



Rochester Hills Public Library  
**BOOK DISCUSSION KITS**  
rhpl.org/bookclubs

## NON- FICTION TITLES

Ansari, Aziz. **Modern Romance**. NY: Penguin Books, c2015. For years, Aziz Ansari has been aiming his comic insight at modern romance, but for this book he decided he needed to take things to another level. He teamed up with NYU sociologist Eric Klinenberg and designed a massive research project, including hundreds of interviews and focus groups conducted everywhere from Tokyo to Buenos Aires to Wichita. They analyzed behavioral data and surveys and created their own online research forum on Reddit, which drew thousands of messages. They enlisted the world's leading social scientists, including Andrew Cherlin, Eli Finkel, Helen Fisher, Sheena Iyengar, Barry Schwartz, Sherry Turkle, and Robb Willer. The result is unlike any social science or humor book we've seen before. 249 pages (15 copies) **NEW**

Baime, A. J. **The Arsenal of Democracy**. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, c2014. A dramatic, intimate narrative of how Ford Motor Company went from making automobiles to producing the airplanes that would mean the difference between winning and losing World War II. 291 pages. (15 copies)

Boo, Katherine. **Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity**. NY: Random House, c2013. A bewildering age of global change and inequality is made human through the dramatic story of families striving toward a better life in Annawadi, a makeshift settlement in the shadow of luxury hotels near the Mumbai airport. As India starts to prosper, the residents of Annawadi are electric with hope. With intelligence, humor, and deep insight into what connects people to one another in an era of tumultuous change, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*, based on years of uncompromising reporting, carries the reader headlong into one of the twenty-first century's hidden worlds—and into the hearts of families impossible to forget. 244 pages. **LP** (9 copies)

Boyle, Kevin. **Arc of Justice: a Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age**. NY: Henry Holt, c2004. This National Book Award winner recounts the story of Ossian Sweet, a doctor and grandson of a slave, who had made the long climb from the ghetto to a home of his own in a previously all-white east side Detroit neighborhood in 1925. The violence that followed his arrival attracted the attention of the fledgling NAACP and legendary lawyer Clarence Darrow. 346 pages. (10 copies)

Brown, Daniel. **The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics**. NY: Viking, c2013. Traces the story of an American rowing team from the University of Washington that defeated elite rivals at Hitler's 1936 Berlin Olympics, sharing the experiences of their enigmatic coach, a visionary boat builder, and a homeless teen rower. 404 pages. (14 copies)

Duhigg, Charles. **The Power of Habit**. NY: Random House, c2014. Duhigg takes us to the thrilling edge of scientific discoveries that explain why habits exist and how they can be changed. 298 pages. (15 copies)

Grogan, John. **Marley & Me**. NY: HarperCollins, c2005. The heartwarming and unforgettable story of a family in the making and the wondrously neurotic dog who taught them what really matters in life. 289 pages. **TA LP** (15 Copies)

Hillenbrand, Laura. **Seabiscuit: an American Legend**. NY: Ballantine, c2001. Seabiscuit, a world-class athlete on the racetrack, is the center of this fast-moving, riveting true story of not only a horse but of the humans who owned, trained and rode him during a time when all of America was watching. 399 pages. **TA LP** (15 copies)

Hillenbrand, Laura. **Unbroken: A World War II story of survival, resilience, and redemption**. NY: Random House, c2014. Relates the story of a U.S. airman who survived when his bomber crashed into the sea during World War II, spent forty-seven days adrift in the ocean before being rescued by the Japanese Navy, and was held as a prisoner until the end of the war. 406 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Kidder, Tracy. ***Strength in What Remains***. NY: Random House, c2010. Deo arrives in America from Burundi in search of a new life. Having survived a civil war and genocide, plagued by horrific dreams, he lands at JFK airport with two hundred dollars, no English, and no contacts. Deo begins to meet the strangers who will change his life, pointing him eventually in the direction of Columbia University, medical school, and a life devoted to healing. Kidder breaks new ground in telling this unforgettable story as he travels with Deo back over a turbulent life in search of meaning and forgiveness. 284 pages. LP (15 copies)

Kingsolver, Barbara. ***Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life***. NY: Harper Perennial, c2007. The author and her family abandoned the industrial-food pipeline to live a rural life - vowing that, for one year, they would only buy food raised in their own neighborhood, grow it themselves, or learn to live without it. Part memoir, part journalistic investigation, this is an enthralling narrative that will open your eyes in a hundred new ways to an old truth – you are what you eat. 370 pages. (10 copies)

Larson, Erik. ***In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin***. NY: Crown Publishing, c2011. The time is 1933, the place, Berlin, when William E. Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Germany in a year that proved to be a turning point in history. A mild-mannered professor from Chicago, Dodd brings along his wife, son, and flamboyant daughter, Martha. As their first year unfolds and the shadows deepen, the Dodds experience days full of excitement, intrigue, romance - and ultimately, horror, when a climactic spasm of violence and murder reveals Hitler's true character and ruthless ambition. 365 pages. LP (12 copies)

Lopez, Steve. ***The Soloist: A Lost Dream, an Unlikely Friendship, and the Redemptive Power of Music***. NY: Berkley Books, c2008. When Steve Lopez, a reporter for the L.A. Times, saw Nathaniel Ayers playing his heart out on a two-string violin on Los Angeles' skid row, he found it impossible to walk away. More than thirty years earlier, Ayers had been a promising classical bass student at Juilliard. He was ambitious, charming, and one of the few African-Americans at the school - but - he gradually lost his ability to function, as he slid further and further into schizophrenia. Lopez's initial intent is to save Ayers, but he finds that his own life is profoundly changed as well. 286 pages. LP (14 copies)

Luxenberg, Steve. ***Annie's Ghosts: A Journey into a Family Secret***. NY: Hyperion, c2010. The fear of mental illness hits deep into the psyche, and that terror brings about this fascinating book of research into family genealogy, personal history and secrets long held. It all started when Detroit native Steve Luxenberg began to discover some discrepancies in his mother's stories about her family as she neared the end of her life. A complex blend of genealogy research, cultural mores and a long-past Detroit are brought alive. Despite the secrets, Luxenberg's love of his family is clear, and while not all is discovered, much is, and his story becomes a story that belongs to all of us. 2010 Michigan Notable Book Award winner. 391 pages. (14 copies)

Manning, Molly Guptill. ***When Books Went to War: The Stories that Helped Us Win World War II***. NY: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, c2014. Chronicles the joint effort of the U.S. government, the publishing industry, and the nation's librarians to boost troop morale during World War II by shipping more than one hundred million books to the front lines for soldiers to read during what little downtime they had. 191 pages. (15 copies)

Maraniss, David. ***Once in a Great City: A Detroit Story***. NY: Simon & Schuster, c2015. As David Maraniss captures it with power and affection, Detroit summed up America's path to music and prosperity that was already past history. It's 1963 and Detroit is on top of the world. The city's leaders are among the most visionary in America: Grandson of the first Ford; Henry Ford II; influential labor leader Walter Reuther; Motown's founder Berry Gordy; the Reverend C.L. Franklin and his daughter, the amazing Aretha; Governor George Romney, Mormon and Civil Rights advocate; super car salesman Lee Iacocca; Mayor Jerome Cavanagh, a Kennedy acolyte; Police Commissioner George Edwards; Martin Luther King. It was the American auto makers' best year; the revolution in music and politics was underway. Reuther's UAW had helped lift the middle class. The time was full of promise. The auto industry was selling more cars than ever before and inventing the Mustang. Motown was capturing the world with its amazing artists. The progressive labor movement was rooted in Detroit with the UAW. Martin Luther King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech there two months before he made it famous in the Washington march. *Once in a Great City* shows that the shadows of collapse were evident even then. Before the devastating riot. Before the decades of civic corruption and neglect, and white flight. Before people trotted out the grab bag of rust belt infirmities--from harsh weather to high labor costs--and competition from abroad to explain Detroit's collapse, one could see the signs of a city's ruin. Detroit at its peak was threatened by its own design. It was being abandoned by the new world. Yet so much of what Detroit gave America lasts. 375 pages. (10 copies) **NEW**

Millard, Candice. ***The River of Doubt***. NY: Broadway Books, c2005. Following an election defeat in 1912 and looking for high adventure, Theodore Roosevelt, his son Kermit, and Brazil's most famous explorer, Rondon, descended an unmapped tributary of the Amazon River and accomplished a feat that changed the map of the western hemisphere forever. They faced unbelievable hardships, losing canoes and supplies, enduring starvation, Indian attacks, disease, drowning, and murder within their own ranks. 353 pages. (14 copies)

Nguyen, Bich Minh. ***Stealing Buddha's Dinner***. NY; Penguin Books, c2007. After fleeing Vietnam on a boat with her family in 1975, Bich Minh Nguyen ends up in the conservative community of Grand Rapids. "I came of age before ethnic was cool" the author writes in her memoir of growing up as a refugee in the 1980's. She tries desperately to figure out how to be a Michigander and a "real" American. This book has been chosen as The Great Michigan Read, a program launched in 2007 to encourage residents to read a work of literature with the capacity to provide a richer understanding of Michigan's history and shifting sociological landscape. 256 pages. **TA** (12 copies)

Poehler, Amy. ***Yes Please***. NY: HarperCollins, c2014. The actress best known for her work on "Parks and Recreation" and "Saturday Night Live" reveals personal stories and offers her humorous take on such topics as love, friendship, parenthood, and her relationship with Tina Fey. 329 pages. (15 copies)

Powers, William. ***Hamlet's BlackBerry***. NY: Harper, c2010. Part intellectual journey, part memoir, *Hamlet's BlackBerry* sets out to solve what Powers calls the conundrum of connectedness. Our computers and mobile devices do wonderful things for us. But they also impose an enormous burden, making it harder for us to focus, do our best work, and build strong relationships. Powers argues that we need a new way of thinking, an everyday philosophy for life with screens. To find it, he reaches into the past, uncovering a rich trove of ideas that have helped people manage and enjoy their connected lives for thousands of years. 299 pages. (15 copies)

Rehm, Diane. ***Finding My Voice***. Sterling, VA: Capital Books, c1999. Rehm's difficult childhood served as the motivation and basis for this personal memoir. In 1979 she became the host of her own radio program, and in 1995 it was syndicated by NPR where she has hosted a variety of personalities and dignitaries including President Bill Clinton, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Annie Leibovitz, Ted Koppel, and Toni Morrison. This book focuses on her personal story, including her experiences with spasmodic dysphonia, rather than on her place in journalistic history. 241 pages. (15 copies)

Reisen, Harriet. ***Louisa May Alcott: The Woman Behind Little Women***. NY: Picador, c2009. This vivid biography explores Alcott's life through her works, many of which are autobiographical. Unknown to many today, Alcott secretly wrote pulp fiction, harbored radical abolitionist views, and served heroically as a Civil War nurse. Her rags-to-riches tale explores the extraordinary woman behind the American classic *Little Women*. Wall Street Journal's Best 10 Books of the Year. 372 pages. (15 copies)

Sedaris, David. ***Me Talk Pretty One Day***. NY: Back Bay Books, c2001. This collection of stories tells a most unconventional life story. It begins with a North Carolina childhood filled with speech-therapy classes and unwanted guitar lessons taught by a midget. From budding performance artist to "clearly unqualified" writing teacher in Chicago, Sedaris's career leads him to NY and France, where he struggles with the language. 272 pages. **TA LP** (14 copies)

Shetterly, ***Margot Lee. Hidden Figures***. NY: HarperCollins, c2016. An account of the previously unheralded contributions of NASA's African-American women mathematicians to America's space program describes how they were segregated from their white counterparts by Jim Crow laws in spite of their successes. 265 pages. **TA** (15 copies)

Sides, Hampton. ***In the Kingdom of Ice***. NY: Penguin, c2014. With twists and turns worthy of a thriller, *In the Kingdom of Ice* is a spellbinding tale of heroism and determination in the most unforgiving territory on Earth. 410 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Skloot, Rebecca. ***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks***. NY: Random House, c2010. Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor black tobacco farmer whose cells—taken without her knowledge in 1951—became one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, in vitro fertilization, and more. Henrietta's cells have been bought and sold by the billions, yet she remains virtually unknown, and her family can't afford health insurance. 366 pages. **TA LP** (13 copies)

Spitz, Bob. *Dearie: The Remarkable Life of Julia Child*. NY: Random House, c2012. Draws on the iconic culinary figure's personal diaries and letters to present a one-hundredth birthday commemoration that offers insight into her role in shaping women's views and influencing American approaches to cooking. 529 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Taylor, Jill Bolte. *My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey*. NY: Viking, c2006. In 1996, Jill Bolte Taylor, a thirty-seven-year-old Harvard-trained brain scientist experienced a massive stroke in the left hemisphere of her brain. As she observed her mind deteriorate to the point that she could not walk, talk, read, write, or recall any of her life—all within four hours—Taylor alternated between the euphoria of the intuitive and kinesthetic right brain, in which she felt a sense of complete well-being and peace, and the logical, sequential left brain, which recognized she was having a stroke and enabled her to seek help before she was completely lost. It would take her eight years to fully recover. 183 pages. **LP** (14 copies)

Ten Boom, Corrie. *The Hiding Place*. Toronto: Bantam, c1971. This is a true story of a Christian spinster and her sister who, as a result of helping Jews, are sent to a Nazi concentration camp. 272 pages. **TA LP** (14 copies)

Tucker, Neely. *Love in the Driest Season: a Family Memoir*. NY: Three Rivers Press, c2005. After witnessing the devastating consequences of AIDS in Zimbabwe in 1997, foreign correspondent Tucker and his wife volunteer at an orphanage and meet Chipso, the baby girl who will change their lives. Against a background of war, terrorism, disease, and unbearable uncertainty about the future, Chipso's true story emerges as an inspiring testament to the miracle of love and determination. 269 pages. (15 copies).

Wallis, Velma. *Two Old Women*. NY: Harper Collins, c1993. Based on an Athabaskan Indian legend passed along from mother to daughter for many generations on the upper Yukon River in Alaska, this is the tragic and shocking story—with a surprise ending—of two elderly women abandoned by a migrating tribe that faces starvation brought on by unusually harsh Arctic weather and a shortage of fish and game. This story of survival is told with suspense by Velma Wallis, whose subject matter challenges the taboos of her past. Yet, her themes are modern—empowerment of women, the graying of America, Native American ways. 140 pages. (10 copies)

Walls, Jeannette. *The Glass Castle*. NY: Scribner, c2005. A riveting memoir of a resilient, courageous woman who grew up with a brilliant, charismatic father who captured his children's imagination, but who, when intoxicated, was dishonest and destructive, and a mother who was a free spirit who abhorred the idea of domesticity and didn't want the responsibility of parenting. The story of the Walls children is permeated by the intense love of a peculiar, but loyal, family. 304 pages. **LP** (12 copies)

## FICTION TITLES

Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. *Americanah*. NY: Random House, c2013. 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 pages. (15 copies)

Alexie, Sherman. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. NY: Little, Brown, c2007. Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. 230 pages. **TA** (15 copies) **NEW**

Atkinson, Kate. *Case Histories*. NY: Back Bay Books, c2005. Private detective Jackson Brodie—ex-cop, ex-husband and weekend dad—takes on three cases involving past crimes that occurred in and around London. The inevitable results of family dysfunction with random fate weaves these three stories together where the dead bodies turn out to be less important than those left behind. 310 pages. (12 copies)

Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid's Tale*. NY: Random House, c1986. Offred is a Handmaid in the Republic of Gilead. She may leave the home of the Commander and his wife once a day to walk to food markets whose signs are now pictures instead of words because women are no longer allowed to read. She must lie on her back once a month and pray that the Commander makes her pregnant, because in an age of declining births, Offred and the other Handmaids are valued only if their ovaries are viable. Offred can remember the years before, when she lived and made love with her husband, Luke; when she played with and protected her daughter; when she had a job, money of her own, and access to knowledge. But all of that is gone now... 295 pages. **TA** (15 copies) **NEW**

Austen, Jane. ***Pride and Prejudice***. NY: Modern Library, c2000. Originally published in 1813, one of the most popular novels of all time is a witty comedy of manners between the proud Mr. Darcy and the prejudiced Elizabeth Bennet in eighteenth-century England. 281 pages. **TA LP** (15 copies)

Backman, Fredrik. ***A Man Called Ove***. NY: Simon & Schuster, c2014. A curmudgeon hides a terrible personal loss beneath a cranky and short-tempered exterior while clashing with new neighbors, a boisterous family whose chattiness and habits lead to unexpected friendship. 337 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Belfoure, Charles. ***The Paris Architect***. Naperville, IL: Sourcebooks Landmark, c2013. In 1942 Paris, gifted architect Lucien Bernard accepts a commission that will bring him a great deal of money - and maybe get him killed. But if he's clever enough, he'll avoid any trouble. All he has to do is design a secret hiding place for a wealthy Jewish man, a space so invisible that even the most determined German officer won't find it. He sorely needs the money, and outwitting the Nazis who have occupied his beloved city is a challenge he can't resist. 367 pages. (15 copies)

Benioff, David. ***City of Thieves***. NY: Penguin, c2008. Set during the German army's siege of Leningrad during World War II, this novel features a snappy plot, a buoyant friendship, a quirky courtship, an assortment of menacing bad guys, and a grim but irrepressible sense of humor. The author blends tense adventure, a bittersweet coming-of-age, and a touching buddy narrative to create a spell binding story. 258 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Bohjalian, Chris. ***Before You Know Kindness***. NY: Vintage, 2004. On a balmy July night in New Hampshire a shot rings out in a garden, and a man falls to the ground, terribly wounded. The wounded man is Spencer McCullough, the shot that hit him was fired—accidentally?—by his adolescent daughter Charlotte. With this shattering moment of violence, Chris Bohjalian launches the best kind of literate page-turner: suspenseful, wryly funny, and humane. 422 pages **LP** (15 copies)

Brooks, Geraldine. ***People of the Book***. NY: Penguin, c2008. With a blend of history and mystery, Australian rare-book expert Hanna Heath discovers a series of tiny artifacts in the historically significant and priceless Sarajevo Haggadah, a beautifully illuminated Hebrew manuscript created in fifteenth-century Spain. 372 pages. **LP** (14 copies)

Brown, Sandra. ***Lethal: a Novel***. NY: Grand Central, c2011. Honor Gillette rushes to help a man who turns out to be accused of murdering seven people. Coburn claims that her beloved late husband possessed something extremely valuable that places Honor and her daughter in grave danger. Coburn is there to retrieve it -- at any cost. From FBI offices in Washington, D.C., to a rundown shrimp boat in coastal Louisiana, Coburn and Honor run for their lives from the very people sworn to protect them, and unravel a web of corruption and depravity. 480 pages. The 2011 Everyone's Reading Choice. **LP** (14 copies)

Brunt, Carol Rifka. ***Tell the Wolves I'm Home***. NY: Dial Press, c2012. It is 1987, and only one person has ever truly understood fourteen-year-old June Elbus -- her uncle, the renowned painter Finn Weiss. Shy at school and distant from her older sister, June can only be herself in Finn's company; he is her godfather, confidant, and best friend. So when he dies, far too young, of a mysterious illness her mother can barely speak about, June's world is turned upside down. But Finn's death brings a surprise acquaintance into June's life -- someone who will help her to heal, and to question what she thinks she knows about Finn, her family, and even her own heart. 355 pages. (15 copies)

Cameron, W. Bruce. ***A Dog's Purpose***. NY: Forge, c2010. This is the story of one dog's search for his purpose over the course of several lives, touching on the universal quest for an answer to life's most basic question: Why are we here? Reborn as a rambunctious golden haired puppy after a tragically short life as a stray mutt, Bailey's search for his new life's meaning leads him into the loving arms of 8 year old Ethan. During their adventures Bailey joyously discovers how to be a good dog. But this life as a beloved family pet is not the end of Bailey's journey. Reborn as a puppy yet again, Bailey wonders, will he ever find his purpose? Heartwarming, insightful, and often laugh out loud funny, this book is not only the emotional and hilarious story of a dog's many lives, but also a dog's eye commentary on human relationships and the unbreakable bonds between man and man's best friend. This story teaches us that love never dies, that our true friends are always with us, and that every creature on earth is born with a purpose. 319 pages. **TA** (15 copies) **NEW**

Chamberlain, Diane. ***Necessary Lies***. NY: St. Martin's Griffin, c2013. Caring for her family on their mid-twentieth century tobacco farm after the loss of her parents, fifteen-year-old Ivy connects with Grace County social worker Jane

Forrester, who strains her personal and professional relationships with her advocacy of Ivy's family. 335 pages. LP (15 copies)

Chaon, Dan. ***Await Your Reply***. NY: Ballantine Books, c2010. The lives of three strangers interconnect in unforeseen ways. Miles Cheshire can't stop searching for his troubled twin brother, Hayden, who has been missing for ten years. A few days after graduating from high school, Lucy Lattimore sneaks away from the small town of Pompey, Ohio, with her charismatic former history teacher. Ryan Schuyler, who has recently learned some shocking news, walks off the Northwestern University campus, hops on a bus, and breaks loose from his existence, which suddenly seems abstract and tenuous. This is an unforgettable novel. 320 pages. (15 copies)

Cisneros, Sandra. ***The House on Mango Street***. NY: Vintage, c1984. Acclaimed by critics, beloved by readers of all ages, taught everywhere from inner-city grade schools to universities across the country, and translated all over the world, *The House on Mango Street* is the remarkable story of Esperanza Cordero. Told in a series of vignettes – sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes deeply joyous – it is the story of a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago, inventing for herself who and what she will become. Few other books in our time have touched so many readers. 110 pages. TA (12 copies)

Coelho, Paul. ***The Alchemist***. NY: HarperCollins, c1993. Paulo Coelho's enchanting novel has inspired a devoted following around the world. This story, dazzling in its powerful simplicity and inspiring wisdom, is about an Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago who travels from his homeland in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of a treasure buried in the Pyramids. Along the way he meets a Gypsy woman, a man who calls himself king, and an alchemist, all of whom point Santiago in the direction of his quest. No one knows what the treasure is, or if Santiago will be able to surmount the obstacles along the way. But what starts out as a journey to find worldly goods turns into a discovery of the treasure found within. Lush, evocative, and deeply humane, the story of Santiago is an eternal testament to the transforming power of our dreams and the importance of listening to our hearts. 167 pages. TA (9 copies) **NEW**

Diffenbaugh, Vanessa. ***The Language of Flowers***. NY: Ballantine Books, c2011. Discovering the symbolic meanings of flowers while languishing in the foster-care system, eighteen-year-old Victoria is hired by a florist when her talent for helping others is discovered, a situation that leads her to confront a painful secret from her past. 334 pages. TA LP (15 copies)

Doerr, Anthony. ***All the Light We Cannot See***. NY: Scribner, c2014. Marie Laure lives with her father in Paris within walking distance of the Museum of Natural History where he works as the master of the locks (there are thousands of locks in the museum). When she is six, she goes blind, and her father builds her a model of their neighborhood so she can memorize it with her fingers and navigate the real streets with her feet and cane. In another world in Germany, an orphan boy, Werner, grows up with his younger sister, Jutta, both enchanted by a crude radio Werner finds. He becomes a master at building and fixing radios, a talent that wins him a place at an elite and brutal military academy and, ultimately, makes him a highly specialized tracker of the Resistance. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, Doerr illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. 530 pages. LP (2 kits; 8 copies each)

Dunn, Mark. ***Ella Minnow Pea: A Novel in Letters***. NY: Anchor Books, c2001. Ella Minnow Pea is happily living on the island of Nollop when life changes forever. She finds herself acting to save her friends, family and fellow citizens from the encroaching totalitarianism of the island's Council which has banned the use of certain letters of the alphabet. The result is hilarious and moving, a story for lovers of language everywhere. 224 pages. TA (14 copies)

Eugenides, Jeffrey. ***Middlesex***. NY: Picador, c2002. Calliope's friendship with a classmate and her sense of identity are compromised by the adolescent discovery that she is a hermaphrodite, a situation with roots in her grandparents' desperate struggle for survival in the 1920s. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. 529 pages. (15 copies)

Fergus, Jim. ***One Thousand White Women***. NY: St. Martins, c1998. May Dodd, under the auspices of the U.S. government, travels to the western prairie in 1875 to intermarry among the Cheyenne Indians. The covert and controversial "Brides for Indians" program, launched by the administration of Grant, is intended to help assimilate the Indians into the white man's world. Toward that end May and her friends embark upon the adventure of their lifetime. 320 pages. (10 copies)

Flynn, Gillian. **Sharp Objects**. NY: Broadway Books, c2006. Returning to her hometown after an eight-year absence to investigate the murders of two girls, reporter Camille Preaker is reunited with her neurotic mother and enigmatic, thirteen-year-old half-sister as she works to uncover the truth about the killings. 252 pages. (15 copies) **NEW**

Fowler, Karen Joy. **We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves**. NY: Penguin, c2013. Coming of age in middle America, eighteen-year-old Rosemary evaluates how her entire youth was defined by the presence and forced removal of an endearing chimpanzee who was secretly regarded as a family member and who Rosemary loved as a sister. 308 pages. (15 copies)

Genova, Lisa. **Inside the O'Briens**. NY: Gallery Books, c2015. "From award-winning, New York Times bestselling author and neuroscientist Lisa Genova comes a powerful new novel that does for Huntington's Disease what her debut *Still Alice* did for Alzheimer's. Joe O'Brien is a forty-four-year-old police officer from the Irish Catholic neighborhood of Charlestown, Massachusetts. A devoted husband, proud father of four children in their twenties, and respected officer, Joe begins experiencing bouts of disorganized thinking, uncharacteristic temper outbursts, and strange, involuntary movements. He initially attributes these episodes to the stress of his job, but as these symptoms worsen, he agrees to see a neurologist and is handed a diagnosis that will change his and his family's lives forever: Huntington's Disease. Huntington's is a lethal neurodegenerative disease with no treatment and no cure. Each of Joe's four children has a 50 percent chance of inheriting their father's disease, and a simple blood test can reveal their genetic fate. While watching her potential future in her father's escalating symptoms, twenty-one-year-old daughter Katie struggles with the questions this test imposes on her young adult life. Does she want to know? What if she's gene positive? Can she live with the constant anxiety of not knowing? As Joe's symptoms worsen and he's eventually stripped of his badge and more, Joe struggles to maintain hope and a sense of purpose, while Katie and her siblings must find the courage to either live a life "at risk" or learn their fate. Praised for writing that "explores the resilience of the human spirit" (The San Francisco Chronicle), Lisa Genova has once again delivered a novel as powerful and unforgettable as the human insights at its core." 335 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Glass, Julia. **The Widower's Tale**. New York: Anchor Books, c2010. Seventy-year-old Percy Darling is settling happily into retirement, but his routines are disrupted when he is persuaded to let a locally beloved preschool take over his barn. As Percy sees his rural refuge overrun by children, parents, and teachers, he must reexamine the solitary life he has made in the three decades since the sudden death of his wife. With equal parts affection and humor, Julia Glass spins a captivating tale about a man who can no longer remain aloof from his community, his two grown daughters, or—to his great shock—the precarious joy of falling in love. 466 pages. **LP** (13 copies)

Green, John. **The Fault in Our Stars**. NY: Penguin, c2012. Sixteen-year-old Hazel, a stage IV thyroid cancer patient, has accepted her terminal diagnosis until a chance meeting with a boy at cancer support group forces her to reexamine her perspective on love, loss, and life. 313 pages. **TA** (15 copies)

Grissom, Kathleen. **Glory Over Everything**. NY: Touchstone, c2016. The author of the New York Times bestseller and beloved book club favorite *The Kitchen House* continues the story of Jamie Pyke, son of both a slave and master of Tall Oakes, whose deadly secret compels him to take a treacherous journey through the Underground Railroad. Published in 2010, *The Kitchen House* became a grassroots bestseller. Fans connected so deeply to the book's characters that the author, Kathleen Grissom, found herself being asked over and over "what happens next?" The wait is finally over. This new, stand-alone novel opens in 1830, and Jamie, who fled from the Virginian plantation he once called home, is passing in Philadelphia society as a wealthy white silversmith. After many years of striving, Jamie has achieved acclaim and security, only to discover that his aristocratic lover Caroline is pregnant. Before he can reveal his real identity to her, he learns that his beloved servant Pan has been captured and sold into slavery in the South. Pan's father, to whom Jamie owes a great debt, pleads for Jamie's help, and Jamie agrees, knowing the journey will take him perilously close to Tall Oakes and the ruthless slave hunter who is still searching for him. Meanwhile, Caroline's father learns and exposes Jamie's secret, and Jamie loses his home, his business, and finally Caroline. Heartbroken and with nothing to lose, Jamie embarks on a trip to a North Carolina plantation where Pan is being held with a former Tall Oakes slave named Sukey, who is intent on getting Pan to the Underground Railroad. Soon the three of them are running through the Great Dismal Swamp, the notoriously deadly hiding place for escaped slaves. Though they have help from those in the Underground Railroad, not all of them will make it out alive. 365 pages. (15 copies) **NEW**

Grissom, Kathleen. **The Kitchen House**. NY: Touchstone, c2010. Orphaned while onboard ship from Ireland, seven-year-old Lavinia arrives on the steps of a tobacco plantation where she is to live and work with the slaves of the kitchen house. Under the care of Belle, Lavinia becomes deeply bonded to her adopted family, though she is set apart from them by her white skin. Eventually, Lavinia is accepted into the world of the big house but she finds herself

perilously straddling two very different worlds. When she is forced to make a choice, loyalties are brought into question, and lives are put at risk. 284 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Gruen, Sara. ***Water for Elephants***. NY: Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, c2006. Jacob Jankowski, now in his 90s, remembers the time when he, almost by accident, joined Benzini Brothers traveling circus during the Great Depression. In this thrilling, romantic story you'll meet a big top's worth of vivid characters and learn what animals can teach people about love. 350 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Haddon, Mark. ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time***. NY: Random House, c2003. Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the color yellow. This improbable story of Christopher's quest to investigate the suspicious death of a neighborhood dog makes for one of the most captivating, unusual, and widely heralded novels in recent years. 226 pages. (14 copies)

Hannah, Kristin. ***The Nightingale***. NY: St. Martin's Griffin, c2015. Despite their differences, sisters Vianne and Isabelle have always been close. Younger, bolder Isabelle lives in Paris while Vianne is content with life in the French countryside with her husband Antoine and their daughter. But when the Second World War strikes, Antoine is sent off to fight and Vianne finds herself isolated so Isabelle is sent by their father to help her. As the war progresses, the sisters' relationship and strength are tested. With life changing in unbelievably horrific ways, Vianne and Isabelle will find themselves facing frightening situations and responding in ways they never thought possible as bravery and resistance take different forms in each of their actions. 564 pages. (2 kits:7 copies each)

Harbach, Chad. ***The Art of Fielding***. NY: Back Bay Books, c2012. At Westish College, a small school on the shore of Lake Michigan, baseball star Henry Skrimshander seems destined for big-league stardom. But when he launches a routine throw that goes disastrously off course, he inadvertently changes the lives of five people, including the college president, a gay teammate, and the president's daughter. 512 pages. **LP** (10 copies)

Hawkins, Paula. ***The Girl on the Train***. NY: Penguin, c2015. Rachel takes the same commuter train every morning. Every day she rattles down the track, flashes past a stretch of cozy suburban homes, and stops at the signal that allows her to daily watch the same couple breakfasting on their deck. She's even started to feel like she knows them ... Their life--as she sees it--is perfect. Not unlike the life she recently lost. And then she sees something shocking. It's only a minute until the train moves on, but it's enough. Now everything's changed. Unable to keep it to herself, Rachel offers what she knows to the police, and becomes inextricably entwined in what happens next, as well as in the lives of everyone involved. Has she done more harm than good? 323 pages. (15 copies) **NEW**

Hoffman, Alice. ***The Marriage of Opposites***. NY: Simon & Schuster, c2015. From the New York Times bestselling author of *The Dovekeepers* and *The Museum of Extraordinary Things*: a forbidden love story set on the tropical island of St. Thomas about the extraordinary woman who gave birth to painter Camille Pissarro the Father of Impressionism. 365 pages. (15 copies)

Holman, Sheri. ***The Dress Lodger***. NY: Ballantine, c2000. A potter's assistant by day and a dress lodger by night, Gustine sells herself for necessity in a rented gown, scrimping to feed her only love, her baby boy. Dr. Henry Chiver and Gustine, two lost souls, become irrevocably linked as each crosses lines between rich and destitute, decorum and abandon, damnation and salvation. 320 pages. **LP** (15 copies) *Includes a reading group guide.*

Horan, Nancy. ***Loving Frank***. NY: Ballantine, c2007. Here is a meaty, well researched novel – not a biography – with a dose of obscure history and a scent of intrigue. This is the remarkable story of the long lived love affair between American icon, Frank Lloyd Wright and his 'soul mate' Mamah Cheney – a story that shocked Chicago society and changed their lives forever. The characters brim with life and a reading vitality and the attention to period detail makes this a compelling novel indeed. 377 pages. **LP** (14 copies)

Horan, Nancy. ***Under the Wide and Starry Sky***. NY: Ballantine, c2014 Under the Wide and Starry Sky chronicles the unconventional love affair of Scottish literary giant Robert Louis Stevenson, author of classics including *Treasure Island* and *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and American divorcee Fanny Van de Grift Osbourne. They meet in rural France in 1875, when Fanny, having run away from her philandering husband back in California, takes refuge there with her children. Stevenson too is escaping from his life, running from family pressure to become a lawyer. And so begins a turbulent love affair that will last two decades and span the world. 466 pages. **LP** (15 copies)



Hornby, Nick. **How to Be Good**. NY: Riverhead Books, c2001. Katie Carr, doctor, wife and mother, is deciding whether to stay with her bitter, sarcastic husband when he is suddenly transformed by faith healer DJ GoodNews into an idealistic do-gooder. Hornby's British-style humor carries this story of a family as it wrestles with the question of how to be a good person in a modern world. 320 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Hunt, Laird, **Neverhome**. NY: Little, Brown and Company, c2014. Follows the experiences of Ash Thompson, who becomes a folk hero after she abandons her farmer husband and disguises herself as a man to go fight for the South during the Civil War. 243 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Hustvedt, Siri. **The Blazing World**. NY: Simon & Schuster, c2014. When Professor Hess stumbles across an unusual letter to the editor in an art journal, he is surprised to have known so little about the brilliant and mysterious artist it describes, the late Harriet Burden. Intrigued by her story, and by the explosive scandal surrounding her legacy, he begins to interview those who knew her, hoping to separate fact from fiction, only to find himself tumbling down a rabbit's hole of personal and psychological intrigue. 357 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Ishiguro, Kazuo. **Never Let Me Go**. NY: Vintage, c2006. Kathy, Tommy and Ruth are students at Hailsham, a very exclusive, very strange English private school. They are treated well in every respect, but as they grow older they come to realize that there is a secret that haunts their lives. Once they learn the secret it is already far too late for them to save themselves. 304 pages. **LP** (12 copies)

Ivey, Eowyn. **The Snow Child**. NY: Hachette, c2012. Alaska, 1920: a brutal place to homestead, and especially tough for recent arrivals Jack and Mabel. Childless, they are drifting apart. In a moment of levity during the season's first snowfall, they build a child out of snow. The next morning the snow child is gone--but they glimpse a young, blonde-haired girl running through the trees. This little girl, who calls herself Faina, seems to be a child of the woods. As Jack and Mabel struggle to understand this child who could have stepped from the pages of a fairy tale, they come to love her as their own daughter. But in this beautiful, violent place things are rarely as they appear, and what they eventually learn about Faina will transform all of them. 390 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Jordan, Hillary. **Mudbound**. Chapel Hill, NC: Algonquin, c2009. Two families are caught up in the blind hatred of a small Southern town and prejudice takes many forms – some subtle, some ruthless. As the men and women of each family tell their version of events, we are drawn into their lives. They become players in a tragedy on the grandest scale and find redemption where they least expect it. 324 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Kallos, Stephanie. **Broken for You**. NY: Grove Press, c2004. This is a novel of broken hearts and broken promises – and how we put things back together. Well-developed characters who were once strangers create a beautiful mosaic that will remind you of why some things must break before they can become part of something truly beautiful. A beautiful novel of repair and redemption. 371 pages. **LP** (13 copies)

Kent, Hannah. **Burial Rites**. NY: Little Brown & Co., c2013. Set against Iceland's stark landscape, Hannah Kent brings to vivid life the story of Agnes, who, charged with the brutal murder of her former master, is sent to an isolated farm to await execution. Horrified at the prospect of housing a convicted murderer, the family at first avoids Agnes. Only Tóti, a priest Agnes has mysteriously chosen to be her spiritual guardian, seeks to understand her. But as Agnes's death looms, the farmer's wife and their daughters learn there is another side to the sensational story they've heard. 311 pages. (15 copies)

Kidd, Sue Monk. **The Invention of Wings**. NY: Viking, c2014. The story follows Hetty "Handful" Grimke, a Charleston slave, and Sarah, the daughter of the wealthy Grimke family. The novel begins on Sarah's eleventh birthday, when she is given ownership over Handful, who is to be her handmaid. "The Invention of Wings" follows the next thirty-five years of their lives. Inspired in part by the historical figure of Sarah Grimke (a feminist, suffragist and, importantly, an abolitionist), Kidd allows herself to go beyond the record to flesh out the inner lives of all the characters, both real and imagined. 359 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

King, Laurie. **The Beekeepers Apprentice**. NY: St. Martin's Press, c1994. Chosen for the 2008 community wide Everyone's Reading program sponsored by public libraries in Oakland and Wayne Counties, this is the first book of the Mary Russell-Sherlock Holmes mysteries. Full of brilliant deductions, disguises, and dangers it is original and entertaining from beginning to end. 346 pages. **TA** (13 copies)

King, Lily. **Euphoria**. NY: Grove Press, c2014. Frustrated by his research efforts and depressed over the death of his brothers, Andre Banson runs into two fellow anthropologists, a married couple, in 1930s New Guinea and begins a tumultuous relationship with them. 257 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

King, Stephen. **Mr. Mercedes**. NY: Simon & Schuster, c2014. In a mega-stakes, high-suspense race against time, three of the most unlikely and winning heroes Stephen King has ever created try to stop a lone killer from blowing up thousands. In the frigid pre-dawn hours, in a distressed Midwestern city, hundreds of desperate unemployed folks are lined up for a spot at a job fair. Without warning, a lone driver plows through the crowd in a stolen Mercedes, running over the innocent, backing up, and charging again. Eight people are killed; fifteen are wounded. The killer escapes. In another part of town, months later, a retired cop named Bill Hodges is still haunted by the unsolved crime. When he gets a crazed letter from someone who self-identifies as the "perk" and threatens an even more diabolical attack, Hodges wakes up from his depressed and vacant retirement, hell-bent on preventing another tragedy. Brady Hartfield lives with his alcoholic mother in the house where he was born. He loved the feel of death under the wheels of the Mercedes, and he wants that rush again. Only Bill Hodges, with a couple of highly unlikely allies, can apprehend the killer before he strikes again. And they have no time to lose, because Brady's next mission, if it succeeds, will kill or maim thousands. Mr. Mercedes is a war between good and evil, from the master of suspense whose insight into the mind of this obsessed, insane killer is chilling and unforgettable. 436 page. (14 copies) **NEW**

Kline, Christina Baker. **Orphan Train**. NY: HarperCollins, c2013. Close to aging out of the foster care system, Molly Ayer takes a position helping an elderly woman named Vivian and discovers that they are more alike than different as she helps Vivian solve a mystery from her past. 273 pages. (15 copies)

Koch, Herman. **The Dinner**. NY: Hogarth, c2013. A summer's evening in Amsterdam and two couples meet at a fashionable restaurant. Between mouthfuls of food and over the delicate scraping of cutlery, the conversation remains a gentle **hum** of politeness - the banality of work, the triviality of holidays. But the empty words hide a terrible conflict and, with every forced smile and every new course, the knives are being sharpened... Each couple has a fifteen-year-old son. Together, the boys have committed a horrifying act, caught on camera, and their grainy images have been beamed into living rooms across the nation; despite a police manhunt, the boys remain unidentified - by everyone except their parents. As the dinner reaches its culinary climax, the conversation finally touches on their children and, as civility and friendship disintegrate, each couple shows just how far they are prepared to go to protect those they love. 292 pages. (15 copies)

Lahiri, Jhumpa. **The Lowland**. NY: Random House, c2013. Brothers Subhash and Udayan Mitra pursue vastly different lives--Udayan in rebellion-torn Calcutta, Subhash in a quiet corner of America--until a shattering tragedy compels Subhash to return to India, where he endeavors to heal family wounds. 415 pages. (15 copies)

Landay, William. **Defending Jacob**. NY: Bantam, c2012. When his 14-year-old son is charged with the murder of a fellow student, assistant district attorney Andy Barber is torn between loyalty and justice as facts come to light that lead him to question how well he knows his own son. 421 pages. (15 copies)

Landvik, Lorna. **Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons**. NY: Ballantine Books, c2003. Convinced that there is nothing good coffee, great desserts, and fits of laughter can't fix, five women come together to form an "unofficial" book club they call the AWEB – Angry Wives Eating Bon Bons. Over a period of forty years their friendship endures children, grandchildren new careers, bold beginnings and second chances as they learn the power of forgiveness, understanding, and the perfectly timed giggle. 432 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Lee, Harper. **Go Set a Watchman**. NY: HarperCollins, c2015. Twenty years after the trial of Tom Robinson, Scout returns home to Maycomb to visit her father and struggles with personal and political issues as her small Alabama town adjusts to the turbulent events beginning to transform the United States in the mid-1950s. 278 pages. (8 copies)

Lee, Harper. **To Kill a Mockingbird**. NY: Grand Central Publishing, c1960. The unforgettable novel of a childhood in a sleepy Southern town and the crisis of conscience that rocked it, *To Kill a Mockingbird* became both an instant bestseller and a critical success when it was first published in 1960. It went on to win the Pulitzer Prize in 1961 and today is regarded as a masterpiece of American literature. 376 pages. **TA LP** (13 copies)

Lee, Janice Y. K. **The Piano Teacher**. NY: Penguin Books, c2009. Set in war-torn Hong Kong in 1942, Englishman Will Truesdale falls headlong into a passionate relationship with Trudy Liang, a beautiful Eurasian socialite. But their affair is soon threatened by the invasion of the Japanese as World War II overwhelms their part of the world. Ten years

later, Claire Pendleton comes to Hong Kong to work as a piano teacher and also begins a fateful affair. 326 pages LP (15 copies)

Lipman, Elinor. ***The Inn at Lake Devine***. NY: Vintage, c1998. It's 1962 and all across America barriers are collapsing. When Natalie Marx's mother is refused summer accommodations in Vermont because she is Jewish, Natalie is determined to conquer this last bastion of genteel anti-Semitism. As Natalie tries to enter the world that has excluded her, this novel becomes a delightful and provocative romantic comedy full of sparkling social mischief. 253 pages. (13 copies)

Lockhart, E. ***We Were Liars***. NY: Random House, c2014. Spending the summers on her family's private island off the coast of Massachusetts with her cousins and a special boy named Gat, teenaged Cadence struggles to remember what happened during her fifteenth summer. 225 pages. TA (15 copies)

Macdonald, Helen. ***H is for Hawk***. NY: Grove Press, c2014. Recounts how the author, an experienced falconer grieving the sudden death of her father, endeavored to train for the first time a dangerous goshawk predator as part of her personal recovery. 283 pages. LP (15 copies) **NEW**

Mandel, Emily St. John. ***Station Eleven***. NY: Vintage, c2014. An audacious, darkly glittering novel about art, fame, and ambition set in the eerie days of civilization's collapse, from the author of three highly acclaimed previous novels. One snowy night a famous Hollywood actor slumps over and dies onstage during a production of King Lear. Hours later, the world as we know it begins to dissolve. Moving back and forth in time—from the actor's early days as a film star to fifteen years in the future, when a theater troupe known as the Traveling Symphony roams the wasteland of what remains—this suspenseful, elegiac, spellbinding novel charts the strange twists of fate that connect five people: the actor, the man who tried to save him, the actor's first wife, his oldest friend, and a young actress with the Traveling Symphony, caught in the crosshairs of a dangerous self-proclaimed prophet. Sometimes terrifying, sometimes tender, *Station Eleven* tells a story about the relationships that sustain us, the ephemeral nature of fame, and the beauty of the world as we know it. 333 pages. LP (15 copies)

Martin, Lee. ***The Bright Forever***. NY: Three Rivers Press, c2005. On an evening like any other, nine-year-old Katie Mackey, daughter of the most affluent family in a small town on the plains of Indiana, sets out on her bicycle to return some library books. This simple act is at the heart of this suspenseful, deeply affecting novel about a girl that goes missing and the choices people make that change their lives forever. 275 pages. LP (15 copies)

McCall Smith, Alexander. ***The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency***. NY: Random House, c1998. In contemporary Botswana, sleuth Precious Ramotswa decides to go against tradition and start her own business—a detective agency. Soon she is in the thick of several perplexing cases. 235 pages. (12 copies)

McCann, Colum. ***Let The Great World Spin***. NY: Random House, c2009. Set in NY in 1974 when the Twin Towers were under construction and Philippe Petit walked a tightrope between them, here is a big hearted story of a group of unrelated people whose life was changed forever on that day. This is a wonderfully written novel grand in its scope and close in its observation of human longings and desires. Winner of the 2009 National Book Award. 349 pages. LP (14 copies)

McCracken, Elizabeth. ***The Giant's House***. NY: Perennial, c1996. It is 1950 and spinster librarian Peggy Cort's life is changed forever when she falls in love with a younger man suffering from gigantism. Both funny and sad, this is a romance which ends with a major surprise. 290 pages. (15 copies)

McEwan, Ian. ***Atonement***. NY: Anchor Books, c2001. One day in 1935 Briony Tallis witnesses the flirtation between her older sister and the son of a servant. But her incomplete grasp of adult motives and her young imagination brings about a crime that changes all of their lives and whose repercussions follow them through World War II and through the end of the twentieth century. Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award. 368 pages. LP (15 copies).

McKeon, Darragh. ***All That Is Solid Melts into Air***. NY: Harper, c2014. In the wake of the Chernobyl disaster the Soviet Union begins to collapse changing forever the lives of a nine-year old child prodigy, his aunt, a leading surgeon, and a teenage boy in a rural village. 418 pages. (15 copies)

McLain, Paula. ***Circling the Sun***. NY: Ballantine, c2015. Paula McLain, author of the phenomenal bestseller *The Paris Wife*, now returns with her keenly anticipated new novel, transporting readers to colonial Kenya in the 1920s. *Circling*

the Sun brings to life a fearless and captivating woman--Beryl Markham, a record-setting aviator caught up in a passionate love triangle with safari hunter Denys Finch Hatton and Karen Blixen, author of the classic memoir *Out of Africa*. Set against the majestic landscape of early-twentieth-century Africa, McLain's powerful tale reveals the extraordinary adventures of a woman before her time, the exhilaration of freedom and its cost, and the tenacity of the human spirit. 355 pages. (15 copies)

McLain, Paula. ***The Paris Wife***. NY: Ballantine Books, c2011. Chicago, 1920: Hadley Richardson is a quiet twenty-eight-year-old who has all but given up on love and happiness—until she meets Ernest Hemingway. Following a whirlwind courtship and wedding, the pair set sail for Paris, where they become the golden couple in a lively and volatile group—the fabled “Lost Generation”—that includes Gertrude Stein, Ezra Pound, and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Though deeply in love, the Hemingways are ill prepared for the hard-drinking, fast-living, and free-loving life of Jazz Age Paris. 314 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Meissner, Susan. ***A Fall of Marigolds***. NY: Penguin, c2014. September 1911. On Ellis Island in New York Harbor, nurse Clara Wood cannot face returning to Manhattan, where the man she loved fell to his death in the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire. Then, while caring for a fevered immigrant whose own loss mirrors hers, she becomes intrigued by a name embroidered onto the scarf he carries...and finds herself caught in a dilemma that compels her to confront the truth about the assumptions she's made. Will what she learns devastate her or free her? September 2011. On Manhattan's Upper West Side, widow Taryn Michaels has convinced herself that she is living fully, working in a charming specialty fabric store and raising her daughter alone. Then a long-lost photograph appears in a national magazine, and she is forced to relive the terrible day her husband died in the collapse of the World Trade Towers...the same day a stranger reached out and saved her. Will a chance reconnection and a century-old scarf open Taryn's eyes to the larger forces at work in her life? 366 pages. (15 copies)

Meltzer, Brad. ***The Inner Circle***. NY: Grand Central, c2011. After an archivist goes against security protocol to show an ex-crush the president's private room at the National Archives, the two stumble upon a dictionary once owned by George Washington, and are soon entangled in a web of conspiracy and murder. 519 pages. (15 copies)

Moore, Edward Kelsey. ***The Supremes at Earl's All-You-Can-Eat***. NY: Random House, c2013. Odette, Clarice, and Barbara Jean meet regularly at the first diner owned by black proprietors in their Indiana city and are watched throughout the years by a big-hearted man who observes their struggles with school, marriage, and parenthood. 369 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Morgenstern, Erin. ***The Night Circus***. NY: Anchor Books, c2011. The circus arrives without warning. No announcements precede it. It is simply there, when yesterday it was not. It is called *Le Cirque des Rêves*, and it is only open at night. A fierce competition is underway: a duel between two young magicians, Celia and Marco, who have been trained since childhood expressly for this purpose by their mercurial instructors. Unbeknownst to them both, this is a game in which only one can be left standing. 512 pages. **TA LP** (15 copies)

Moriarty, Laura. ***The Chaperone***. NY: Riverhead Books, c2012. A novel about the friendship between an adolescent, pre-movie-star Louise Brooks, and the 36-year-old woman who chaperones her to New York City for a summer, in 1922, and how it changes both their lives. 371 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Moriarty, Liane. ***Big Little Lies***. NY: Berkley Books, c2014. Follows three mothers, each at a crossroads, and their potential involvement in a riot at a school trivia night that leaves one parent dead in what appears to be a tragic accident, but which evidence shows might have been premeditated. 486 pages. (15 copies)

Moyes, Jojo. ***Me Before You***. NY: Penguin Group, c2012. They had nothing in common until love gave them everything to lose. Louisa Clark is an ordinary girl living an exceedingly ordinary life--steady boyfriend, close family. She takes a badly needed job working for ex-Master of the Universe Will Traynor, who is wheelchair bound after a motorcycle accident. Will has always lived a huge life--big deals, extreme sports, worldwide travel--and now he's pretty sure he cannot live the way he is. Will is acerbic, moody, bossy—but Lou refuses to treat him with kid gloves, and soon his happiness means more to her than she expected. When she learns that Will has shocking plans of his own, she sets out to show him that life is still worth living. 369 pages. (15 copies)

Munro, Alice. ***Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage***. NY: Knopf, c2001. In nine stories that make up her tenth collection, Munro achieves new heights, creating narratives that loop and swerve like memory, and conjuring up characters as thorny and contradictory as people we know ourselves. A tough-minded housekeeper jettisons the

habits of a lifetime because of a teenager's practical joke. A college student visiting her brassy, unconventional aunt stumbles on an astonishing secret and its meaning in her own life. An incorrigible philanderer responds with unexpected grace to his wife's nursing-home romance. The Nobel Prize in Literature 2013 was awarded to Alice Munro "*master of the contemporary short story*". 232 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Murakami, Haruki. ***Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage***. NY: Vintage, c2014. Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage centers on a devastating emotional betrayal and its consequences. Tsukuru Tazaki belongs to a tight-knit group of five friends in high school—three boys and two girls who form a perfect circle they imagine will stay together forever. But when Tsukuru returns home from college in Tokyo, he finds himself inexplicably rebuffed by the group. Something has changed, but nobody, not even his closest friends, will tell him what. 314 pages. (15 copies) **NEW**

Ng, Celeste. ***Everything I Never Told You***. NY: Penguin, c2014. Lydia is dead. But they don't know this yet. So begins the story of this exquisite debut novel, about a Chinese American family living in 1970s small-town Ohio. Lydia is the favorite child of Marilyn and James Lee; their middle daughter, a girl who inherited her mother's bright blue eyes and her father's jet-black hair. Her parents are determined that Lydia will fulfill the dreams they were unable to pursue--in Marilyn's case that her daughter become a doctor rather than a homemaker, in James's case that Lydia be popular at school, a girl with a busy social life and the center of every party. When Lydia's body is found in the local lake, the delicate balancing act that has been keeping the Lee family together tumbles into chaos, forcing them to confront the long-kept secrets that have been slowly pulling them apart. James, consumed by guilt, sets out on a reckless path that may destroy his marriage. Marilyn, devastated and vengeful, is determined to find a responsible party, no matter what the cost. Lydia's older brother, Nathan, is certain that the neighborhood bad boy Jack is somehow involved. But it's the youngest of the family--Hannah--who observes far more than anyone realizes and who may be the only one who knows the truth about what happened. A profoundly moving story of family, history, and the meaning of home, *Everything I Never Told You* is both a gripping page-turner and a sensitive family portrait, exploring the divisions between cultures and the rifts within a family, and uncovering the ways in which mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, and husbands and wives struggle, all their lives, to understand one another. 292 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Nguyen, Viet Thanh. ***The Sympathizer***. NY: Grove Press, c2015. Follows a Viet Cong agent as he spies on a South Vietnamese army general and his compatriots as they start a new life in 1975 Los Angeles. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. 382 pages. (15 copies) **NEW**

Ohanesian, Aline. ***Orhan's Inheritance***. NY: Algonquin Books, c2015. Inheriting the family kilim rug dynasty when his eccentric grandfather is found dead, Orhan struggles with will stipulations that leave the family estate to a stranger who holds secrets from the final years of the Ottoman Empire. 337 pages. **LP** (14 copies)

Ondaatje, Michael. ***The Cat's Table***. NY: Vintage, c2012. In the early 1950s, an eleven-year-old boy in Colombo boards a ship bound for England. At mealtimes he is seated at the "cat's table with a ragtag group of "insignificant" adults and two other boys, Cassius and Ramadhin. As the ship crosses the Indian Ocean, the boys tumble from one adventure to another. But there are other diversions as well: they are first exposed to the magical worlds of jazz, women, and literature by their eccentric fellow travelers, and together they spy on a shackled prisoner, his crime and fate a galvanizing mystery that will haunt them forever. 288 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Orwell, George. ***1984: a novel***. NY: Penguin Group, c1950. The year 1984 has come and gone, but George Orwell's prophetic, nightmarish vision in 1949 of the world we were becoming is timelier than ever. *1984* is still the great modern classic of "negative utopia" -a startlingly original and haunting novel that creates an imaginary world that is completely convincing, from the first sentence to the last four words. No one can deny the novel's hold on the imaginations of whole generations, or the power of its admonitions -a power that seems to grow, not lessen, with the passage of time. 312 pages. **TA** (15 copies) **NEW**

Ozeki, Ruth. ***A Tale for the Time Being***. NY: Penguin Books, c2013. A time being is someone who lives in time, and that means you, and me, and every one of us who is, or was, or ever will be." In Tokyo, sixteen-year-old Nao has decided there's only one escape from her aching loneliness and her classmates' bullying. But before she ends it all, Nao first plans to document the life of her great grandmother, a Buddhist nun who's lived more than a century. A diary is Nao's only solace--and will touch lives in ways she can scarcely imagine. Across the Pacific, we meet Ruth, a novelist living on a remote island who discovers a collection of artifacts washed ashore in a Hello Kitty lunchbox--possibly debris from the devastating 2011 tsunami. As the mystery of its contents unfolds, Ruth is pulled into the past, into Nao's drama and her unknown fate, and forward into her own future. Full of Ozeki's signature humor and deeply engaged with the relationship between writer and

reader, past and present, fact and fiction, quantum physics, history, and myth, *A Tale for the Time Being* is a brilliantly inventive, beguiling story of our shared humanity and the search for home. 403 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Patchett, Ann. ***State of Wonder***. NY: Perennial, c2011. A researcher at a pharmaceutical company, Marina Singh must step out of her comfort zone when she is sent into the heart of the Amazonian delta to check on a field team that has been silent for two years--a dangerous assignment that forces Marina to confront the ghosts of her past. This is an enthrallingly innovative tale of aspiration, exploration, and attachment, a gripping adventure story and a profound look at the difficult choices we make in the name of discovery and love. 353 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Picoult, Jodi. ***Plain Truth***. NY: Simon & Schuster, c2000. A shocking murder shatters a picturesque Amish community and tests the heart and soul of a lawyer who defends the accused young woman. This tale moves from psychological drama to courtroom suspense and gives a fascinating depiction of Amish life. 405 pages. **LP** (12 copies)

Rachman, Tom. ***The Imperfectionists***. NY: Dial Press, c2010. An "imperfect" crew of reporters and editors working for an international English language newspaper stumble toward an uncertain future as the era of print news gives way to the internet age. The story is set against the gorgeous backdrop of Rome. 265 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Riggle, Kristina. ***The Whole Golden World***. NY: William Morrow, c2013. Seventeen-year-old Morgan Monetti shocks her parents and her community with one simple act: She chooses to stand by the man everyone else believes has exploited her—popular high school teacher TJ Hill. Quietly walking across a crowded courtroom to sit behind TJ, and not beside her parents, she announces herself as the adult she believes herself to be. Told from the perspectives of three remarkable women, *The Whole Golden World* navigates the precarious territory between childhood and adulthood, raising questions about love and manipulation, marriage and motherhood, consent and responsibility. It's a novel both shocking and unforgettable in its power. 419 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Rosnay, Tatiana de. ***Sarah's Key***. NY: St. Martin's Press, c2007. Paris, July 1942: Sarah, a ten year old girl, is taken with her parents by the French police as they go door-to-door arresting Jewish families in the middle of the night. Desperate to protect her younger brother, Sarah locks him in a bedroom cupboard – their secret hiding place – and promises to come back for him as soon as they are released. Sixty years later: Sarah's story intertwines with that of Julia Jarmond, an American journalist investigating the roundup. In her research, Julia stumbles onto a trail of secrets that link her to Sarah and to questions about her own future. 293 pages. **TA LP** (15 copies)

Rowell, Rainbow. ***Attachments***. NY: Plume, c2012. Gossiping and sharing their personal secrets on e-mail in spite of their company's online monitoring practices, Beth and Jennifer unwittingly amuse Internet security officer Lincoln, who unexpectedly falls for Beth while reading their correspondence. 323 pages. (14 copies)

Rowell, Rainbow. ***Landline***. NY: St. Martin's Press, c2014. In New York Times bestselling author Rainbow Rowell's *Landline*, Georgie McCool knows her marriage is in trouble. That it's been in trouble for a long time. She still loves her husband, Neal, and Neal still loves her, deeply -- but that almost seems besides the point now. Maybe that was always besides the point. Two days before they're supposed to visit Neal's family in Omaha for Christmas, Georgie tells Neal that she can't go. She's a TV writer, and something's come up on her show; she has to stay in Los Angeles. She knows that Neal will be upset with her -- Neal is always a little upset with Georgie -- but she doesn't expect to him to pack up the kids and go home without her. When her husband and the kids leave for the airport, Georgie wonders if she's finally done it. If she's ruined everything. That night, Georgie discovers a way to communicate with Neal in the past. It's not time travel, not exactly, but she feels like she's been given an opportunity to fix her marriage before it starts. Is that what she's supposed to do? Or would Georgie and Neal be better off if their marriage never happened? 308 pages. (15 copies) **NEW**

Ruiz Zafon, Carlos. ***The Shadow of the Wind***. NY: Penguin Books, 2004. The year is 1945. The place is Barcelona. This is a coming-of-age tale of a young boy, Daniel, who through the magic of a single book, finds a purpose greater than himself and a hero in a man he's never met. This book is an ode to the art of reading and the perfect example of the power of a well told story. 486 pages. (12 copies)

Saramago, Jose. ***Blindness***. NY: Harcourt, Brace & Co., c1998. A city is hit by an epidemic of "white blindness" which spares almost no one. This magnificent parable of loss and disorientation is a vivid evocation of the horrors of the twentieth century and a powerful portrayal of man's worst appetites and weaknesses. Winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1998. 326 pages. (15 copies)

Satrapi, Marjane. **Perepolis**. NY: Random House, c2003. The great-granddaughter of Iran's last emperor and the daughter of ardent Marxists describes growing up in Tehran in a country plagued by political upheaval and vast contradictions between public and private life. Graphic novel. 153 pages. **TA** (15 copies) **NEW**

Semple, Maria. **Where'd You Go, Bernadette**. NY: Little, Brown & Co., c2012. When her notorious, hilarious, volatile, talented, troubled, and agoraphobic mother goes missing, teenage Bee begins a trip that takes her to the ends of the earth to find her. 326 pages. (15 copies)

Sepetys, Ruta. **Between Shades of Gray**. NY: Penguin Group, c2011. In 1941, Lina and her family are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life, vowing to honor her family and the thousands like hers. 338 pages. **TA LP** (14 copies)

Setterfield, Diane. **The Thirteenth Tale**. NY: Washington Square Press, c2006. Books are the life blood of this rich, gothic-like story that includes ghosts, secrets, and family. Together, a reclusive author and a young biographer confront their own ghosts and become transformed by the truth. 406 pages. **LP** (14 copies)

Shaffer, Mary Ann. **The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society**. NY: Dial Press, c2008. 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. 274 pages. **LP** (14 copies)

Shields, Carol. **Unless**. NY: Fourth Estate, 2002. The successful and ordered life of 44 year-old Reta Winters is turned upside down when her eldest daughter drops out of college to become a panhandler on a Toronto street corner. She wears a sign around her neck that says 'goodness'. Reta's attempt to deal with this family crisis is told with compassion, humor and hope. 320 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Shreve, Anita. **The Pilot's Wife**. NY: Little, Brown and Co., c1999. When Kathryn Lyons receives word that a plane flown by her husband, Jack, has exploded near the coast of Ireland, she confronts the unfathomable, one startling revelation at a time. Her search propels this taut, impassioned novel as it movingly explores the question, how well can we ever really know another person? 293 pages. (15 copies)

Silver, Marisa. **Mary Coin**. NY: Penguin, c2014. In 1936, a young mother resting by the side of a road in Central California is spontaneously photographed by a woman documenting the migrant laborers who have taken to America's farms in search of work. Little personal information is exchanged, and neither woman has any way of knowing that they have produced what will become the most iconic image of the Great Depression. 322 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Simonson, Helen. **Major Pettigrew's Last Stand**. NY: Random House. c2010. This charming novel wraps Old World sensibility around a story of multicultural conflict involving two widowed people who assume they are done with love. Set in the beautiful English village of Edgecombe St. Mary, this smart romantic comedy about decency and good manners in a world where these qualities are too frequently missing, will delight you in every way. 358 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Simsion, Graeme. **The Rosie Project**. NY: Simon & Schuster, c2013. Don Tillman, a brilliant geneticist, thinks that having women fill out a six-page, double-sided questionnaire before a date is logical and reasonable. Rosie Jarman, an impetuous barmaid, thinks Don should loosen up and learn to live a little. Follow the unlikely pair in this laugh-out-loud, feel-good story of unexpected joys, discovery and love. 329 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Sittenfeld, Curtis. **American Wife**. NY: Random House, c2008. A kind, bookish only child born in the 1940's has no idea that she will one day end up in the White House, married to the president. But she discovers that she is married to a man she both loves and fundamentally disagrees with and that her private beliefs increasingly run against her public persona. 555 pages. **LP** (12 copies)

Stedman, M. L. **The Light Between Oceans**. NY: Simon and Schuster, c2012. After four harrowing years on the western front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock. Tom brings a young, bold, and loving wife, Isabel. Years after two miscarriages and one stillbirth, the grieving Isabel hears a baby's cries on the wind – a boat has washed up onshore carrying a dead man and a living baby. Isabel insists the baby is a gift from God, Tom wants to report the infant immediately. Their decision will devastate one of them. 343 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Strout, Elizabeth. ***Olive Kitteridge***. NY: Random House, c2008. As the townspeople of a small Maine community 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. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. 270 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Tartt, Donna. ***The Goldfinch***. NY: Little, Brown & Co, c2013. A young boy in New York City, Theo Decker, miraculously survives an accident that takes the life of his mother. Alone and abandoned by his father, Theo is taken in by a friend's family and struggles to make sense of his new life. In the years that follow, he becomes entranced by one of the few things that reminds him of his mother: a small, mysteriously captivating painting that ultimately draws Theo into the art underworld. Composed with the skills of a master, *The Goldfinch* is a haunted odyssey through present-day America, and a drama of almost unbearable acuity and power. It is a story of loss and obsession, survival and self-invention, and the enormous power of art. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. 771 pages. (8 copies)

Towles, Amor. ***Rules of Civility***. NY: Penguin, c2011. On the last night of 1937, twenty-five year old Katey Kontent is in a second-rate Greenwich Village jazz bar when Tinker Grey, a handsome banker, happens to sit at the neighboring table. This chance encounter and its startling consequences propel her on a yearlong journey toward the upper echelons of New York Society where she will have little to rely upon other than a bracing wit and her own brand of nerve. 335 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Trigiani, Adriana. ***The Shoemaker's Wife***. NY: Harper Collins, c2012. The fateful first meeting of Enza and Ciro takes place amid the haunting majesty of the Italian Alps at the turn of the last century. Still teenagers, they are separated when Ciro is banished from his village and sent to hide in New York's Little Italy, apprenticed to a shoemaker, leaving a bereft Enza behind. But when her own family faces disaster, she, too, is forced to emigrate to America. Though destiny will reunite the star-crossed lovers, it will, just as abruptly, separate them once again. 470 pages. *Includes reader's guide*. **LP** (15 copies)

Turow, Scott. ***Presumed Innocent***. NY: Grand Central Publishing, c1987. This suspenseful legal thriller is the story of Rusty Sabich, chief deputy prosecutor in a large Midwestern city. With three weeks to go in his boss' re-election campaign, a member of Rusty's staff is found murdered; he is charged with finding the killer, until his boss loses and, incredibly, Rusty finds himself accused of the murder. 421 pages. (15 copies)

Udall, Brady. ***The Miracle Life of Edgar Mint***. NY: Vintage, c2002. Seven-year-old Edgar Mint, the half-Apache, half-white narrator, is run over by the mailman's jeep, his head crushed. Abandoned by his grandmother and alcoholic mother after his remarkable recovery, the boy begins an odyssey through various institutions and homes and eventually decides to track down the devastated mailman who feels responsible for his death and let him know that he's alive and well. 423 pages. (15 copies)

Umrigar, Thrity. ***The Space Between Us***. NY: Harper Perennial, c2005. This novel illustrates the intimacy, and the irreconcilable class divide, between two women in contemporary Bombay. Bhima, a 65 year old slum dweller, has worked for Sera, a younger upper-middle class Parsi woman for years, yet she is not permitted to sit on the furniture or drink from the glasses she has cleaned. Poignant and compelling, evocative and unforgettable, this is an intimate portrait of a distant yet familiar world. 352 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Umrigar, Thrity. ***The World We Found***. NY: Perennial, c2012. American divorcee Armaiti has six months to live and her last wish is to see her three best friends again--Laleh, Kavita, and Nishta, all in Bombay. But Nishta's husband, Iqbal, a fellow university idealist turned fundamentalist, will be the biggest obstacle to fulfilling Armaiti's final desire. 304 pages. **LP** (15 copies)

Verghese, Abraham. ***Cutting For Stone***. NY: Vintage, c. 2009. Marion and Shiva Stone are twin brothers born of a secret union between a beautiful Indian nun and a brash British surgeon. Moving from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to NY City and back again, this is a story of love and betrayal, medicine and ordinary miracles and two brothers whose fates are forever intertwined. 658 pages. **LP** (14 copies)

Vonnegut, Kurt. ***Cat's Cradle***. Dial Press, c1963. One of Vonnegut's major works, this apocalyptic tale of the planet's ultimate fate features a midget as the protagonist; a complete original theology created by a calypso singer; and a vision of the future that is both blackly fatalistic and dryly funny. 287 pages. **TA** (15 copies)



Vreeland, Susan. **Clara and Mr. Tiffany.** New York: Random House, c2012. It's 1893, and at the Chicago World's Fair, Louis Comfort Tiffany makes his debut with a luminous exhibition of innovative stained-glass windows that he hopes will earn him a place on the international artistic stage. Behind the scenes in his NY studio is the freethinking Clara Driscoll, head of his woman's division, who conceives of and designs nearly all of the iconic leaded-glass lamps. She yearns for love and companionship, and is devoted in different ways to five men, including Tiffany, who enforces a strict policy: He does not employ married women. Ultimately, Clara must decide what makes her happiest. 397 pages. LP (15 copies) Includes *A New Light on Tiffany: Clara Driscoll and the Tiffany Girls* by Martin Eidelberg, et. al, which includes many photographs and background information on the real Tiffany and Clara.

Ward, Jesmyn. **Salvage the Bones.** NY: Bloomsbury, c2011. A hurricane is building over the Gulf of Mexico, threatening the coastal town of Bois Sauvage, Mississippi, and Esch's father is growing concerned. A hard drinker, largely absent, he doesn't show concern for much else. Esch and her three brothers are stocking food, but there isn't much to save. This 2011 National Book Award winner is a big-hearted novel about familial love and community against all odds, and a wrenching look at the lonesome, brutal, and restrictive realities of rural poverty. 258 pages. LP (15 copies)

Ware, Ruth. **In a Dark, Dark Wood.** NY: Scout Press, c2015. What should be a cozy and fun-filled weekend deep in the English countryside takes a sinister turn in Ruth Ware's suspenseful, compulsive, and darkly twisted psychological thriller. Leonora, known to some as Lee and others as Nora, is a reclusive crime writer, unwilling to leave her "nest" of an apartment unless it is absolutely necessary. When a friend she hasn't seen or spoken to in years unexpectedly invites Nora (Lee?) to a weekend away in an eerie glass house deep in the English countryside, she reluctantly agrees to make the trip. Forty-eight hours later, she wakes up in a hospital bed injured but alive, with the knowledge that someone is dead. Wondering not "what happened?" but "what have I done?", Nora (Lee?) tries to piece together the events of the past weekend. Working to uncover secrets, reveal motives, and find answers, Nora (Lee?) must revisit parts of herself that she would much rather leave buried where they belong: in the past. In the tradition of Paula Hawkins's instant New York Times bestseller *The Girl On the Train* and S. J. Watson's riveting national sensation *Before I Go To Sleep*, this gripping literary debut from UK novelist Ruth Ware will leave you on the edge of your seat through the very last page. 308 pages. (15 copies) **NEW**

Young, Wm. Paul. **The Shack.** CA: Windblown Media, c2007. Mackenzie Allen Phillips' youngest daughter, Missy, has been abducted during a family vacation and evidence that she may have been brutally murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later in the midst of his Great Sadness, Mack receives a suspicious note, apparently from God, inviting him back to that shack for a weekend. Against his better judgment he arrives at the shack on a wintry afternoon and walks back into his darkest nightmare. What he finds there will change Mack's world forever. In a world where religion seems to grow increasingly irrelevant, "The Shack" wrestles with the timeless question, "Where is God in a world so filled with unspeakable pain?" The answers Mack gets will astound you and perhaps transform you as much as it did him. 250 pages. (12 copies) **NEW**

Zadoorian, Michael. **The Leisure Seeker.** NY: HarperCollins, c2009. John and Ella Robina are terminal senior citizens who decide to skip the end stage of hospitals and anxious children. Instead they load up their RV – the Leisure Seeker – and stoically hightail it out of town heading for Route 66 and Anaheim for one last vacation. This is a funny, bittersweet, and courageous story that will have you laughing and crying at the same time. 272 pages. LP (14 copies)

Zusak, Markus. **The Book Thief.** NY: Knopf, c2005. This story of a young orphan, Liesel, her loving foster parents, the Jewish fugitive they are hiding, and a wild but gentle teen neighbor, Rudy, who defies the Hitler Youth and convinces Liesel to steal for fun, is told by a unique narrator. After Liesel learns to read, she steals books from Nazi book burnings and the mayor's wife's library. The power of words and Liesel's confrontation with horrifying cruelty and her discovery of kindness in unexpected places tells the heartbreaking truth. 550 pages. **TA LP** (13 copies)

Rochester Hills Public Library  
Adult Services  
500 Olde Towne Rd.  
Rochester, MI 48307 248-650-7130

<http://www.rhpl.org/use-the-library/book-discussion-resources>

