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 however 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 Isabelle* by Elizabeth Strout, Edwidge Danticat’s *The Dew Breaker*, or any of Margaret Atwood’s novels for a start) or books that challenge our complacency (*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 Jon 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
Nujood Ali with Delphine Minoui
*I Am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced*

Uplifting and impossible to put down, this is the true story of the ten-year-old girl who won a divorce from the man she was forced to marry, courageously defying both Yemeni customs and her own family. With the help of a woman lawyer, Chadha Nassar, NGOs, and the local press, Nujood finally obtained her freedom—an extraordinary achievement in Yemen, where there is a conspiracy of silence about the fact that almost half of all girls are married under the legal age. Since her victory, Nujood has given other young girls the courage to stand up to their society’s customs.

978-0-307-58967-5 | $12.00/$15.00C
Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction

**SELECTIONS BY:**
- Chicago, IL, The State of Arkansas
- Commerce, Escondido, 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

Aimee Bender
*The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake: A Novel*

Rose Edelstein at age nine discovers she has a magical gift: she can taste the emotions of the person who makes her food. She discovers this gift to her horror as her mother’s homemade lemon-chocolate cake tastes of despair and desperation. This gift and curse makes food a peril for the rest of her life and a threat because it reveals her mother’s life outside the home, her father’s detachment, the void that is her brother. A luminous tale about the difficulty of loving someone fully when you know too much about them.

978-0-385-50112-5 | $25.95/$30.00C
Doubleday | HC | Fiction

**SELECTIONS BY:**
- Santa Barbara, CA
- Greenwich, CT
- North Attleborough, MA
- Reading, MA
- West Boylston, MA
- Kalamazoo, MI
- Wake County, NC
- Galveston, TX
- Salt Lake City, UT
- Cincinnati, OH

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

**SELECTED BY:**
- Pasadena, CA - One City, One Story
- Chicago, IL, The State of Arkansas
- Commerce, Escondido, 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

Geoffrey Canada;
Illustrated by Jamar Nicholas
**Fist, Stick, Knife, Gun: A Personal History of Violence in America**

Long before U.S. News and World Report named him one of America’s Best Leaders and Oprah Winfrey called him “an angel from God,” Geoffrey Canada was a small, vulnerable, scared boy growing up in the South Bronx. In this candid and riveting memoir, Canada relives a childhood in which violence stalked every street corner.

New York
978-0-8070-0423-4 | $14.00/NCR
Beacon Press | TR | Nonfiction

NOW AVAILABLE AS A GRAPHIC NOVEL!
978-0-8070-4449-0 | $15.00/NCR
Beacon Press | TR | Nonfiction

**SELECTED BY:**
- Santa Barbara, CA
- Gunson, CO
- Westport, CT
- North Attleborough, 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

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

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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

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978-1-4000-3271-6 | $13.95/NCR
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- New Paltz, NY
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- Salt Lake City, UT
Coming of Age

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 978-0-385-33321-4 | $14.00/$21.00C Delta | TR | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Guntersville, AL; Jackson County, AL; Scottsboro, AL; Central Florida; Greenwood, IN; Northwest, IN; Topeka, KS; Athol, MA; Easthampton, MA; Southwest MI; Bowling Green, OH; Cleveland, OH; Findlay, OH; Tiffin, OH; Central Pennsylvania; Warren County, PA; Bedford County, SC; Memphis Shelby County, TN; Portland, TN; Alexandria, VA; Winchester, Frederick and Clark Counties, VA; Saugatuck, MI; Waco, TX

Henry James
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

SELECTED BY: The Mercantile Library Center for 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

SELECTED BY: Jackson District Library, MI; Huntsville Public Library (TX), Timberland Regional Library (WA)

Michael Patrick MacDonald
All Souls: A Family Story from Southie
Growing up in a housing project in Southie, Boston’s working class Irish community (branded as racist and violent after riots in the 1970s), MacDonald lost four of his siblings to violence and poverty. All Souls is heart-breaking testimony to lives lost too early, and the story of how a place so filled with pain could still be “the best place in the world.” Brooklyn 978-0-8070-7213-4 | $13.95/$16.50C Beacon Press | TR | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Watauga County, NC; Buffalo, NY; One Maryland, One Book; Wilmette, IL; Summit, NJ; Logan, UT

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

SELECTED BY: Yuma, AZ; Glendale, CA; Laredo, TX; Santa Fe, NM

Saïd 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

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 drive to go to college is an inspiring story. In September 1995, he realizes that ambition when he begins as a freshman at Brown University. Washington, D.C 978-0-7679-0126-0 | $15.00/$22.95C Broadway | TR | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Guntersville, AL; Jackson County, AL; Scottsboro, AL; Central Florida; Greenwood, IN; Northwest, IN; Topeka, KS; Athol, MA; Easthampton, MA; Southwest MI; Bowling Green, OH; Cleveland, OH; Findlay, OH; Tiffin, OH; Central Pennsylvania; Warren County, PA; Bedford County, SC; Memphis Shelby County, TN; Portland, TN; Alexandria, VA; Winchester, Frederick and Clark Counties, VA; Saugatuck, MI; Waco, TX

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.
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: ALA Alex Award  
A Washington Post Best Book of 2008  
A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2008  
978-0-385-33746-5 | $15.00/$18.95C  
Dial Press | TR | Fiction

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.  
978-0-375-75737-2 | $6.95/$9.95C  
Modern Library | TR | Fiction  
978-0-553-21079-8 | $5.95/$6.99C  
Bantam Classics | MM  
SELECTED BY: West Boylston, MA; Virginia, MN; Winona, MN; Bartlesville, OK

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.  
978-0-375-75681-8 | $6.95/$9.95C  
Modern Library | TR  
978-0-553-21128-3 | $5.50/$7.50C  
Bantam | MM | Fiction  
SELECTED BY: Fresno County Public Library (CA); Norwalk Public Library (CT); Massanutten Regional Library (VA); Muscogee County Friends of Libraries (GA); Heereman Memorial Library (NY); Galesburg Public Library (IL)

Jerald Walker  
**Street Shadows: A Memoir of Race, Rebellion, and Redemption**  
Masterfully told, marked by irony and humor as well as outrage and a barely contained sadness, Jerald Walker’s *Street Shadows* is the story of a young man’s descent into the “thug life” and the wake-up call that led to his finding himself again.  
978-0-553-80755-4 | $25.00/$29.95C  
Bantam HC | Nonfiction  
978-0-553-38613-4 | $15.00/$17.50C  
Bantam | TR | January 2011

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  
WINNER: Booklist Editor’s Choice for Young Adults  
WINNER: PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction  
978-0-375-70149-8 | $13.00/$16.00C  
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.  
978-0-375-84220-7 | $11.99/$15.99C  
Knopf Books for Young Readers | TR | Fiction  
978-0-375-93100-0 | $18.99/$26.99C  
Knopf Books for Young Readers | HC Library Binding  
SELECTED BY: Salt Lake City, UT; Loudon County, VA; Fairhaven, WA; North Reading, MA Reads
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*
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:** Forsyth County, NC; Rome/Floyd County, GA; Kankakee County, IL

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.*
978-0-8129-8002-8 | $17.00/$20.00C
Random House | HC | Nonfiction

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

Margaret Atwood
*The Year of the Flood: A Novel*
In this ALA Notable book, the long-feared waterless flood has occurred, altering Earth as we know it and obliterating most human life. Two women have survived: Ren, a young trapeze dancer locked inside the high-end sex club Scales and Tails, and Toby, who is barricaded inside a luxurious spa where many of the treatments are edible. Amid shadowy, corrupt ruling powers and new gene-spliced life forms—lion/lamb blends, pigs with human brain tissue, and Mo'hair sheep with human hair—Ren and Toby will have to decide on their next move, but they can't stay locked away.

*WINNER: An ALA Notable Book*
978-0-307-45547-5 | $15.00/NCR
Anchor | TR | Fiction

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

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

**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; Multnomah County, OR; Erie, PA; Houston, TX; Tacoma, WA

Donavan 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*
978-0-8129-7956-5 | $16.00/$19.95
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction
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 | $25.00/$29.95
Random House | HC | Fiction

978-0-8129-7563-5 | $15.00/$17.00
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | September 2010

**SELECTED BY:** Davie County, NC; Clarendon Hills, IL.

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Hans Fallada

**Every Man Dies Alone:** A Novel

It presents a richly detailed portrait of life in Berlin under the Nazis and tells the sweeping saga of one working-class couple who decides to take a stand when their only son is killed at the front. With nothing but their grief and each other against the awesome power of the Reich, they launch a simple, clandestine resistance campaign that soon has an enraged Gestapo on their trail. Deceased

“A signal literary event of 2009.”
—The New York Times Book Review

“What Iréne Némirovsky’s *Suite Française* did for wartime France after six decades in obscurity, Fallada does for wartime Berlin.”
—Roger Cohen, New York Times

**A New York Times Notable Book of 2009**

A San Francisco Chronicle Best Book of 2009

978-1-935554-04-2 | $16.95/$19.95
Melville House | TR | Fiction

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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:** Arlington, MA Reads Together; Marin County, CA; One Book South Dakota; Philadelphia, PA; San Mateo County, CA; Thousand Oaks, CA

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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

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**SELECTED BY:** San Francisco, CA
Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

**Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide**

Through moving and emotional individual stories of women and girls around the world, Kristof and WuDunn help us see that the key to economic progress lies in unleashing women’s potential. They make clear how so many people have helped to do just that, and how we can each do our part. Throughout much of the world, the greatest unexploited economic resource is the female half of the population. Advocating women’s rights globally is not only the right thing to do; it’s also the best strategy for fighting poverty. They show how a little help can transform the lives of women and girls abroad.

978-0-307-38709-7 | $15.95/$18.95C
Vintage | TR | Nonfiction

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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.

978-0-353-21233-4 | $4.99/$6.99C
Bantam | MM | Fiction

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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
978-0-345-52622-7 | $15.00/NCR
Spiegel & Grau | TR | Nonfiction

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Carlotta Walls Lanier and Lisa Frazier Page; Foreward by Bill Clinton

**A Mighty Long Way: My Journey to Justice at Little Rock Central High School**

Englewood, CO
978-0-345-51100-3 | $26.00/$32.00C
978-0-345-51101-0 | $16.00/$19.00C
One World | TR | Nonfiction

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Cormac McCarthy

**The Road**

Pulitzer Prize Winner
National Book Critic’s Circle Award Finalist

978-0-307-38789-9 | $14.95/$21.00C
Vintage | MM (Movie Tie-in Ed.)

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Yiyun Li

**The Vagrants: A Novel**

In luminous prose, award-winning author Yiyun Li weaves together the lives of unforgettable characters who are forced to make moral choices, and choices for survival, in China in the late 1970s. A powerful and beautiful portrait of human courage and despair in dramatic times.

WINNER: An ALA Notable Book
978-0-8129-7334-1 | $15.00/$18.95C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction

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**Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide**

Through moving and emotional individual stories of women and girls around the world, Kristof and WuDunn help us see that the key to economic progress lies in unleashing women’s potential. They make clear how so many people have helped to do just that, and how we can each do our part. Throughout much of the world, the greatest unexploited economic resource is the female half of the population. Advocating women’s rights globally is not only the right thing to do; it’s also the best strategy for fighting poverty. They show how a little help can transform the lives of women and girls abroad.

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One World | TR | Nonfiction

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Vintage | MM (Movie Tie-in Ed.)

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WINNER: An ALA Notable Book
978-0-8129-7334-1 | $15.00/$18.95C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction
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
978-0-385-72181-3 $10.95/$15.95C
Anchor | TR | Fiction

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

Howard Frank Mosher

*Walking to Gatlinburg: A Novel*

A stunning and lyrical Civil War novel which tells a story of brotherhood and survival, action and wilderness adventure in an unforgettable and mythic trek into an American heart of darkness as a boy searches for the brother he has lost.

Vermont
978-0-307-45067-8 $25.00/$29.95C
Shaye Areheart Books | HC | Fiction
978-0-307-45068-5 $15.00/$17.50C
Three Rivers Press | TR | March 2011

Nancy Rawles

*My Jim: A Novel*

To help her granddaughter accept the risks of loving, Sadie Watson recounts the tale of the unquenchable love of her life, Jim. Sadie’s Jim 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 Jim’s escape, and convinced her husband was dead. Mirroring the true stories of countless slave women, *My Jim* 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.
978-1-4000-5401-5 $12.95/$17.95C
Three Rivers Press | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Seattle, WA

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 | TR | Nonfiction

Considering Guernsey?

Random House has created special free ONE BOOK event materials for *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* to help promote your event. E-mail us at library@randomhouse.com to request materials.

Promotional materials include:

- Poster to use in promoting events, with blank space for specific event info to be written/stickered in.
- Bookmarks with space to write/sticker event info or a logo.
- Pen pal kit. Guernsey-themed stationary to be used to set up a pen pal program either within your community (between discussion groups, or book clubs) or with a sister city.
- Additional web-based resources available at www.GuernseyLiterary.com

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

SELECTED BY: Rehoboth, MA; NH Lakes Region Reads; One Book, One Coppell, TX; Reading Across Rhode Island; Douglas One Book/Carson Reads, NV; Saratoga Reads; Sandy, OR; Sedalia, MO
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 978-0-553-21247-1 | $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

Elizabeth Strout

Olive Kitteridge: Fiction
Deep, luminous narratives about a small town in Maine, linked by the presence, at center stage or side stage, of their larger-than-life title character, Olive Kitteridge. As the townspeople grapple with their problems, mild and dire, Olive is brought to a deeper understanding of herself and her life, sometimes painfully, but always with ruthless honesty. Olive Kitteridge offers profound insights into the human condition, its conflicts, its tragedies and joys, and the endurance it requires. New York, NY
WINNER: Pulitzer Prize
WINNER: An ALA Notable Book
978-0-307-47399-8 | $15.00/$18.95C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Carolyn Wall

Sweeping up Glass
Destined to be a classic—and receiving comparisons to To Kill A Mockingbird—this is a tough and tender novel of love, race, and justice, and a ferocious, unflinching look at the power of family. An ideal discussion book, given its social relevance, examining the long-lasting ramifications of bigotry, intolerance, and surviving economic hardship. Oklahoma
978-0-307-47400-1 | $15.00/$18.95C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Carolyn Wall

Mrs. Somebody Somebody: Fiction
On the banks of the Merrimack River at the close of World War II, a young mill worker dreams of marrying rich and finally becoming Mrs. Somebody Somebody. But that dream is complicated—not only for her but for all of Lowell, which is changing rapidly as the twentieth century progresses, and which Winn chronicles perfectly in a series of lives brushing up against one another. Concord, MA
978-0-312-98145-2 | $14.00/$17.00C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction

TIPS FROM NANCY PEARL:
DO choose a character driven book.
DO know your capacity for programming before you begin planning.
Crime and Justice

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.

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. Deceased

CHRIS BOHJALIAN
Secrets of Eden: 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.

THOMAS CAHILL
A Saint on Death Row: How a Forgotten Child Became a Man and Changed the World
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.

ETHAN CANIN
America America: A Novel

DASHIELL 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)

LOUIS L’AMOUR
Before You Know Kindness
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. Deceased

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

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

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

SELECTED BY:
- Springfield, IL; Conway, NH

SELECTED BY:
- Springfield, IL; Conway, NH
Naguib Mahfouz
The Thief and the Dogs
Naguib Mahfouz’s haunting novella of post-revolutionary Egypt combines a vivid psychological portrayal 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 Romaines.” —Edward Said, The London Review of Books

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/$16.95C
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.

“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
978-0-7679-3174-8 | $14.00/$17.00C
Broadway | TR | 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
Stephen G. Bloom and Peter Feldstein

The Oxford Project

The Project began in 1984, when photographer Peter Feldstein set out to photograph every single resident of his town, Oxford, IA (pop. 676). Twenty years later, he went back to do it again. What emerges is a living composite of a quintessential Midwestern community, told through the words and images of its residents—then and now. Iowa

WINNER: ALA ALEX Award

The possibilities for community activities centered around this book are almost endless. For ideas, email library@randomhouse.com.

WINNER: An ALA Notable Book

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

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

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.

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

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.
Frances Mayes
Every Day in Tuscany: Seasons of an Italian Life
The third volume in Frances Mayes’ bestselling Tuscany trilogy. In this direct sequel to Under the Tuscan Sun and Bella Tuscany, Mayes lyrically chronicles her continuing two decades-long love affair with Tuscany, its people, culture, and lifestyle, with favorite recipes, and the delights and challenges of living in Italy day-to-day.
978-0-7679-2982-0 | $25.00/$29.95C
Broadway | HC | Nonfiction
978-0-7679-2963-7 | $15.00/$17.50C
Broadway | TR | March 2011

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
978-0-385-52752-1 | $15.00/$18.95C
Spiegel & Grau | TR | Fiction

Sandra Kring
Carry Me Home
For simple-minded and sweet Earl “Earwig” Gundersman, 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
978-0-385-33813-4 | $13.00/$15.00C
Delta | TR | Fiction

Lorrie Moore
A Gate at the Stairs
As the United States gears up for war in the Middle East, twenty-year-old Tassie Keltjin, the Midwestern daughter of a gentleman hill farmer has come to a university town as a college student, her brain on fire with Chaucer, Sylvia Plath, Simone de Beauvoir. Between semesters, she takes a job as a part-time nanny. The family she works for seems both mysterious and glamorous to her, and although Tassie had once found children boring, she comes to care for, and to protect, their newly adopted little girl as her own.
978-0-375-70846-6 | $15.00/NCR
Vintage | TR | Fiction | September 2010

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
978-0-345-50534-7 | $15.00/$18.95C
Ballantine | TR | Fiction

Wes Moore
The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates
The true story of two boys born in the same neighborhood in the same town with the same name, and their starkly different fates. A powerful story about young black men in America—the ones who make it, the ones who don’t, and the difference. Visit www.theotherwesmoore.com for author videos and more info.
978-0-385-52819-1 | $25.00/$29.95C
Spiegel & Grau | HC | Nonfiction
978-0-385-52820-7 | $14.00/$17.00C
Spiegel & Grau | TR | December 2010
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.

Toni Morrison
A Mercy
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

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.

Eboo Patel
Acts of Faith: The Story of an American Muslim, the Struggle for the Soul of a Generation
Eboo Patel’s remarkable account of coming of age and coming to understand what led him toward religious pluralism rather than hatred. His story is a hopeful and moving testament to the power and passion of young people, and to the notion that we find the fulfillment of our identities in the work we do in the world. Chicago, IL

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

Edgar Allan Poe
Great Tales and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe
Edgar Allan Poe’s work has been chosen by 27 cities participating in the National Endowment for The Arts’ Big Read program, and our edition is the only one that contains exactly the poems and stories discussed in the NEA’s support material—plus, the NEA’s official reader’s guide will be included in our edition.

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

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
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
WINNER: ALA Alex Award
978-0-375-71483-2 | $24.95/$29.95C
Pantheon | TR | Nonfiction

PERSEPOLIS

SELECTED BY: Chelsea, MI; Seattle, WA; Arlington, VA; Martha’s Vineyard, MA; One Book, One Philadelphia; One Great Read - Lafayette, IN

Persepolis 1: The Story of a Childhood
978-0-375-71457-3 | $12.95/$14.95C
Pantheon | TR | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Miami, FL

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

SELECTED BY: One Book, One Glendale (CA)

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
978-0-8129-8053-0 | $15.00/$18.95C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: One Book, One Glendale (CA)

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.
978-0-8129-8055-3 | $15.00/$18.95C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: One Book, One Glendale (CA)

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.

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 | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Maryland One Book; One Book San Diego

Bill Strickland and Vince Rause
Make the Impossible Possible: One Man’s Crusade to Inspire Others to Dream Bigger and Achieve the Extraordinary
Bill Strickland has spent the past thirty years transforming the lives of thousands of people through Manchester Bidwell, the jobs training center and community arts program he founded in Pittsburgh. Working with corporations, community leaders, and schools, he and his staff strive to give disadvantaged kids and adults the opportunities and tools they need to envision and build a better, brighter future.
978-0-385-52055-3 | $14.00/$17.99C
Broadway | TR | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Maryland One Book; One Book San Diego

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.
978-0-385-52055-3 | $15.95
Vintage | TR | Fiction

“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)

SELECTED BY: Maryland One Book; One Book San Diego

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.
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*
978-0-8129-7761-5 | $16.00/$19.00C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction

*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; Wilbraham, MA

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.

*Cleveland, OH*
978-0-345-48555-7 | $14.00/$16.50C
Ballantine | TR | Fiction

*SELECTED BY:* Tuscarawas County, OH; Warren County, PA

Maria 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*
978-0-307-45489-8 | $13.95/$15.95C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

*ALSO AVAILABLE:*
**Homecoming**
978-0-307-45489-8-9 | $14.95/$16.95C
Vintage | Fiction

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 is a story of love and secrets, horror and compassion.

*Germany*
Vintage | TR | Fiction

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Vintage | Fiction

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Rebecca Skloot
**The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks**
Doctors took her cells without asking. Those cells never died. They launched a medical revolution and a multimillion dollar industry. More than twenty years later, her children found out. Their lives would never be the same. [www.RebeccaSkloot.com](http://www.RebeccaSkloot.com)
978-1-4000-5217-2 | $26.00/$32.00C
Crown | HC | Nonfiction
978-1-4000-5216-9 | $15.00/$17.00C | TR | May 2011

Richard Stengel
**Mandela's Way: Fifteen Lessons on Life, Love, and Courage**
TIME magazine editor Rick Stengel, who collaborated with Mandela on his bestselling autobiography and became a cherished friend, distills Mandela’s wisdom into 15 vital life lessons that have the power to deepen our lives.
978-0-307-40686-4 | $23.00/$27.95C
Crown | HC | Nonfiction

C. Vivian Stringer
**Standing Tall: A Memoir of Tragedy and Triumph**
With nothing more than true grit, hard work, and a dream, this coalminer’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/$16.95C
Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction

Jonathan Tisch with Karl Weber
**Citizen You: Doing Your Part to Change the World**
The new activism is emerging at a time when a fresh definition of citizenship is sorely needed—a time of unprecedented challenges on the national and world stage, when citizen engagement is not a choice but a necessity. Here is how to do your bit, one neighborhood, one school, one small project—the things that an individual can do to make a difference.
Irvington, NY
978-0-307-58848-7 | $24.00/$28.00C
Crown | HC | Nonfiction
978-0-307-58849-4 | $13.00/$16.00C | TR | May 2011

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/$15.95C
Broadway | TR | Nonfiction
978-0-385-49649-0 | $7.50/NCR | Anchor | MM

Nancy G. Brinker
**Promise Me: How a Sister’s Love Launched the Global Movement to End Breast Cancer**
Promise Me is a poignant memoir of Nancy Brinker’s unshakable commitment to her late sister, Susan G. Komen, and the phenomenal global impact that she has had in pursuing her life’s purpose: to end breast cancer. This book will show how Susan G. Komen for the Cure began as a private passion and gradually grew into a cause-marketing juggernaut that is arguably the most influential health advocacy organization in the world.
Broadway | HC | Nonfiction

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/$17.95C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY:
- Arkansas State-Wide Reading Program
Dana Canedy  
**A Journal for Jordan: A Story of Love and Honor**  
In 2005, First Sergeant Charles Monroe King began to write what would become a two hundred-page journal for his son in case he did not make it home from the war in Iraq. He was killed by a roadside bomb on October 14, 2006. His son, Jordan, was seven months old. *A Journal for Jordan* is a mother’s letter to her son about the father he lost before he could even speak—including a fiercely honest account of her search for answers about Charles’s death. It is also a father’s advice to the son he will never know. New York, NY  
www.ajournalforjordan.com  
978-0-307-39600-6 | $15.00/$19.95C  
Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction

Ernest J. Gaines  
**A Lesson Before Dying:**  
A Novel  
This is the story of two African-American men struggling to attain manhood in a small prejudiced Cajun community in the late 1940s. Grant Wiggins, a sophisticated and educated man comes to the aid of Jefferson, a mentally slow, barely literate young man, who is convicted of murder and sentenced to die, although he was only an innocent bystander to the crime.  
Oscar, LA  
978-0-375-70270-9 | $13.00/$16.00C  
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Pat Conroy  
**South of Broad:**  
A Novel  
Leopold Bloom King has been raised in a family shattered—and shadowed—by tragedy. Lonely and adrift, he searches for something to sustain him and finds it among a tightly knit group of high school outsiders. Surviving marriages happy and troubled, unrequited loves and unspoken longings, hard-won successes and devastating breakdowns, as well as Charleston, South Carolina’s dark legacy of racism and class divisions, these friends will endure until a final test forces them to face something none of them are prepared for.  
978-0-385-34407-4 | $16.00/$19.00C  
Dial Press Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction

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. John Singer, a deaf-mute in a small Georgia mining town, becomes the confidant of several of the misfit townspeople, all yearning for escape.  
978-0-553-26963-5 | $6.99/$10.99C  
Bantam | MM | Fiction

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/$16.95C  
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.
**Leon 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

**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

**Yann Martel**

**Beatrice & Virgil: A Novel**

The follow-up to the international bestseller and Booker Prize-winning *Life of Pi*, this is another novel that uses animals to discuss the human condition, in this case, to address the atrocities of the Holocaust. Heartbreaking and utterly original, the novel asks enduring questions about life and art, truth and deception, responsibility and complicity.

- **978-0-8129-8154-4** | $15.00/NCR
- Spiegel & Grau | HC | Fiction

**Colum McCann**

**Let the Great World Spin: A Novel**

In the dawning light of a late-summer morning, the people of lower Manhattan stand hushed, staring up in disbelief at the Twin Towers. It is August 1974, and a mysterious tightrope walker is running, dancing, leaping between the towers, suspended a quarter mile above the ground. In the streets below, a slew of ordinary lives become extraordinary in this stunningly intricate portrait of a city and its people.

- **New York, NY**
- **978-0-8129-7399-0** | $15.00
- RH Trade Paperbacks | 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

**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.

- **Texas**
- **978-0-307-39605-1** | $15.00
- Three Rivers Press | TR | Fiction

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**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

Maeve Binchy

**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 978-0-307-45523-9 | $14.00
Anchor | TR

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. *Massachusetts* 978-0-679-74187-9 | $9.00/$12.50C
Vintage | TR | Fiction 978-0-553-21418-5 | $4.95/$6.95C
Bantam Classics | MM

Stephanie Cowell

**Claude & Camille:**

A Novel of Monet

Starving artist Claude Monet’s life was irrevocably changed when he met the beautiful and mysterious Camille Doucet. Through years of painting, misunderstanding, and love, they carve out a life together, but can Camille ever escape her past—and can Monet ever forget it? www.stephaniecowell.com 978-307-46321-0 | $25.00/$29.95C
Crown | HC | Fiction 978-0-307-46322-7 | $15.00/$17.50C
Three Rivers Press | TR | April 2011

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/$18.95C
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 experienced 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* 978-0-307-47354-7 | $14.95/NCR
Vintage | TR | Nonfiction

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Vintage | TR | Nonfiction
Love Stories

Kent Haruf

**Plainsong**

Set on the rural plains of Holt, CO, this stirring meditation on the true nature and necessity of family comprises several story lines that flow into one. The seven characters featured in this tight narrative teach us how families can be made between people who are not necessarily blood relatives. Salida, CO

**WINNER: National Book Award**

978-0-375-70585-4 | $13.95/$21.00C

Vintage | TR | Fiction

Selected by: The State of Arizona; Gunnison, CO; Loveland, CO; Springfield, IL; Vigo County, IN; Cedar Rapids, IA; Manhattan, KS; Grand Rapids, MI; Boone & Callaway Counties, MO; Kansas City, MO; Waterloo and Breckeridge, ND; Lincoln, NE; Dallas/Fort Worth, TX; Salt Lake City, UT; Spokane, WA

Ninni Holmqvist

**The Unit**

*The Unit* is a gripping exploration of a society in the throes of an experiment, in which the “dispensable” ones are convinced under gentle coercion of the importance of sacrificing for the “necessary” ones. Ninni Holmqvist has created a debut novel of humor, sorrow, and rage about love, the close bonds of friendship, and about a cynical, utilitarian way of thinking disguised as care.

Named one of the Best Novels of 2009 by *The Wall Street Journal*

978-1-59051-313-2 | $14.95/$18.95C

Other Press | TR | Fiction

Selected by: Wilmette, IL

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

Charles Martin

**The Mountain Between Us:**

*A Novel*

The best-selling author of *Where the River Ends* returns with a captivating story about two strangers who crash into a frigid mountain wilderness and must rely on each other to survive. As the days turn into weeks on the unforgiving mountain on which they crashed, they hatch a plan to escape the wilderness, but as desperate as they are to be saved, they wonder what will happen when they return to their previous lives. Jacksonville, FL

978-0-7679-2702-4 | $12.95/$16.00C

Broadway | HC | Fiction

978-0-375-70193-1 | $14.95/$21.00C

Modern Library | TR | Fiction

Edith Wharton

**The Age of Innocence**


**WINNER: Pulitzer Prize, 1921**

978-0-375-73520-6 | $9.95/$14.95C

Modern Library | TR | Fiction

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

Bantam | MM

978-0-99-95112-8-1 | $10.95C

Vintage Classics (Can.) | TR

Selected by: Bloomsburg Public Library, PA; Parsippany Library System, NJ

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

978-0-375-70193-1 | $14.95/$18.95C

Vintage | TR | 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 | TR | Fiction

Helen Simonson

**Major Pettigrew’s Last Stand**

When retired Major Pettigrew strikes up an unlikely friendship with Mrs. Ali, the village shopkeeper who is of Pakistani descent, he is drawn out of his regimented world and forced to confront the realities of life in the twenty-first century. Brought together by a shared love of literature and the loss of their respective spouses, the Major and Mrs. Ali soon find their friendship on the cusp of blossoming into something more. The Major has always taken special pride in his village, but will he be forced to choose between the place he calls home and a future with Mrs. Ali? *Washington, DC*

978-1-4000-6893-7 | $25.00

Random House | HC

978-0-8129-8122-3 | $14.00

RH Trade Paperback

February 2011

Selected by: The State of Arizona; Gunnison, CO; Loveland, CO; Springfield, IL; Vigo County, IN; Cedar Rapids, IA; Manhattan, KS; Grand Rapids, MI; Boone & Callaway Counties, MO; Kansas City, MO; Waterloo and Breckeridge, ND; Lincoln, NE; Dallas/Fort Worth, TX; Salt Lake City, UT; Spokane, WA
Nothing listed for your state? E-mail us at library@randomhouse.com and we’ll find something.
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:

Random House Speakers Bureau is a full-service lecture agency whose primary focus is to help you find the best speaker for your event. Contact us at www.rhspeakers.com

The American Library Association Public Programs Office guide: One Book, One Community: Planning Your Community-Wide Read. Visit www.alaa.org/alaa/aboutalaa/offices/ppa/programming/onebook/index.cfm to download the PDF.

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.libraryofcongress.gov/resources to browse the list.

There are a number of ways Vintage and Anchor Books help support One Book, One Community programs. Visit http://reading-group-center.knopfdoubleday.com/one-book-one-community

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 4
- Crime and Justice – page 9
- Identity – page 11
- Integrity – page 15
- Loss – page 16
- Love Stories – page 19

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