia Ozick
The Shawl
The story of a woman who survives a concentration camp, losing her daughter, but never can fully recover from the trauma, which still haunts her thirty years later. “Ozick gives us exactly what we expect: a meditation, in figurative language at times dense and shimmering, at times richly colloquial, of the consequences of the Holocaust.” — Library Journal 978-0-679-72926-6 | $10.50/$11.99C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

TIPS FROM NANCY PEARL:
DO realize that you will never please everyone with your choice of book!
Love Stories

**Maeve Binchy**

**Heart and Soul**

With the insight, humor, and compassion we have come to expect from her, Maeve Binchy tells a story of family, friends, patients, and staff who are part of a heart clinic in a community caught between the old and the new Ireland. Dalkey, Ireland. 978-0-307-26579-1 | $26.95/NCR
Knopf | HC | Fiction
978-0-307-27842-5 | $7.99/NCR
Anchor | MM | December 2009

**Whitethorn Woods**

Maeve Binchy creates voices that must be heard, voices of unforgettable people who are caught between their old-fashioned ways and progress. When the new highway threatens to bypass the town of Rossmore and cut through Whitethorn Woods, the whole town is beside themselves; everyone has an opinion. And there might even be big money to be made, no matter the cost to the quality of life. Dublin, Ireland. 978-0-307-27841-8 | $7.99
Anchor | MM | Fiction
978-0-307-28523-9 | $14.00
Anchor | TR | March 2010

**Julia Glass**

**I See You Everywhere**

“Rich, intricate and alive with emotion... An honest portrait of sister-love and sister-hate—interlocking, brave and forgiving—made whole through art.”

—The New York Times Book Review

From the author of award-winning Three Junes comes a devastating tale of two sisters, of what we can and cannot do for those we love and the juxtaposition of life and death, companionship and sorrow, and the true nature of sisterhood itself. Massachusetts 978-1-4000-7577-5 | $15.00/$18.95
Anchor | TR | Fiction

**Michael Greenberg**

**Hurry Down Sunshine: A Father’s Story of Love and Madness**

With remarkable candor and in vivid detail, Michael Greenberg recounts the summer when his fifteen-year-old daughter experiences a psychotic breakdown. This Time Magazine Book of the Year will expose your community members to the horrible effects mental illnesses have not just on the individual but also on their families. This is the tale of a family broken open, then painstakingly, movingly stitched together again. New York, NY 978-1-59051-191-6 | $22.00
Other Press | HC | Nonfiction
978-0-307-47354-7 | $14.95/NCR
Anchor | MM | September 2009

**Willa Cather**

**My Ántonia**

In this powerful novel, Willa Cather creates one of the most winning yet thoroughly convincing heroines in American fiction. Ántonia Shimerda returns to Black Hawk, Nebraska to make a fresh start after eloping with a railway conductor following the tragic death of her father. Despite betrayal and crushing opposition, Ántonia steadfastly pursues her quest for happiness—a moving struggle that mirrors the quiet drama of the American landscape. 978-0-679-74187-9 | $9.00/$12.50
Vintage | TR | Fiction
978-0-553-21418-5 | $4.95/$6.95
Bantam Classics | MM

SELECTED BY: The State of Nebraska; Chicago, IL; Fox Valley, IL; Ames, IA; South Dakota

ALSO AVAILABLE:

**O Pioneers!**

978-0-679-74362-0 | $9.00/$11.50
Vintage | TR | Fiction
978-0-553-21419-2 | $4.95/$6.95
Bantam Classics | MM

SELECTED BY: Brownsburg, IN; Howard County, IN

**Alice Hoffman**

**The Third Angel**

Hoffman weaves a magical and stunningly original story that charts the lives of three women in love with the wrong men. At the heart of the novel is Lucy Green, who blames herself for a tragic accident she witnessed at the age of twelve, and who spends four decades searching for the Third Angel—the angel on earth who will renew her faith. Boston, MA 978-0-307-40595-1 | $14.95/$16.95
Three Rivers Press | Fiction
Ann Packer

**Songs Without Words**

An unforgettable novel about female friendship from the best-selling author of *The Dive from Clausen’s Pier*. Packer’s novel expertly explores the inequities between close friends, the unspoken roles, hidden expectations and deep resentments that can be violently exposed by a true crisis, and the endurance and limits of bonds forged in childhood. An emotionally nuanced, gripping follow-up to her remarkable debut. Northern California.

978-0-375-72717-7 | $14.95/$16.95C

*Vintage | TR | Fiction*

---

Jayne Anne Phillips

**Lark and Termite**

Lark and Termite is a story of the power of loss and love, the echoing ramifications of war, family secrets, dreams and ghosts, and the unseen, almost magical bonds that unite and sustain us. Set during the 1950s in both Virginia and Korea it follows two children: Lark and Termite, their absent mother, an aunt who raises them, and Termite’s father, a man who finds himself caught up in the chaotic early months of the Korean War. Rutgers, NJ.

978-0-375-40195-4 | $24.00/$28.00C

*Knopf | HC | Fiction*

---

Meir Shalev

**A Pigeon and A Boy**

This is a tale of lovers, of how deeply we love, of what home is, and why we, like pigeons trained to fly in one direction only, must eventually return to it. From the internationally acclaimed Israeli writer Meir Shalev comes a mesmerizing novel of two love stories, one taking place during Israel’s 1948 War of Independence and one set in present day, separated by half a century but connected by one enchanting act of devotion. Israel.

978-0-8052-1214-3 | $14.95/$16.95C

*Schocken | Fiction*

---

Nancy Horan

**Loving Frank:** *A Novel*

Fact and fiction are brilliantly blended in this enthralling debut novel based on the love affair between Mamah Cheney and renowned American architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, that scandalized Chicago society in the early 20th century. Langley, Whidbey Island, WA.

978-0-345-49500-6 | $14.00/$16.50C

*Ballantine | TR | Fiction*

**Selected by:** Wilmette, IL

---

Edith Wharton

**The Age of Innocence**

Wharton’s masterpiece: a tragic love story and a powerful homily about the perils of a perfect marriage, set in old New York. Adapted to film by Martin Scorsese in 1993. *Winner: Pulitzer Prize, 1921*

978-0-375-75320-6 | $9.95/$14.95C

*Modern Library | TR | Fiction*

978-0-553-21450-5 | $5.95/$7.95C

*Bantam | MM*

978-0-09-951128-1 | $10.95C

*Vintage Classics (Can.) | TR*

**Selected by:** Bloomsburg Public Library, PA; Parsippany Library System, NJ
For help planning your One Book, One Community program contact us at library@randomhouse.com. We can answer questions about author availability, special pricing, and provide additional information about our titles. Visit the Random House Library Marketing Website at www.randomhouse.com/library for more information.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

The American Library Association Public Programs Office has created a guide called One Book, One Community: Planning Your Community-Wide Read. Visit www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/poc/programming/onebook/index.cfm to download the PDF. Also available is a One Book, One Community CD, which includes digital art to use for creating posters and bookmarks, and is available for purchase from the ALA Online Store.

The Center for the Book at the Library of Congress maintains a listing of past and current One Book projects, organized both by location and by author. Visit www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/onebook to browse the list.

There are a number of ways Vintage and Anchor Books help support One Book, One Community programs. Visit www.randomhouse.com/vintage/read/onebook.html#resources

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. www.neabigread.org

Look inside for books on...

Coming of Age – page 1
Courage – page 3
Crime and Justice – page 7
Identity – page 9
Integrity – page 13
Loss – page 14
Love – page 16

LOOK FOR US ON THE WEB!

Our blog: www.randomhouselibrary.com
Twitter: RHLibrary
Goodreads: RHLibrary
Facebook: Random House Inc. Library Services
LibraryThing: RHLibrary

ALL TITLES ARE AVAILABLE FROM YOUR PREFERRED LIBRARY WHOLESALER.

RANDOM HOUSE, INC.