

Coming Soon

Will Adams

The Alexander Cipher

While traveling through Egypt, Daniel Knox sneaks into an off-limits archaeological dig and realizes that he may be contemplating the grave of Alexander the Great.

Cecilia Ahern

Thanks for the Memories

After Joyce Conway receives a blood transfusion following a tragic accident, she unexpectedly has access to memories of the blood's donor. Upon release from the hospital, Joyce ends up on a wild goose chase after feeling a connection with a mysterious stranger.

David Baldacci

First Family

A daring kidnapping turns a children's birthday party at Camp David into a national security nightmare. The First Lady enlists the services of Sean King and Michelle Maxwell to bring the child back safely, but the mission gets complicated by Sean's past relationship with the President and Michelle's own emotional demons.

Elizabeth Berg

Home Safe

Recently widowed Helen Ames is shocked when she discovers that her quiet and loyal husband had been leading a double life and that he had spent their retirement money before his death. What could he possibly have spent it on? And what is Helen to do now?

Daniel Depp

Loser's Town

Now too old to work in the movies, David Spandau becomes a P. I. in Hollywood. His first job is a doozy—to protect upcoming film star Bobby Dye from the blackmail attempts of a deadly and powerful Mafia man who is trying to break into the film business.

Sarah Dunn

Secrets to Happiness

Still in love with her ex-husband, Holly Frick wonders if she'll ever find happiness again. A perpetual busybody, Holly is compelled to give advice even when she is wrong. Soon, her advice will get her in over her head, and she finds herself falling for the wrong man.

Joy Fielding

Still Life

Casey is the picture of contentment until she's hit by a runaway car and ends up in a coma. While Casey can't talk, she can still hear what everyone is saying—and she discovers that her friends aren't the nice people she thought they were and that her accident might have been intentional.

Jason Goodwin

The Bellini Card

Nineteenth-century Turkish gumshoe Yashim is instructed by the Ottoman sultan to go to Venice to buy a newly discovered portrait painted by Bellini. But as a killer stalks the city and all who have a connection with the Bellini, Yashim begins to suspect the painting is more trouble than it is worth.

Andrew Gross

Don't Think Twice

Detective Ty Hauck witnesses a convenience store killing and is shocked when he connects the murder to his politician brother.

Dara Horn

All Other Nights

Union army soldier Jacob Rappaport is recruited not to kill an enemy agent, but instead marry her.

Lisa Jackson

Malice

Though his first wife, Jennifer, died twelve years ago in a car wreck, Detective Rick Bentz has lately begun to see her everywhere. When several new murder victims are found to have links to Jennifer's past, Bentz becomes the prime suspect.



Coming Soon

Denis Johnson

Nobody Move

Gambler Jimmy Luntz owes some bad guys several grand but gets lucky when he escapes their clutches. When Jimmy meets the beautiful Anita Desilvera, she explains how she was recently swindled out of millions, and they set out to recover her money. Unfortunately, Jimmy's creditors discover the plan and decide they want it for themselves.

Laurie R. King

The Language of Bees

Mary Russell finds herself on the trail of a dangerous killer—a killer her husband Sherlock Holmes may be protecting for reasons near and dear to his heart.

Lisa Kleypas

Smooth Talking Stranger

Texas playboy Jack Travis hasn't a care in the world until one very angry woman arrives on his doorstep carrying a baby he fathered with the woman's sister.

Laura Lippman

Life Sentences

Cassandra Fallows is successful writer who returns home intent on finding her next story. When she tries to contact an old classmate who is incarcerated for a terrible crime, Cassandra realizes that her memories of her school days are very different than those of her high school friend's.

Lisa Lutz

Revenge of the Spellmans

The Spellmans, a nutty family who are in the private investigator business, are out for revenge, and, given the past history of this series, it is bound to be hysterical.

Gil MacNeil

The Beach Street Knitting Society and Yarn Club

Suddenly widowed, Jo Mackenzie moves to a small British seaside community and takes over her grandmother's knitting shop. There, she joins a group of dessert-addicted knitters and hopes to find new love.

James Patterson

The 8th Confession

In San Francisco, Detective Lindsay Boxer investigates a high-profile murder of the city's most glamorous millionaire couple. When a preacher is also found brutally executed, the hunt for two criminals tests the limits of the Women's Murder Club.

James Patterson

Max

Off the Hawaiian coast, fish begin to die by the millions and ships begin to sink by the hundreds. Maximum Ride and her friends are called upon to discover what evil lurks beneath the deadly waters.

Jodi Picoult

Handle with Care

Charlotte's daughter Willow is born with a syndrome that causes brittle bones, incurring huge medical expenses. When Charlotte files a wrongful birth lawsuit, the truths she must tell in court will test her family's faith and strength.

Lisa Scottoline

Look Again

When reporter Ellen Gleeson gets a missing child flyer in the mail, she nearly throws it away—until she notices that the child in the photo looks identical to her adopted son, Will.

Lisa See

Shanghai Girls

Beautiful, sophisticated, and well-educated, May and Pearl are two sisters living in Shanghai in the mid-1930s. Hoping to improve the family's social standing, their parents arrange for the two to marry men who have come from Los Angeles to find brides. When the sisters enter the United States, however, they feel the harsh reality of leaving home.

Barbara Vine

The Birthday Present

An upcoming young member of Parliament demonstrates supremely bad judgment when he gets involved in a role-playing game that leaves someone dead.

Rocky River Public Library

Tell Me Where It Hurts

Animal books and movies are living high on the hog these days. There are John Grogan's books about his dog Marley; *Dewey, the Small-Town Library Cat* *Who Touched the World* about that adorable cat in Spencer, Iowa by Vicki Myron; and Lois Duncan's *Hotel for Dogs*, all recently (or soon to be) made into movies. An animal book you may have missed is *Tell Me Where It Hurts: A Day of Humor, Healing, and Hope in My Life as an Animal Surgeon* by veterinarian Nick Trout.

Trout hits you in the heart first thing with his story about Sage, the ten-year-old German shepherd who will die without emergency surgery for a serious stomach condition. Sage is owned by an older widowed man who must come to grips with the possibility of losing his beloved dog. The doctor is awakened from sleep at 2:47 a.m. to handle Sage's case, and so begins his day at the Angell Animal Medical Center near Boston.

Dr. Trout tells his stories with humor and empathy and his stories about pet owners are sometimes just as intriguing as the animals themselves. As you read about all the animals Trout treats, he keeps you in suspense on the condition of Sage. If you've ever had a pet, are an animal lover, or just simply want to read a good book, *Tell Me Where it Hurts* is for you.

—Ann Jackson

Death's Door

Alive in Necropolis is the story of a rookie cop in Colma, California, a town that has more dead residents than living. He begins to investigate what happened to a longtime cop that died on duty outside one of Colma's many cemeteries and learns more about death, and life, than he ever expected. Doug Dorst's first novel is dramatic, thoughtful, sometimes funny, crude and yet lyrical, and most definitely intriguing.

—Julie Mortensen

Serena

In *Serena* by Ron Rash, the nation is on the brink of the Great Depression when George Pemberton returns to North Carolina from a trip to Boston with a surprise—his new bride, Serena. The two have joined together out of their mutual attraction to one another, their lust for money and power, and their thirst for blood. Together, they build a lumber empire, unafraid of vanquishing anyone standing in their way, including National Park planners who are attempting to acquire their lands for park use. It is indeed unfortunate for Rachel Harmon, the young mother of George's illegitimate son, when Serena turns her attentions toward the destruction of George's heir.

Unforgettable characters, brilliant plotting and eloquent prose make this one fabulous read. *Serena* is suspenseful historical fiction at its finest—you'll want to savor every word.

—Carol O'Keefe

Dracula Meets Jack the Ripper

The Dracula Dossier is a new historical suspense novel by James Reese. The story begins when a package is sent by an anonymous donor to a New York publishing house. In the package, titled the Dracula Dossier, is a collection of journal entries, newspaper clippings, letters and telegrams connecting the author, Bram Stoker, to the serial murders of 1888 in London long associated with the infamous Jack the Ripper. What is real? What is pure fiction? This eerie tale reads like the original Gothic tale, *Dracula*, by Bram Stoker and adds a new twist to the entire Jack the Ripper lore.

—Donna Zmrazek

...All the Best in Reading!

Between the Covers features a taste of what you'll find in The Reading Room, our browsing database of over 5,000 titles that have been read and reviewed by our own library staff. Click on The Reading Room on our website or go to <http://readingroom.rrpl.org> to use this special service.

FICTION

Dear American Airlines

Jonathan Miles

Stranded at O'Hare while trying to fly to his daughter's wedding, middle-aged poet turned translator Bennie Ford begins a complaint letter to American Airlines that turns into a memoir of his missed opportunities and regrets.

Miles' first novel is funny, honest, intelligent and moving. Despite Bennie's flaws, he is an affectionate character. Full of digressions ranging from airport smoking to bathroom graffiti to conversation by post-it note, this novel is a page-turner.

Ms. Hempel Chronicles

Sarah Shun-Lien Bynum

Twenty-something Beatrice Hempel is a new middle school teacher, but in some ways is in need of growing up herself. As Ms. Hempel navigates her way through the events of her own life, including the recent death of her father and a broken engagement, she begins to question her dedication to her profession.

This novel of eight connected stories is eloquently written and filled with sweet, sad and humorous moments. Ms. Hempel's confessions of her insecurities and her unfulfilled dreams make her an endearing and realistic character.

YOUNG ADULT

The Boxer and the Spy

Robert B. Parker

The body of a young student has washed up on shore. The official ruling is suicide, precipitated by the use of steroids. A classmate of the victim, unwilling to accept the finding, risks his own reputation and personal safety to investigate, thereby uncovering a link to political corruption.

Parker takes off the gloves and lands a successful punch with the aid of his formidable writing skills. While this is his second book aimed specifically at young adults, readers of all ages will easily appreciate this story and its messages.

SUSPENSE

Dawn Patrol

Don Winslow

The easygoing beach life of surfer Boone Daniels, ex-cop turned private investigator, is turned upside down when he is asked by a beautiful attorney to investigate the disappearance of her client who is the star witness in an insurance fraud case.

This fast-moving story is filled with interesting history and culture surrounding the surfing scene in the San Diego area. Twists in the plot line keep you reading. Contains some graphic language and descriptions.

Go With Me

Castle Freeman

When Lillian asks the local sheriff in her backwoods Vermont town to investigate a man named Blackway for stalking her, the sheriff does nothing. Instead, Lillian is offered help by two men, the wise old-timer Lester, and a large, lumbering younger man known as Nate the Great. The three set out on a quest to find Blackway, but once he is found, Lillian is unsure of what the men will do to help. Meanwhile, a motley group of local townsmen drink beer and while away the day, pondering the progress the group has made tracing Blackway and trading local gossip.

This gem of a novel can be devoured in a single sitting. Though suspenseful and violent, this novel is also filled with humor and atmospheric descriptions of the Vermont hills. Readers will be poised on the edge of their seats waiting to see how this non-traditional damsel in distress story ends.

The Devil's Right Hand

J. D. Rhoades

Bounty hunter Jack Keller is caught in the crossfire between a pair of dimwitted cousins who murder an old Indian during an armed robbery and their victim's son, a local crime boss. Meanwhile, Keller has his own problems dealing with Gulf War issues.

High-powered adrenaline and nonstop action. First in a planned series.

HISTORICAL FICTION

The Little Giant of Aberdeen County

Tiffany Baker

Truly's gland problem causes her to grow to an incredible size and makes her an outsider in her small hometown. Things are only worse because her sister, Serena Jane, is as perfect and pretty as a girl can be and is the object of adoration for the town's doctor, the petty and cruel Robert Morgan. When Serena Jane dies, Robert Morgan takes Truly in, only to torment her about her size. Will Truly find happiness, or will she have to resort to taking matters into her own hands?

Readers are treated to a story filled with small-town life, romantic love, family drama, magic realism, and a loveable, if not perfect, narrator.

So Brave, Young, and Handsome

Leif Enger

Living with his wife and son in Minnesota, Monte Becket is a struggling writer who has lost his muse. Monte is inspired when he meets the mysterious Glendon Hale, a boatbuilding drifter who asks Monte to travel with him to California. Their journey, however, quickly becomes one of escape, and Monte learns that Glendon is a murderous train robber on the run from ex-Pinkerton agent Charles Siringo.

This irresistible and charming novel is set in the West in the early 1900s. Filled with train robbers and cowboys. Adventure and suspense combine to make this a memorable road story.

WOMEN'S FICTION

How Perfect Is That

Sarah Bird

Austin, Texas strata-climbing socialite Blythe Young is made penniless by her divorce, thanks to a pre-nup agreement. Disgraced and slightly addicted to caffeine and pharmaceuticals, Blythe finds herself running from the IRS, and is forced to move into the boardinghouse she lived in during college. There she hopes to enlist help from her once-best friend Millie.

Laugh-out-loud and fast-paced reading with a sweet romance between the secondary characters. Recommended for readers who don't mind a naughty leading lady. Perfect vacation reading.

MYSTERY

Before the Frost

Henning Mankel

Fresh from the police academy, Swedish Detective Kurt Wallender's daughter Linda is immediately thrust into a murder investigation when her best friend, Anna, disappears. Is this related to the supposed reappearance of Anna's father, to a new religious cult, or to a series of bizarre and violent events in the community?

Mankell's Wallender is a crusty old-school detective who has neglected his personal life, including his daughter Linda. This novel follows the conflicts and partnership that ensue now that she has decided to follow in her father's footsteps.

I Am Not a Cop!

Richard Belzer

Author Richard Belzer inserts himself into this mystery involving a missing coroner and the Russian Mafia. Using the skills he has accumulated playing detective John Munch, Belzer tries to find his friend without losing his job.

Fans of the John Munch character from TV's "Homicide" and "Law and Order" will not want to miss this one. The reader can't help but hear Belzer's voice throughout. The story moves quickly and the mystery solution is satisfying.

Quick Study: A Murder 101 Mystery

Maggie Barbieri

One would think that English professor Alison Bergeron would have enough on her mind with her class schedule, her adorable dog, her meddlesome friends, and her handsome boyfriend, NYPD detective Bobby Crawford. When Alison meets an Ecuadoran family at a local soup kitchen where she volunteers, she becomes involved in their problems. Their nephew is missing, and it seems he was involved in forging green cards for workers at a nearby construction site. Alison knows Bobby is working on the case, but she just can't resist doing a little investigating herself.

This third in the series takes Barbieri to the head of the cozy mystery class. It is hard not to laugh out loud at the almost slapstick antics of Alison. The mystery provides danger, flirtation, humor, and touching moments of friendship.

...All the Best in Reading!

Too Close to Home

Linwood Barclay's latest thriller *Too Close to Home* combines a parent's worst nightmare with nonstop, heart-pounding action.

Bill and Ellen Cutter are devastated when their 17-year-old son, Derek, is arrested for the murder of their neighbors, the Langleys. Derek insists that he was in the house only to secretly meet with his girlfriend, Penny, while the Langleys were on vacation, but they came back early.

Believing in his son's innocence, Bill discovers that an old computer with a manuscript of a book very similar to a local college president's bestseller is missing from the Langley house. Is the college president a plagiarist, or is something more sinister going on in the town?

Author of *No Time for Good Bye*, Linwood Barclay has written another winner in *Too Close to Home*. Plan on staying up late to finish this one.

—Evelyn Janoch

Outliers

Is it hard work, talent, and perseverance that create success or is it merely being born in a particular month or year? Consider the lives of outliers: people who have been given those types of serendipitous opportunities and have had the presence of mind to seize them. With one fascinating example after another, *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell makes his case that there's a peculiar and unexpected logic that leads to success. And more importantly, he helps us realize the potential his findings present for all of us.

If you enjoyed Gladwell's *The Tipping Point*, in which he explores the causes of dramatic change, or *Blink*, in which he discusses the validity of snap judgments, you're sure to be intrigued by *Outliers*.

—Chris Nowak

Hungry for a Good Book?

Imagine a futuristic world where the United States has been replaced by a society where children compete in an annual fight to the death to ensure the survival of their citizens. These are the Hunger Games.

The State of Panem has twelve districts, which are under the rule of a government that controls the supply of food and other necessities. Each year, one teenage boy and girl from each district are chosen at random to compete in a televised game in which there is one survivor. The survivor wins a year's supply of food and supplies for their district and is therefore hailed as a hero. Sixteen-year-old Katniss has spent her whole life learning how to survive on nothing. When her little sister is chosen for the Hunger Games, Katniss takes her place and is whisked away to a secret location where she must kill or be killed. Her situation is even further complicated by the revelation that one of her competitors is in love with her.

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins is an exciting and intriguing book that is the first in a planned trilogy. Teens and adult science-fiction lovers will have difficulty putting it down.

—Victoria Vogel

New Series

The House on Tradd Street is Karen White's latest novel and first in a planned series featuring Melanie Middleton, a Charleston real-estate agent who can see ghosts. When she inherits a historic home from an elderly man and must live in it for a year to restore it, she finds out that she has to deal with a whole family of ghosts who live there. She is forced to join forces with Jack Trenholm, a writer who believes the ghosts are connected to some missing diamonds from the American Civil War. Part romance, part mystery, and part ghost story, this fun and entertaining story will appeal to readers of all kinds!

—Donna Zmrazek

Between the Covers...

Rocky River Public Library

Another Chance at Love

Kissing Games of the World is the latest novel by Sandi Kahn Shelton. Single mother and part-time artist Jamie McClintock and her young son have lived for awhile with an elderly man and his grandson in their old farmhouse to help share responsibilities and costs. When the elderly man suddenly dies, Jamie must find a new home since the estranged son, Nate, returns home and plans to sell the farmhouse. He also wants to re-enter the life of the son he left his father to raise. After all these years, Nate has no idea how to be a father and he does not trust Jamie's attempts at help. Jamie and Nate both struggle to start over again. Shelton has constructed a tender and heart-warming story with real, believable characters who try to give love a second chance.

—Donna Zmrazek

Pudding's Story

Elizabeth McCracken is a rare writer and it shows in her memoir, *An Exact Replica of a Figment of My Imagination*. She has an appreciation for the absurd, the ability to make her personal memories feel universal, and when she shares what she's learned, it feels more like friendly advice than a lesson. It's fun to share Elizabeth's surprise at becoming attached, then married, to Englishman and fellow writer Edward Carey. It's even more exciting when Elizabeth discovers she's pregnant while they're living in Paris, France. But that's not really the story she's writing. Elizabeth is allowing readers into some of the best and worst moments of her life. This is the story of the happy months and sad days that come before the still birth of their baby boy they named Pudding. They didn't know why it happened, and they still don't, but that's not why you'll want to read this book. Instead, you'll find that this is a hopeful and strong story with the chance of a happier ending the second time around.

—Stacey Hayman

The North vs. the South

David H. Jones brings the period of the American Civil War to life in his newest novel, *Two Brothers: One North, One South*. Covering a four-year span that begins in 1861 and ends at the Armory Square Hospital in Washington, D.C. in 1865, the novel is based on a true, but little-known story of two brothers from Baltimore who fought on opposite sides of the war. Well-researched, this book not only examines the effects of war on the divided family but also on their friends and associates. History buffs and Civil War fans will certainly be enthralled with this fascinating story.

—Donna Zmrazek

A Most Complicated Case

When Will There Be Good News? by Kate Atkinson is a superb literary mystery. Readers must stay on their toes to catch the subtle clues scattered throughout this story.

When Joanna Hunter was six years old, she witnessed the murder of her mother, older sister, and baby brother. Thirty years later, she is a successful physician in Scotland with a darling baby son and an unreliable husband. Dr. Hunter's "mother's helper" is Reggie, a smart and observant teenager, who has experienced more than her share of tragedy. Jackson Brodie is a retired police detective with dismal luck, which continues with his finances, travel, current wife, and ex-wives.

The lives of Joanna, Reggie, and Jackson will criss-cross in ways that are both surprising and dramatic when Andrew Decker, the convicted murderer of her family, is set free. The character of young Reggie shines as she realizes the danger Joanna faces and convinces Jackson Brodie to investigate.

—Rosemary Ward

...All the Best in Reading!

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Love and Consequences

Brought up in Peru by upper-class German immigrants, 45-year-old Carlos Bluhm's way of life is fading. He lives with his wife and children in his parents' mansion while pawning their valuables to keep up appearances. Out at a dance club, he meets Maria, a 15-year-old indigenous girl who has grown up in the slums of Lima. Intending to have a quick affair, he instead becomes obsessed with her beauty, vivacity and determinedness. To Maria, white, blue-eyed Carlos is her chance to get out of a life riddled with poverty and violence. After their affair is discovered, Carlos' wife moves out and Maria moves in. Twenty years later, Carlos and Maria are living together as strangers. He has lost his family, friends and social standing. She is alone, snubbed by neighbors and frightened that she will lose the security of her life with Carlos.

In *Lima Nights*, Marie Arana creates an honest, moving portrait of a relationship seemingly doomed from the start. Against a backdrop of social and racial prejudice, Carlos and Maria have made some kind of life together, but has it been worth the cost?

—Dori Olivos

Songs for the Missing

The summer before she is to leave home for college, 18-year-old Kim Larsen goes missing from her small town in Ohio. Kim's parents, her 13-year-old sister, Lindsay, and Kim's friends all struggle with Kim's disappearance. Desperate to find her yet terrified of her fate, they cling to and celebrate the memory of the sweet and beautiful girl that each of them knew in different ways. Stuart O'Nan's *Songs for the Missing* is a gripping and suspenseful read that is also dark, introspective and sad. With honest and artfully drawn characters, this story of loss is one you'll remember long after the last page is read.

—Carol O'Keefe

Time for Romance!

Travel back in time for love and seduction with these historical romance paperbacks!



Seduction of a Proper Gentleman
by Victoria Alexander

Highlander Ever After
by Jennifer Ashley

How to Enjoy a Scandal
by Adrienne Basso

Tempted by the Night
by Elizabeth Boyle

Tempt the Devil
by Anna Campbell

Seduced at Midnight
by Jacquie D'Alessandro

To Seduce a Texan
by Georgina Gentry

Between the Devil and Desire
by Lorraine Heath

Border Moonlight
by Amanda Scott

Tall, Dark, and Texan
by Jodi Thomas

Between the Covers