

Book Club to Go Titles

FICTION

***Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**

A young woman from Nigeria leaves behind her home and her first love to start a new life in America, only to find her dreams are not all she expected. 588 p.

***Garden spells* by Sarah Addison Allen**

The Waverly clan have long been known in Bascom, NC, for their special talents, but when Claire and her sister run into men too charming to ignore, love's magical effects, with the help of an interfering apple tree, manifest themselves in surprising and delightful ways. 320 p.

***Honey & spice* by Bolu Babalola**

A dazzling debut novel, full of passion, humor, and heart, that centers on a young Black British woman who has no interest in love and unexpectedly finds herself caught up in a fake relationship with the man she warned her girls about. 358 p.

***Anxious people* by Fredrik Backman**

Taken hostage by a failed bank robber while attending an open house, eight anxiety-prone strangers--including a redemption-seeking bank director, two couples who would fix their marriages, and a plucky octogenarian--discover their unexpected common traits. 340 p.

***My grandmother asked me to tell you she's sorry* by Fredrik Backman**

Seven-year-old Elsa's grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters, sending the girl on a journey that brings to life the world of her grandmother's fairy tales. 372 p.

***The school of essential ingredients* by Erica Bauermeister**

Eight students gather in Lillian's Restaurant every Monday night for cooking class. It soon becomes clear, however, that each one seeks a recipe for something beyond the kitchen. 272 p.

***The Paris architect* by Charles Belfoure**

A Parisian architect is paid handsomely to devise secret hiding spaces for Jews in his Nazi-occupied country but struggles with risking his life for a cause he is ambivalent towards, until a personal failure brings home their suffering. 374 p.

***The aviator's wife* by Melanie Benjamin**

A story inspired by the marriage between Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh traces the romance between a handsome young **aviator** and a shy ambassador's daughter whose relationship is marked by wild international acclaim. 434 p.

***The pull of the moon* by Elizabeth Berg**

Disturbed by the course of her life and marriage, Nan embarks on a backroads odyssey, following the moon and stopping to talk with women, men, her husband through letters, and herself through her diary, and discovering how her life can be reshaped. 208 p.

***My sister, the serial killer* by Oyinkan Braithwaite**

Slasher meets satire in this darkly comic novel set in Nigeria about a woman whose younger sister has a very inconvenient habit of killing her boyfriends. 226 p.

***Self storage* by Gayle Brandeis**

A woman who supports her family by selling her yard-sale and self-storage auction acquisitions, Flan Parker embarks on a life-changing odyssey of self-discovery and awareness after bidding on a mysterious box that is empty except for the word "yes." 304 p.

***People of the book* by Geraldine Brooks**

Offered a coveted job to analyze and conserve a priceless Sarajevo Haggadah, Australian rare-book expert Hanna Heath discovers a series of tiny artifacts in the volume's ancient binding that reveal its historically significant origins. 372 p.

***Tumbledown Manor* by Helen Brown**

Leaving her life in New York to start over in a dilapidated Australian manor that once belonged to her great-grandfather, writer Lisa sets out with a team of helpers to refurbish the house and finds herself being transformed along with the manor. 287 p.

***The emperor of Ocean Park* by Stephen L. Carter**

In his fiction debut, Carter combines a riveting legal thriller with the saga of a unique family, set in two privileged worlds: the upper-crust African-American society of the Eastern seaboard and the inner circle of an Ivy League law school. 657 p.

***The last runaway* by Tracy Chevalier**

Forced to leave England and struggling with illness in the wake of a family tragedy, Quaker Honor Bright is forced to rely on strangers in the harsh landscape of 1850 Ohio and is compelled to join the Underground Railroad network to help runaway slaves escape to freedom. 305 p.

***Mrs. Lincoln's dressmaker* by Jennifer Chiaverini**

A fictionalized account of the friendship between Mary Todd Lincoln and her dressmaker Elizabeth Keckley, a former slave. 356 p.

***Little Bee* by Chris Cleave**

A haunting novel about the tenuous friendship that blooms between two strangers--one an illegal Nigerian refugee, the other a recent widow from suburban London. 304 p.

***When no one is watching* by Alyssa Cole**

Finding unexpected support from a new friend while collecting stories from her rapidly vanishing Brooklyn community, Sydney uncovers sinister truths about a regional gentrification project and why her neighbors are moving away. 352 p.

***The language of flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh**

When Victoria Jones starts working for a florist, she realizes her talent with flowers helps her change the lives of the people who buy her creations. But when she must confront her own painful past, she has to decide how much she is willing to change. 334 p.

***The black rose: the magnificent story of Madam C. J. Walker, America's first black female millionaire* by Tananarive Due**

A fictional biography chronicles the story of Madame C.J. Walker, who rose from the poverty of her former slave parents to found a marketing empire that made her America's first Black female millionaire. 384 p.

***The memory keeper's daughter* by Kim Edwards**

In a tale spanning twenty-five years, a doctor delivers his newborn twins during a snowstorm and, rashly deciding to protect his wife from their baby daughter's affliction with Down Syndrome, turns her over to a nurse, who secretly raises the child. 401 p.

***One second after* by William R. Forstchen**

One man struggles to save his family and his small North Carolina town after America loses a war, in one second, a war based upon an Electro Magnetic Pulse weapon that will send America back to the Dark Ages. 350 p.

***The Jane Austen book club* by Karen Joy Fowler**

As six Californians get together to form a book club to discuss the novels of Jane Austen, their lives are turned upside down by troubled marriages, illicit affairs, changing relationships, and love. 304 p.

***Still Alice* by Lisa Genova**

A compelling debut novel about a 50-year-old woman's sudden descent into early onset Alzheimer's disease. 320 p.

***The home for unwanted girls* by Joanna Goodman**

When she becomes pregnant at age 15, Maggie's parents force her to give up her baby daughter Elodie. Elodie is raised in an orphanage turned psychiatric hospital until her release at age 17. Maggie, now married, reconnects with her first love and begins actively searching for her daughter, whom she has never forgotten. 384 p.

***Firefly Lane* by Kristin Hannah**

They were known as the Firefly Lane girls--a single, inseparable unit. The best friends promise to be there for each other forever--and for 30 years, that promise holds strong. Then events and choices make that promise impossible. 479 p.

***Five quarters of the orange* by Joanne Harris**

A sensual novel follows a woman as she returns to the French village where she lived as a girl during the German occupation. 336 p.

***The silent wife* by A. S. A. Harrison**

Todd and Jodi are in a bad place in their relationship. They've been together for 28 years, and with no children to worry about, there has been little to disrupt their affluent lifestyle. But there has also been little to hold it together, and beneath the surface lie ever-widening cracks. When it becomes clear that their precarious world could disintegrate at any moment, Jodi knows she stands to lose everything. It's only now she will discover just how much she's truly capable of. 326 p

***The love hypothesis* by Ali Hazelwood**

When a fake relationship between scientists meets the irresistible force of attraction, it throws one woman's carefully calculated theories on love into chaos. 356 p.

***People we meet on vacation* by Emily Henry**

With one week to win back the best friend she might just be in love with, a travel writer plans the trip of a lifetime. 364 p.

***Blackbird House* by Alice Hoffman**

Presents a series of interlinking stories that capture the lives and fortunes of the occupants of an old Massachusetts house over the course of two centuries. 238 p.

***The other Alcott* by Elise Hooper**

Seeking to make her own mark on the world, May Alcott escapes her Concord home to study art and embark on a quest to discover who she is as an artist and woman. 408 p.

***Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan**

Historical novel telling the story of the relationship between legendary architect Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Cheney, the wife of a couple whose home Wright built in 1904. 377 p.

***The almost sisters* by Joshilyn Jackson**

Leia finds her life is spiraling out of control. First she discovers she is pregnant from a one night stand, then she receives a phone call that her beloved grandmother is acting erratically. Meanwhile, she finds her stepsister in the middle of a marital crisis. Returning to her grandmother's small hometown in Alabama to figure out the future, Leia is confronted by the past including a dark family secret. 384 p.

***The orphan's tale* by Pam Jenoff**

Sixteen-year-old Noa, forced to give up her baby fathered by a Nazi soldier, snatches a child from a boxcar containing Jewish infants bound for a concentration camp and takes refuge with a traveling circus, where Astrid, a Jewish aerialist, becomes her mentor. 363 p.

***The orphan master's son* by Adam Johnson**

In North Korea, Pak Jun Do slowly rises from the work camp for orphans run by his father, to soldier, kidnapper, sailor, spy, and more while falling in love with his country's most famous actress. 456 p.

***Orphan train* by Christina Baker Kline**

Close to aging out of the foster care system, Penobscot Indian Molly Ayer takes a community service position helping an elderly woman named Vivian clean out her home and discovers that they are more alike than different as she helps Vivian solve a mystery from her past. 278 p.

***Angry housewives eating bon bons* by Lorna Landvik**

From the initial formation of The Freesia Court Book Club and over the course of the next thirty years, five women in small-town Minnesota share the events, triumphs, tragedies, hardships, joys, and sorrows of their lives. 417 p.

***Garden of stones* by Sophie Littlefield**

After bombs rain down on Pearl Harbor, 14-year-old Lucy Takeda and her mother, Miyako, are rounded up--along with thousands of other innocent Japanese-Americans--and taken to the Manzanar prison camp where they endure abuse and harsh living conditions until Miyako makes the ultimate sacrifice. 301 p.

***Sold on a Monday* by Kristina McMorris**

When struggling reporter Ellis Reed takes a photograph of a sign advertising two children for sale in 1931, it leads to his big break and evokes memories from his past. 343 p.

***The silent patient* by Alex Michaelides**

Alicia Berenson is a famous painter married to an in-demand fashion photographer, living in a posh area of London. One evening, her husband Gabriel returns home late. Alicia shoots him five times in the face and then never speaks another word. 368 p.

***Circe* by Madeline Miller**

Follows Circe, the banished witch daughter of Helios, as she hones her powers and interacts with famous mythological beings before a conflict with one of the most vengeful Olympians forces her to choose between the worlds of the gods and mortals. 393 p.

***The secret life of sunflowers* by Marta Molnar**

While cleaning out her grandmother's New York brownstone, Emsley Wilson finds a diary that belonged to Johanna Bongor, Vincent van Gogh's sister-in-law, who inherited van Gogh's paintings. The paintings were worthless, Johanna was a 28 year old widow with a baby living in Paris, and she barely spoke the language. Yet she introduced van Gogh's legacy to the world. Emsley needs the inspiration. With her business failing, an unexpected love turning up in her life, and family secrets unraveling, can she find answers in the past? 399 p.

***The tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris**

This beautiful, illuminating tale of hope and courage is based on interviews that were conducted with Holocaust survivor and Auschwitz-Birkenau tattooist Ludwig (Lale) Sokolov—an unforgettable love story in the midst of atrocity. 262 p.

***Everything I never told you* by Celeste Ng**

A story of the divisions between cultures and the rifts within a family explores the fallout of the drowning death of Lydia Lee, the favorite daughter of a Chinese-American family in 1970s Ohio. 320 p.

***The time traveler's wife* by Audrey Niffenegger**

Passionately in love, Clare and Henry vow to hold onto each other and their marriage as they struggle with the effects of Chrono-Displacement Disorder, a condition that casts Henry involuntarily into the world of time travel. 546 p.

***There, there* by Tommy Orange**

Tommy Orange's wondrous and shattering novel follows twelve characters from Native communities: all traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow, all connected to one another in ways they may not yet realize. 292 p.

***The curious charms of Arthur Pepper* by Phaedra Patrick**

Arthur Pepper has lost his beloved wife, Miriam, and his purpose in life. When Arthur discovers a charm bracelet that belonged to his wife, it sets him on a series of adventures to find out what her life was like before he met her. 307 p.

***The Leftovers* by Tom Perrotta**

When a bizarre phenomenon causes the cataclysmic disappearances of numerous people all over the world, Kevin Garvey, the new mayor of a once-comfortable suburban community, struggles to help his neighbors heal while enduring the fanatical religious conversions of his wife and son. 355 p.

***The maid* by Nita Prose**

A charmingly eccentric hotel maid discovers a guest murdered in his bed, turning her once orderly world upside down--and inspiring a motley crew of unexpected allies to band together to solve the mystery. 304 p.

***The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn**

When pregnant American student Charlie St. Clair is banished to Europe by her family to have her baby, she takes the opportunity to head for London to find her missing French cousin and teams up with Eve, a former spy from the Alice Network, to solve the mystery. 503 p.

***Killers of a certain age* by Deanna Raybourn**

They've spent their lives as the deadliest assassins in a clandestine international organization, but now that they're sixty years old, four women friends can't just retire - it's kill or be killed in this action-packed thriller. 353 p.

***Such a fun age* by Kiley Reid**

A story about race and privilege is centered around a young black babysitter, her well-intentioned employer and a surprising connection that threatens to undo them both. 310 p.

***The seven husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid**

Aging and reclusive Hollywood movie icon Evelyn Hugo is finally ready to tell the truth about her glamorous and scandalous life. But when she chooses unknown magazine reporter Monique Grant for the job, no one in the journalism community is more astounded than Monique herself. Why her? Why now? 389 p.

***The social graces* by Renee Rosen**

A peek behind the curtain at one of the most remarkable feuds in history: Mrs. Vanderbilt and Mrs. Astor's notorious battle for control of New York society during the Gilded Age. 382 p.

***West with giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge**

An emotional, rousing novel inspired by the incredible true story of two giraffes who made headlines and won the hearts of Depression-era America. 356 p.

***The Rosie project* by Graeme C. Simsion**

A socially awkward genetics professor who has never been on a second date sets out to find the perfect wife, but instead finds Rosie Jarman, a fiercely independent barmaid who is on a quest to find her biological father. 295 p.

***The last painting of Sara de Vos* by Dominic Smith**

Half a century after reluctantly painting a forgery of the only surviving landscape by a 17th-century female Dutch master, Sara curates an exhibit of women Dutch painters and risks exposure when both the original and her forgery arrive. 295 p.

***The light between oceans* by M. L. Steadman**

Moving his young bride to an isolated lighthouse home on Australia's Janus Rock where the couple suffers miscarriages and a stillbirth, Tom allows his wife to claim an infant that has washed up on the shore, a decision with devastating consequences. 343 p.

***The art of racing in the rain* by Garth Stein**

Enzo, a philosophical dog eager to be reincarnated as a human, serves as a faithful companion to race-car driver Denny Swift, as he navigates both his racing career, and the many road-bumps in his family life. 336 p.

***Olive, again* by Elizabeth Strout**

A sequel to *Olive Kitteridge* finds Olive struggling to understand herself while bonding with a teen suffering from loss, a woman who gives birth unexpectedly, a nurse harboring a longtime crush and a lawyer who resists an unwanted inheritance. 301 p.

***Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout**

The world of Olive Kitteridge, a retired school teacher in a small coastal town in Maine, is revealed in stories that explore her diverse roles in many lives, including a lounge singer haunted by a past love, her stoic husband, and her own resentful son. 304 p.

***Saints for all occasions* by J. Courtney Sullivan**

A sweeping novel about two sisters--one the matriarch of a boisterous Irish Catholic family, the other a cloistered nun, hidden from the world--and the secret that drove them apart. 432 p.

***Vera Wong's unsolicited advice for murderers* by Jesse Q. Sutanto**

When she discovers a dead man in the middle of her teashop, Vera Wong, a Chinese mother with time on her hands, calls the police but not before swiping the flash drive from the body, setting a trap for the killer that becomes complicated by unexpected friendships with her customers. 338 p.

***Saving fish from drowning* by Amy Tan**

On an ill-fated art expedition, eleven Americans find themselves deep in the Burmese jungle, where they encounter a tribe awaiting a leader and the mystical book of wisdom that will protect them from the Myanmar military regime. 528 p.

***Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant* by Anne Tyler**

Eighty-five-year-old Pearl Tull recalls the desertion of her husband and her attempts to raise three children, who must come to terms with themselves and their father after their mother's death. 336 p.

***The space between us* by Thrity Umrigar**

Captures the delicate balance of class and gender in contemporary India as witnessed through the lives of two women—Sera Dubash, an upper middle-class housewife, and Bhima, an illiterate domestic hardened by a life of loss and despair. 321 p.

***The final revival of Opal & Nev* by Dawnie Walton**

An electrifying novel about the meteoric rise of an iconic interracial rock duo in the 1970s, their sensational breakup, and the dark secrets unearthed when they try to reunite decades later for one last tour. 360 p.

***Sing, unburied, sing* by Jesmyn Ward**

A story of how the past affects the present, and of deeply entrenched racism, *Sing, Unburied, Sing* describes the life of a biracial boy, his addicted, grieving black mother, and his incarcerated white father. A road trip to Dad's prison kick-starts the novel, which offers deeply affecting characters, a strong sense of place (rural Mississippi), and a touch of magical realism in appearances by the dead. 320 p.

***In a dark, dark wood* by Ruth Ware**

Reluctantly accepting an old friend's invitation to spend a weekend in the English countryside, reclusive writer Leonora awakens in a hospital badly injured, unable to recall what happened and confronting a growing certainty that someone involved has died. 308 p.

***The bookish life of Nina Hill* by Abbi Waxman**

A confirmed introvert finds her simple life upended when the father she never knew passes away, revealing an enormous extended family that overwhelms her budding relationship with a fellow trivia buff. 332 p.

***Innocent traitor* by Alison Weir**

A fictional portrait of Lady Jane Grey, the great-niece of Henry VIII, follows her turbulent life against the backdrop of Tudor power politics and religious upheaval, from her youth, to her nine-day reign as Queen of England, to its tragic aftermath. 409 p.

***The Lost and Found Bookshop* by Susan Wiggs**

Inheriting her mother's San Francisco bookshop in the wake of a tragedy, Natalie bonds with her ailing grandfather and hires a contractor to perform repairs before unexpected discoveries connect her to the community and family secrets. 355 p.

BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIRS

***The yellow house* by Sarah M. Broom**

A memoir describing the author's upbringing in a New Orleans East shotgun house as the unruly 13th child of a widowed mother, tracing a century of family history and the impact of class, race and Hurricane Katrina on her sense of identity. 376 p.

***Orange is the new black* by Piper Kerman**

Follows the author's incarceration for drug trafficking, during which she gained a unique perspective on the criminal justice system and met a varied community of women living under exceptional circumstances. 327 p.

***Born a crime* by Trevor Noah**

One of the comedy world's fastest-rising stars and host of *The Daily Show* tells his wild coming of age story during the twilight of apartheid in South Africa and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed. 288 p.

***Philomena: a mother, her son, and a fifty-year search* by Martin Sixsmith**

When she became pregnant as a teenager in Ireland in 1952, Philomena Lee was sent to a convent to be looked after as a "fallen woman." Then the nuns took her baby from her and sold him, like thousands of others, to America for adoption. Fifty years later, Philomena decided to find him. Meanwhile, on the other side of the Atlantic, Philomena's son was trying to find her. 420 p.

NONFICTION

***Kitchen confidential* by Anthony Bourdain**

New York chef Tony Bourdain gives away secrets of the trade in his wickedly funny, inspiring memoir and exposé. 302 p.

The boys in the boat: nine Americans and their epic quest for gold at the 1936 Olympics
by **Daniel James Brown**

The dramatic story of the American rowing team that stunned the world at Hitler's 1936 Berlin Olympics, drawn from the team's own journals, photos, and memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream. 404 p.

Blink: the power of thinking without thinking by **Malcolm Gladwell**

A book about how we think without thinking, about choices that seem to be made in an instant—in the blink of an eye—that actually aren't as simple as they seem. 320 p.

Left to tell: discovering God amidst the Rwandan holocaust by **Immaculee Ilibagiza**

Presents the true story of a woman who endures the murder of her family as a result of genocide in Rwanda and turns to prayer for strength, love, and forgiveness. 215 p.

The necklace: thirteen women and the experiment that transformed their lives by **Cheryl Jarvis**

The true story of thirteen women from Ventura, CA, from diverse social, educational, and political backgrounds who together purchased an expensive diamond necklace that was beyond their means individually. In the process, they changed not only themselves but a community. 256 p.

The girls of Atomic City by **Denise Kiernan**

Looks at the valuable contributions made by the thousands of women who worked at a secret uranium-enriching facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee during World War II. 371 p.

Hidden figures by **Margot Lee Shetterly**

The phenomenal true story of the black female mathematicians at NASA whose calculations helped fuel some of America's greatest achievements in space. 349 p.

The immortal life of Henrietta Lacks by **Rebecca Skloot**

Weaves together the story of Henrietta Lacks--a woman whose cells have been unwittingly used for scientific research since the 1950s--with the birth of bioethics, and the dark history of experimentation on African Americans. 381 p.

Last updated 7/15/24