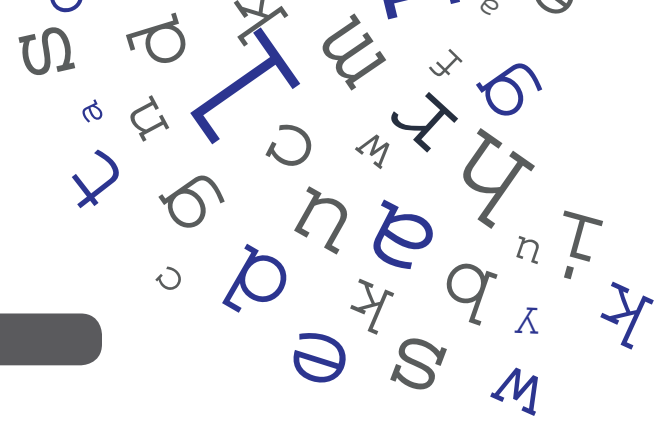


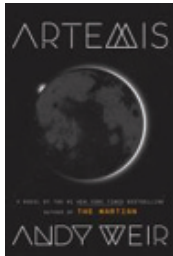


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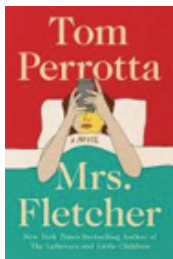


Neil Arsenault, Brampton Public Library



ARTEMIS by Andy Weir

Jasmine "Jazz" Bashara lives on the moon's first colony, Artemis. Like any human settlement, it has a criminal underbelly and through some tough decisions and wild scenarios, Jazz ends up entangled with the government, organized crime, industrial espionage and the safety of the entire lunar colony. Filled with Weir's fast paced style, hard science, and humour, it's an entertaining read that doesn't get dull. For read-alikes involving space colonies and exploration, try James S. A. Corey's **Expanses** series.



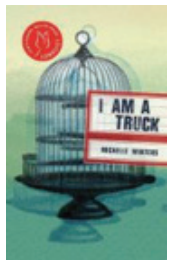
MRS. FLETCHER by Tom Perrotta

Eve Fletcher is forty-six years old, divorced, and a recent empty nester. With her focus shifting from others onto herself, Eve begins her adventure into self-discovery. Eve takes readers on a journey filled with a number diverse characters and explores the topics of aging, sexuality, gender, and pornography, which for some readers might include a bit too much detail. This book succeeds in getting readers out of their comfort zones and thinking about important issues they may otherwise ignore. Similar reads include **Eleanor Rigby** by Douglas Coupland and **Calling Invisible Women** by Jeanne Ray.



RUN, HIDE, REPEAT: A MEMOIR OF A FUGITIVE CHILDHOOD by Pauline Dakin (non-fiction)

This incredible true story is so well written and engaging that the narrative of a troubled childhood and a family on the run reads almost like fiction. Equally frightening as it is exciting; readers will not want to put this page turner down, as the shock of family deception and betrayal is almost as surprising as one's capacity for forgiveness and love in return. If true tales of family and troubled upbringings appeal to you, you may want to read **The Glass Castle** by Jeannette Walls and **North of Normal** by Cea Sunrise Person.



I AM A TRUCK by Michelle Winters

Agathe and Rejean have been married twenty years and are getting ready to celebrate their wedding anniversary, but things take a sudden turn when Rejean goes missing, leaving behind only his beloved truck. Agathe carries on, longing for her husband and searching for answers, which ultimately forces her out of her comfort zone and into the community, creating new relationships and discovering more about herself along the way. A refreshing, and charming read about identity, loss and love, with just the right kind of humour inserted throughout. Readers, who enjoy themes of identity, loyalty and love, may also want to read **Annabel** by Kathleen Winter and **Winter's Bone** by Daniel Woodrell



SPOONBENDERS by Daryl Gregory

Who doesn't dream of having super powers or some form of extraordinary gift? The Telemachus family doesn't need to dream, they have them, ranging in talents from telekinesis, astral-projection, and clairvoyance. Special gifts, however, can make life complicated, even more so when those gifts vanish, leaving a family broken and divided. Threats to the family reunite them out of love and loyalty to protect their own. This quirky family will have you laughing out loud and rooting for them throughout their ups and downs. If you like eccentric families and stories of growth and redemption, you may also like **Swamplandia!** by Karen Russell.



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Charmaine Atrooshi, Ottawa Public Library



FIND YOU IN THE DARK by Nathan Ripley

Martin Reese has an obsession. He (illegally) purchases cold case files on serial killers, and uses these files to try to locate the missing bodies. He keeps photographs from his findings and calls the police anonymously to share his results. Not everyone is happy with his sleuthing however, and he draws the suspicion of Detective Whittal and the ire of a killer who is not pleased that is Reese is digging in his work... For similar stories involving serial killers (and obsessions with), check out **Dexter** by Jeff Lindsay and **I am not a Serial Killer** by Dan Well.



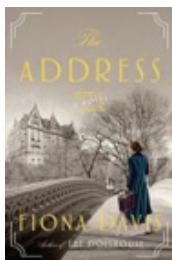
THE FLIGHT ATTENDANT by Chris Bohjalian

Cassandra is a binge drinking flight attendant who has the 'occasional' blackout. One morning, in a Dubai hotel room, she awakes to find herself covered in blood, with a man lying in bed next to her unmoving. Terrified, Cassandra desperately tries to remember the events of the night before. What happened? Did she kill him? What should she do? And is someone after her? As Cassandra continues down her destructive path, she lies to everyone about her activities from that night. But truths cannot stay hidden forever. For read-alikes in this area (memory gaps and murder) try **In a Dark, Dark, Wood** by Ruth Ware.



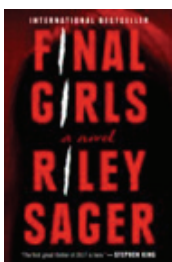
CATALINA by Liska Jacobs

Elsa has been fired from her job at MOMA, where she had been having an affair with her married boss. She is heading down a path of self-destruction, fueled by drugs, alcohol, and excess. She heads home to California on a 'vacation' where she reconnects with some childhood friends, and they head out on a weekend boat trip to Catalina where buried secrets come to the fore. Interspersed with Elsa's (unreliable?) recollections, this story is one that will make you think... Try Dennis Lehane's thriller **Since We Fell** for a different version of a woman's spiral into self-destruction...



THE ADDRESS by Fiona Davis

New York City's famous residence, (and Theodore Camden's creation) The Dakota has a history of passion, madness and ruin... From the story of Sarah Smythe, who on 1884 left England for NYC to become a manager of the Dakota, to 1985 where Bailey Camden, granddaughter of T. Camden is renovating her apartment, the Dakota boasts a story of scandal, and love, leaving readers eager to find out just what secrets will unfold. For more great tales of historical fiction try Chanel Cleeton's **Next Year in Havana** and Elif Shafak's **Three Daughters of Eve**.



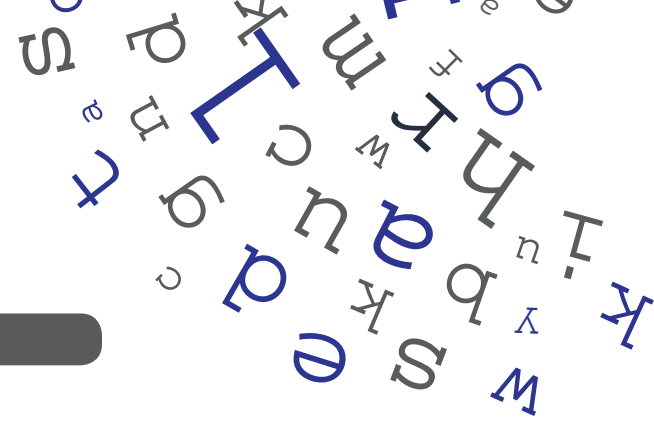
FINAL GIRLS by Riley Sager

Quincy Carpenter is the only survivor of a vacation massacre. Ten years later, she is doing okay, except she still doesn't remember the details of what happened that night... Then she finds out Lisa, another member of the 'final girls club' is found dead. Unexpectedly, Sam, another final girl appears at her door, and she is intent on helping Quincy recall the events of that night ... but why? An edge of your seat type thriller that will keep you reading into the wee hours of morning. For read-alikes try Joanna Schaffhausen's **The Vanishing Season**, or Laura Lippman's **The Most Dangerous Thing**.

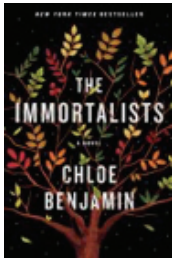


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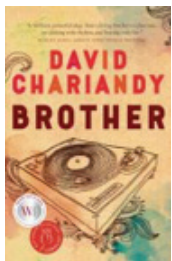


Kristen Caschera, London Public Library



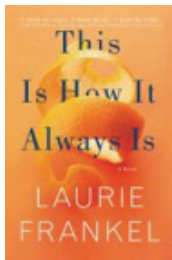
THE IMMORTALISTS by Chloe Benjamin

1969, New York City. The world is in transition, on the brink of a new decade. The four Gold children hear rumours about a psychic who can tell you the exact date you're going to die, and, unable to resist, they visit her to find out their fates. These predictions shape the rest of their lives, and each child lives out their prophecy in their own way. Ann Packer's **The Children's Crusade** also explores the complex dynamics between siblings, and **Eternal Life** by Dara Horn examines similar questions about life and death.



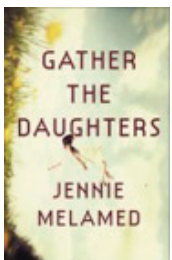
BROTHER by David Chariandy

This beautifully written book is the story of two brothers coming of age in Scarborough in the 1990's. Michael and Francis live with their mother in The Park, a housing project filled with immigrants like themselves. To escape the daily racism and prejudice they are faced with, Francis loses himself in hip hop, and Michael's attentions are focused on a school crush, until a violent tragedy changes their lives forever. Check out Catherine Hernandez' **Scarborough** for another point of view on this suburb, and **Forest Gate** by Peter Akanti provides a similar examination of racism and police harassment.



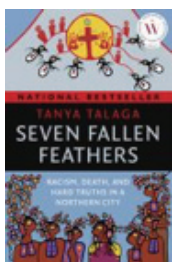
THIS IS HOW IT ALWAYS IS by Laurie Frankel

Rosie and Penn live a busy life, with five boisterous boys. Their youngest boy, Claude, has always been a bit different, always doing things in his own way. And one day, Claude decides he wants to be a girl. Rosie and Penn just want Claude to be happy, and so a secret is born. And as hard as you try, secrets don't always stay hidden. This is a book about changes and transformations, and about a mother's fierce love for her child. **Sacred Country** by Rose Tremain also examines the hardships and challenges faced by transgender people and their families, and Jennifer Finney Boyle's **Long Black Veil** is a story of secrets, and what happens when they come out.



GATHER THE DAUGHTERS by Jennie Melamed

In the not-too-distant future, the world as we know it has been incinerated. Ten men and their families escaped death to colonize a remote island, and they have built a new cultish society. The daughters of these families train to be wives, obediently moving from their fathers' homes to their husbands' homes. But when one of them witnesses something unspeakable, the rest of them must choose: remain blissfully ignorant, or face the terrible truth? The women in Margaret Atwood's **The Handmaid's Tale** also face oppression in a dystopian patriarchy, and Louise Katz's **The Orchid Nursery** shows another type of uprising by young women on the brink of adulthood.



SEVEN FALLEN FEATHERS: RACISM, DEATH & HARD TRUTHS IN A NORTHERN CITY

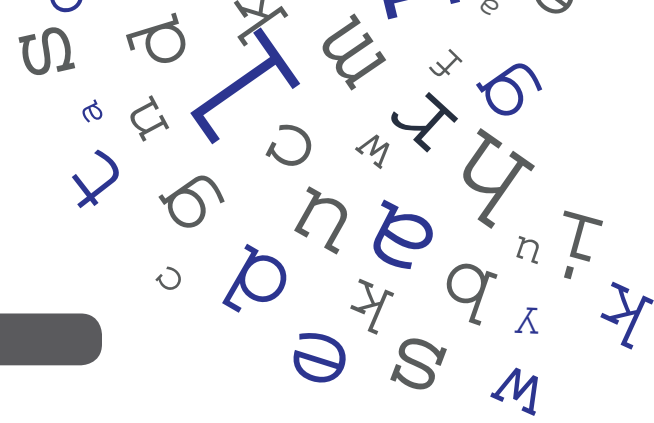
by Tanya Talaga

Between 2000 and 2011, seven Indigenous high school students died while living in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Forced to travel far from home to attend high school, the circumstances surrounding the deaths remain a question mark, even after a long inquest. Award-winning reporter Talaga fleshes out the stories of the victims' lives and how their deaths another injustice in a long history of mistreatment. For further reading, **Surviving Canada: Indigenous Peoples Celebrate 150 Years of Betrayal**, edited by Kiera L. Ladner is a collection of reflections on Canada's complex relationship with the Indigenous.

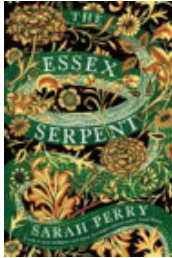


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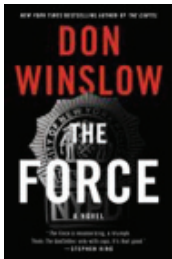


Jeff Dodge, Vaughan Public Library



THE ESSEX SERPENT by Sarah Perry

Worth picking up for the cover alone, I recently heard it described as “the kind of book you want to be seen reading.” Could the rumours be true? Has the mythical serpent long believed to be living off the coast returned to prey on 1890s Essex? Science, faith and superstition clash here with an old fashioned overwrought Victorian love story at the book’s centre. Love is nowhere to be found in the far (far!!) darker, brutal Victorian era tale **The North Water** by Ian McGuire. The monster here is also on the water, aboard a whaling ship, but is very much human!



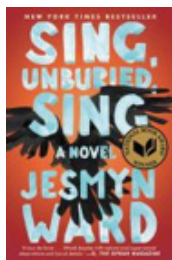
THE FORCE by Don Winslow

Stephen King and Lee Child consider it perhaps the best “cop novel” ever. All Denny Malone wanted was to be was a good cop. Now a NYPD detective, he punishes the wicked and protects the weak. . . or so it seems. In a system rotten with greed and corruption, everyone is on the take and the lines between right and wrong get blurred beyond recognition. Familiar ground but Winslow does it better than anyone. For twisty police thrillers which leave the concrete jungle behind, try Attica Locke’s great (soon to be a TV show) **Bluebird, Bluebird** or Brian Panowich’s Appalachian set **Bull Mountain**.



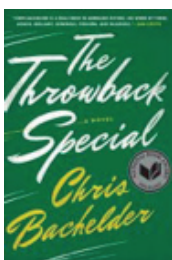
THE SIGNAL FLAME by Andrew Krivak

Set in the pastoral Pennsylvania countryside during the Vietnam War, it is a quiet story of a working-class family whose close ties to the land help sustain them during loss and longing. Understated and meditative, it looks at the high price of war, the power of forgiveness, and the value of kindness. Other authors who bear witness to the rich inner lives and the quiet rhythms of life beyond the cities’ bright lights are **Kent Haruf** and **Alice Munro**.



SING, UNBURIED SING by Jesmyn Ward

This National Book Award winner deals with the legacies of racism, poverty, incarceration and addiction in rural Mississippi. Using ghosts and magical realism, Ward cleverly mingles the pain of past and present generations of a fractured African American family who try to rise above their circumstances. Also set in the south, Wiley Cash’s **The Last Ballad** is the fictionalized account of an actual 1929 mill strike. Like Ward, Cash details the awful toll injustice and discrimination have on the margins of society.



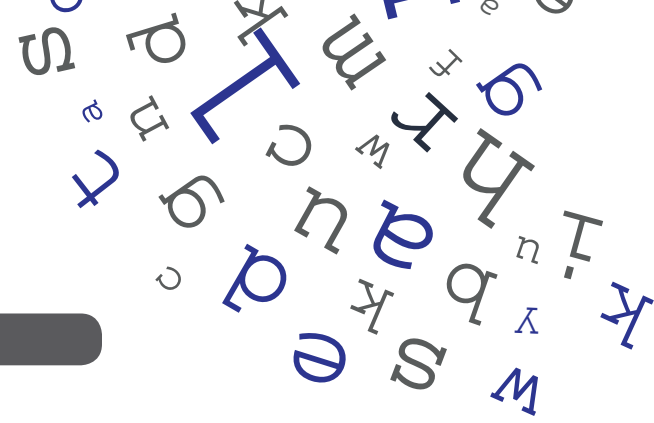
THE THROWBACK SPECIAL by Chris Bachelder

For 16 years, the same 22 men meet in the same hotel for the same purpose – to re-enact the horrible real life injury of NFL quarterback Joe Thiesmann. No need to be a sports fan, the re-enactment merely provides the framework for a series of comical vignettes examining the comfort of ritual overlapped with assorted anxieties, neuroses and pains that come with aging. Another pseudo-plotless book is Rachel Khong’s very funny and touching **Goodbye, Vitamin**. With short observations, she finds beauty in life’s most difficult situations.



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Andrea Dunn, Markham Public Library



MAGPIE MURDERS by Anthony Horowitz

Magpie Murders gives readers two novels in one. We experience Magpie Murders through the eyes of its editor Susan, who quickly devours the manuscript only to discover the final pages are gone. Finding out that the author is dead, Susan races to find the pages and solve a very real murder. The mysteries of Agatha Christie are read-alikes.



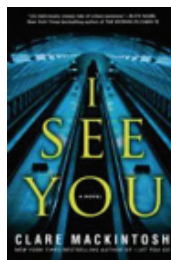
THE ALICE NETWORK by Kate Quinn

Two women separated in age and by two wars become unlikely allies. 1947, Charlie an unwed pregnant woman flees her family to Europe to find her missing cousin Rose. The only information she has is for an address in London. 1915, Eve is recruited as a British spy for the female Alice Network. When Charlie shows up, Eve is forced to join her journey and revisit her past in order to help find Rose. **The Chilbury Ladies Choir** by Jennifer Ryan is a read-alike.



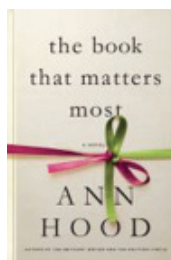
THE CAFÉ BY THE SEA by Jenny Colgan

Can you really go home again? A work assignment sends Flora back to her remote Scottish island hometown where she struggles to complete her assignments, family demands and a possible new romance. A novel of starting over and a sometimes humorous look at life. Louise Miller's **The City Baker's Guide to Country Living** is a read-alike.



I SEE YOU by Clare Mackintosh

Taking public transit will never be the same again! Zoe taking the subway home from work finds her picture in the back of the personal ads with a link to a dating website. This starts a search into who is using her picture and the connection to the deaths of other women. Maile Meloy's **Do Not Become Alarmed** is a read-alike thriller about families on a cruise whose children disappear and the search for them.



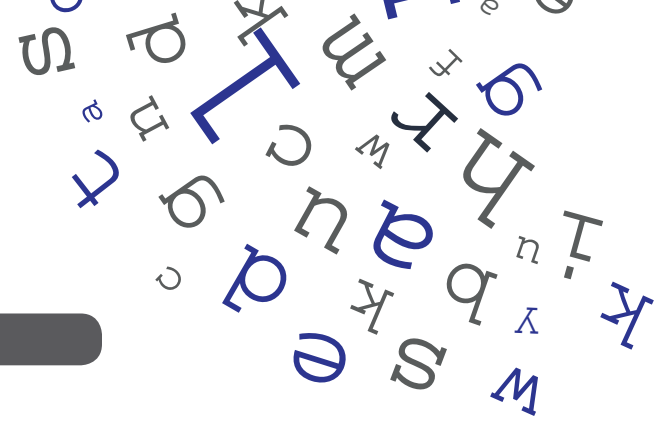
THE BOOK THAT MATTERS MOST by Ann Hood

What book has influenced you the most? Newly divorced, empty nester Ava joins a book club and selects her favourite childhood read for the group. However, no one can find copies of the book. Interspersed with Ava's story is that of her daughter Maggie, who is struggling in Paris. For lovers of books about books, **The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend** by Katarina Bivald is a read-alike.

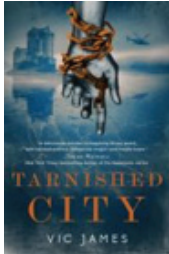


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Jennifer Green, Oshawa Public Library



TARNISHED CITY by Vic James

The follow-up to the fabulous **GILDED CAGE**, **TARNISHED CITY** begins with Luke being imprisoned for a murder he didn't commit. He must now try to escape his prison to save his family and friends. The story reminded me of the later Hunger Games novels with the slave rebellion in full swing. Luke and Abi are fantastic characters, and it's hard to imagine they're as young as they are. If you enjoy similar dystopian stories set in England, try **The Bone Season** by Samantha Shannon or **Smoke** by Dan Vyleta.



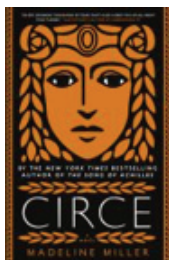
GODSGRAVE by Jay Kristoff

In the second book of the Nevernight series, assassin Mia Corvere is hell-bent on avenging her family and the Red Church. If you haven't read the first book, I highly recommend it as Kristoff has done a fabulous job continuing the series! The action is fast-paced and suitable for lovers of the Game of Thrones series. For another fantasy about a young woman fighting for survival and revenge, try Mark Lawrence's **Red Sister**.



THE BROKEN GIRLS by Simone St. James

After a body turns up on the grounds of the abandoned girls' school Idlewild Hall, Fiona Sheridan wonders if the death is somehow connected to her sister's murder. This is the perfect book for lovers of atmospheric ghost stories. With a great back story and a ghost that gave me chills, this was a fast-paced mystery perfect for a cold day. For more haunted suspense novels, try **The Woman in Black** by Susan Hill or **The Turn of the Screw** by Henry James.



CIRCE by Madeline Miller

Circe, the goddess who bewitched Odysseus, receives her own beautiful story. She's a strong, devoted, willful, and independent character who deals with so much in her immortal life, but always comes out stronger for it. I fully admit that one of my favourite lines in the book is "As it turned out, I did kill pigs that night after all." If you know Circe's story, you know what's happened, and I was with her all the way. Miller's first novel, **The Song of Achilles**, is a glorious read-alike, as is Homer's **The Odyssey**.



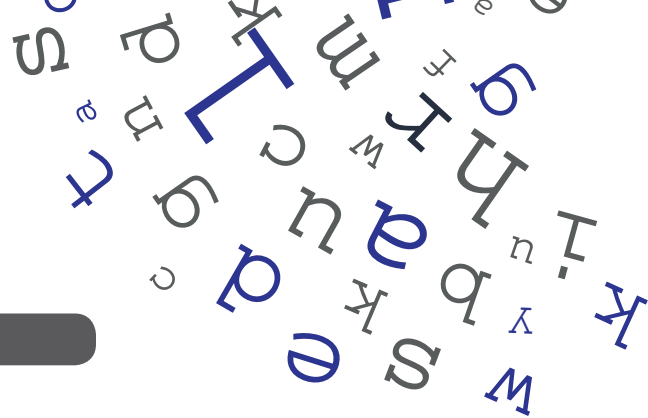
THE DRY by Jane Harper

After a family is murdered, federal agent Aaron Falk is requested at the funeral. Returning to his hometown twenty years later is difficult, but Aaron soon discovers that the deaths of his friend and his friend's family may not be all that it seems. A slow-building, atmospheric mystery that will keep you guessing until the end. The author does a wonderful job of immersing you in a small drought-savaged town in Australia. Camilla Lackberg's **The Ice Princess** is another mystery set in an isolated town as is **The Kept** by James Scott.

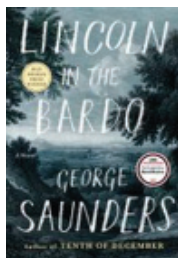


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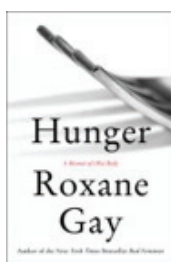


Reagan Kapasi, Toronto Public Library



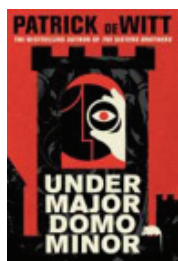
LINCOLN IN THE BARDO by George Saunders

Part historical fiction, part supernatural storytelling. Unfolding over the course of one night, Saunders unforgettable first novel tells the story of a grieving President Lincoln after the loss of his eleven-year-old son, Willie. Alongside a vivid cast characters who also inhabit the bardo, the place between death and the afterlife, these spirits provide emotional relief namely because few of them are willing to admit they are dead. For those who enjoy literary masterpieces about family & death, check out Michael Carbon's **Moonglow** and Emma Donoghue's **Wonder**.



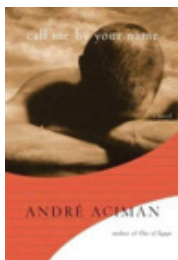
HUNGER: A MEMOIR OF [MY] BODY by Roxanne Gay

A very different sort of memoir: fatness, bisexuality and blackness. With a disarming casualness few autobiographers attempt, Roxanne Gay speaks about her physical body and her emotionally devastating experience with sexual violence. Despite these heavy topics, the majority of the book feels like you are sitting across from a good friend listening to candid talk about everything from guilty pleasures to daily struggles. In addition to Roxanne Gay's acclaimed collection of Essays, **Bad Feminist**, readers who enjoy this title should check out **Sex Object** by Jessica Valenti.



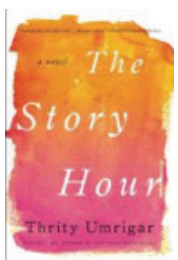
UNDERMAJORDOMO MINOR by Patrick deWitt

A postmodern, absurd folktale with tragically flawed characters you wish would come to life on the big screen. This comic adventure reads more deadpan than funny and is a terrific piece of genre writing, even if we can't quite define the genre. It's a brisk read about Lucien Minor, aka Lucy, a simpleton pursuing selfish interests at Castle Von Aux, a place steeped in dark secrets, and all tied up with an ending that will leave you reeling. For those who enjoy absurdly humorous works with memorable titles, check out **Fruit: A Novel about A Boy and His Nipples**. Looking for another genre writer with a distinctive voice? Pick up a copy of Junot Diaz's **The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao**.



CALL ME BY YOUR NAME by André Aciman

Sudden, obsessive, young love set in Italy in the 1980s, this book turned Oscar-nominated film is a romance that will mark you for a lifetime. An intellectually precocious seventeen-year-old boy, Elio, narrates his powerful love affair with a visiting scholar, Oliver. Those who are drawn to themes of antiquity and literature should invest in Donna Tart's **The Secret History**. For those craving romantic and Queer narratives, read/watch **The Price of Salt** by Patricia Highsmith, another book turned Oscar nominated film (titled Carol).



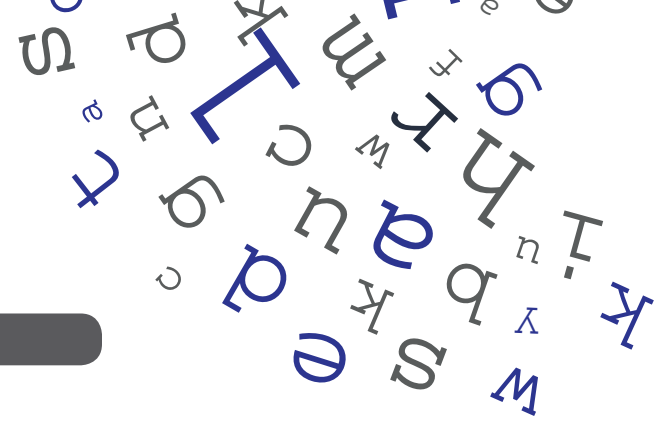
THE STORY HOUR: A NOVEL by Thirty Umrigar

Populated by POC (people of colour), this story highlights Umrigar's ability to develop authentic characters and storylines steeped in Indian culture. This book is about the professional relationship of a psychologist, Maggie, and her new patient, Lakshmi, an Indian woman who's recent suicide attempt stemmed from resonate feelings of loneliness, marital disappointment and homesickness. Readers who enjoy nonlinear storytelling and parallel female leads should read Ruth Ozeki's **A Tale for the Time Being**.



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Laura Peacock, Kitchener Public Library



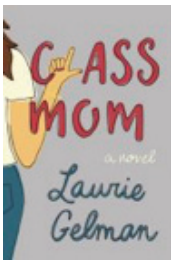
THE NATURAL WAY OF THINGS by Charlotte Wood

Allusions to harsh climates, time, and imprisonment on the book's cover sets the tone for this lyrically despairing novel. Yolanda and Verla narrate for the dozen women imprisoned in the Australian desert. With minimal contact, and large and small daily injustices, the women come to realize that the scandals, embarrassments, and men in power they were connected to confined them in their present reality. A more complex and illusion-filled read, for consumers of other crimes-against-women novels like **When She Woke** by Hillary Jordan, and **The Scarlet Letter** by Nathaniel Hawthorn.



SMALL GREAT THINGS by Jodi Picoult

What would happen if a white supremacist refused to allow a black nurse to touch their child, and then the child died? Racism, blame, privilege, and duty all play a role in this affecting novel told by: Ruth Jefferson, a nurse accused of negligence; Turk Bauer the grieving and intolerant father; and Kennedy McQuarrie, Ruth's public defender. The audiobook is especially compelling, bringing the voices of three individuals who are facing up to their own prejudices, assumptions, and misgivings, to life. Try **Black Girl White Girl** by Joyce Carol Oates, and **Family Tree** by Barbara Delinsky.



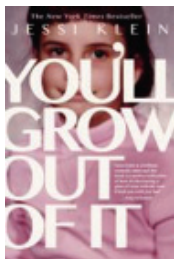
CLASS MOM by Laurie Gelman

The most logical choice for Class Mom (a liaison for parents) after ruling the roost for her now University-aged daughters' classrooms, Jen discovers that the decade-plus since her last reign has bred touchier parents, and hellion-like kids. Jen's sarcastic and blunt emails to her minions (fellow parents) leave you literally laughing out loud. But don't let the lightness fool you, this is a story of self-discovery that shows no matter your age or experience, you can still mess up, or succeed. For fans of other tongue-in-cheek novels like **Mitzi Bytes** by Kerry Clare and **The Knockoff** by Lucy Sykes & Jo Piazza.



BITTERSWEET by Sarina Bowen

Opposites attract in this second chance at love contemporary romance, filled with easy dialogue, exceptional banter, and enough food-porn descriptions to keep the biggest foodies satisfied. Audrey and Griff knew each other when she was the high society girl, and he was NHL bound. Years later Audrey is trying to prove herself in the food world, and Griff has taken over his family farm. Tasked with buying organic produce for unreasonably low cost, Griff quickly takes Audrey to task, and old sparks are reunited. The first in the True North Series. For more hunky farmers, try **Nuts** by Alice Clayton or **Once Upon a Wine** by Beth Kendrick.



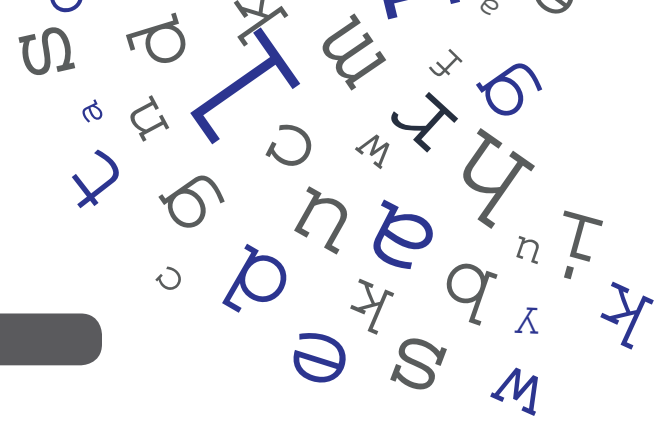
YOU'LL GROW OUT OF IT by Jessi Klein

What's expected of you if you are a woman is front and center in Klein's (executive producer on Inside Amy Schumer) collection of stories/ memoir. The stories run the emotional gambit of hilarious to sad, and they cover life experiences like professional pitfalls and successes, to complex relationships. Not every story will resonate with every reader, but there is something universal about Klein's narration. Look to **Bossypants** by Tina Fey, and **The Girl with the Lower Back Tattoo** by Amy Schumer for other snarky, poignant and endearing memoirs.

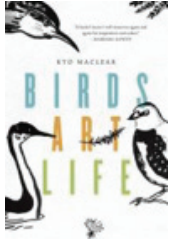


RA in a Day 2018

BEST BETS 2018



Dawna Wark, Hamilton Public Library



BIRDS, ART, LIFE by Kyo Maclear

A quiet memoir by a Toronto author reflecting on life matters big and small over the natural seasons in a year. With the help of a musician friend, a keen urban birder, the author searches for solace while birding on regular walks in the City. As our guide, using observation and reflection, we see her reconnect with her own creativity and sooth her grief. For a similar read, **Unearthed**, by Alexandra Risen, focuses on the rebuilding of a neglected urban garden with similar positive effects.



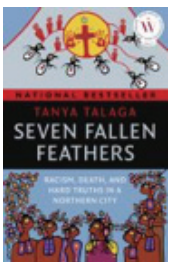
THE ALICE NETWORK by Kate Quinn

The unexpected arrival of stylish Charlie St. Clair from the U.S. throws Englishwoman, Eve Gardiner's world off kilter. What could this American possibly know about Rene, Le Lethe, and the work she did as a WW1 spy in France? Between 1915 flashbacks and the setting in 1947, this historical spy novel provides a thrilling ride until its explosive conclusion. For leading women in spy, and counter-intelligence work, Stella Rimington's Liz Carlyle series beginning with **At Risk**, would also satisfy.



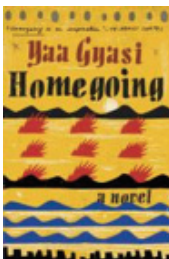
COFFIN ROAD by Peter May

On the remote Isle of Harris, an unknown man washes ashore who cannot remember who he is or how he's come to be in this rugged area of Scotland. With his memory offering only brief glimpses to drive him on, he stumbles searching while trying to knit together the pieces. A dead body, an angry teenager, and a suitcase found inexplicably containing a large sum of money. A fast-paced, stand-alone mystery set in a fully realized locale. For a similar feeling of locale, Ann Cleeves' Shetland mystery series, starting with **Raven Black**, would also appeal.



SEVEN FALLEN FEATHERS by Tanya Talaga

In a northern Ontario city, seven Indigenous youth have died while extending their high school education. A brisk, non-fiction work of compelling and disturbing facts. Talaga weaves the youths' personal histories together with the ongoing impacts of the failed government sponsored residential school system and the current policies in effect today. A loud call for change and positive action. **The Bearskin Diaries**, by Carol Daniels, offers a fictionalized account of another government initiative referred to as the Sixties Scoop that also deeply affected Indigenous communities.



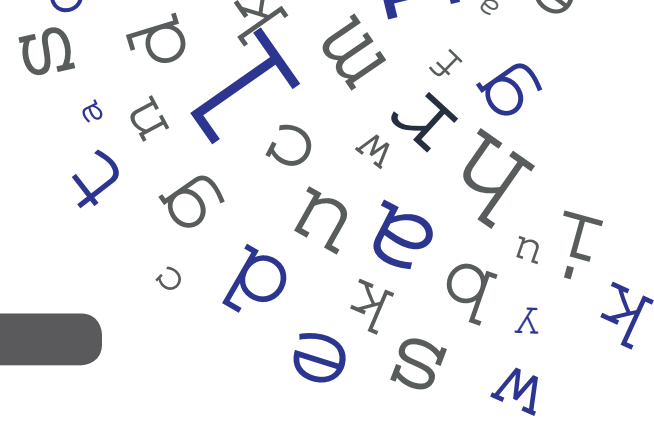
HOMEGOING by Yaa Gyasi

An intense multigenerational saga told through two half-sisters, Effia and Esi, and their descendants. Set in Ghana in the 18th century, one sister marries an Englishman while the other is captured during a village raid and sold into slavery destined for America. Their alternating, parallel stories remind us of the luck and harshness that befall some people and their families, and their enduring hope for better futures. Esi reminds us of other strong female characters, Sethe, from Toni Morrison's **Beloved** and Aminata, from Lawrence Hill's, **The Book of Negroes**.

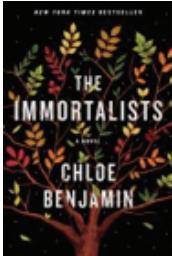


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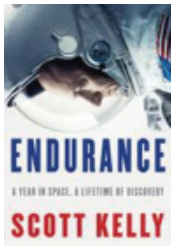


Julie Wendland, County of Lennox & Addington



THE IMMORTALISTS by Chloe Benjamin

What would you do if you went to a fortune teller and she told you the day of your death? **The Immortalists** follows each of the Gold siblings who, as youngsters, had their deaths foretold by a fortuneteller. Does this change the way they live their lives or do they “live” up to their preordained destiny? If family sagas appeal to you, try **Commonwealth** by Ann Patchett. If you are interested in fate where past meets future, **Avenue of Mysteries** by John Irving will interest you.



ENDURANCE: A YEAR IN SPACE, A LIFETIME OF DISCOVERY by Scott Kelly

Kelly's path to Space was not the typical astronaut's voyage. In this book, he tells the ups and downs of his life to date and what eventually led him to hold the American record for most consecutive days in Space. He was also a human guinea pig, testing the effects of long term space living compared to his twin astronaut brother. Chris Hadfield's **An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth** will give you another perspective of life in space, or to get the feel of being left on earth while your loved one is away you could read **The Astronaut Wives Club** by Lily Koppel.



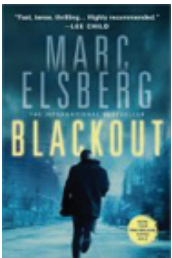
DEAD ON ARRIVAL by Matt Richtel

A plane full of crew and passengers land without aid from ground control in a Colorado town and make the horrific realization that bodies are strewn about the airport with no apparent life signs. Luckily, one of the passengers is a fallen from grace Infectious Disease Specialist. Richtel takes the reader on a fast-paced adventure to find out whether it is a deadly pandemic or is there something more sinister at play. **The Night Market** by Jonathan Moore has a similar suspenseful feel to it. Another fast-paced read is **The Last One** by Alexandra Oliva.



MR. FLOOD'S LAST RESORT by Jess Kidd

Part mystery, part ghost story, Kidd creates a delightful yarn with a cast of quirky characters, including the saint seeing Maud; hoarder Mr. Flood; and her nosy, agoraphobic and crime loving neighbour, Renata. When Maud takes on the job as caregiver to Mr. Flood, she soon realizes there may be more than a lifetime of accumulated junk she will need to take care. Then she learns of the mysterious death of his wife, as well as a young girl's disappearance. If eccentric characters are your thing, try **Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine** by Gail Honeyman, or if you like offbeat mysteries read **The Trouble with Goats and Sheep** by Joanna Cannon.



BLACKOUT by Marc Elsberg

When the power goes out all over Europe, controllers think it is a temporary glitch but as the outage carries on a hacker comes forward to say he thinks it was sabotage. Authorities have to decide whether they can trust a known hacker or not. Many themes are touched on with this book: a government cover up to prevent mass hysteria; the deterioration of society when basic needs are not met; and a cat and mouse search to stop the saboteurs before they succeed in world destabilization. John Christopher's **The Death of Grass** is another example of what happens when there is a government cover up. If you enjoy cyber-thrillers, then try **Zero Day** by Mark Russinovich.