

Coming Soon

Tom Clancy

Threat Vector

Jack Ryan is back in the Oval Office and faced with a new international threat—China is planning an invasion of Taiwan. Determined to thwart it, the President's son, Jack Ryan, Jr. and his colleagues at the Campus may be just the wild card that his father needs to stack the deck. There's just one problem: someone knows about the off-the-books intelligence agency and threatens to blow their cover sky high.

Joy Fielding

Shadow Creek

An unlikely group of campers including a woman, her two oddball friends, her teen daughter and her ex's fiancé embark on a trip in the Adirondacks only to be targeted by a pair of teenage killers.

Lee Goldberg

Mr. Monk Gets Even

It's a foggy San Francisco summer, but for Adrian Monk the future is looking bright. Monk has a new assistant in Natalie's daughter, Julie and even a girlfriend, Ellen Morse! While investigating a string of accidental deaths, he quickly determines they are actually murders. But when Monk's prime suspect is killed, Monk is forced to face the fact that, for the first time, he might actually be wrong. Has Monk lost his mojo?

Kerry Greenwood

Unnatural Habits: A Phryne Fisher Mystery

It's 1929, and little, pretty golden-haired girls are going missing in Melbourne. Polly Kettle, a pushy, self-important Girl Reporter with ambition and no sense of self-preservation, decides to investigate. When Polly promptly goes missing herself, it's time for Phryne Fisher to locate Polly before something quite irreparable happens.

James Grippando

Blood Money

Thanks to news coverage, millions have convicted Jack Swyteck's latest client in the arena of public opinion. Sydney Bennett, a nightclub waitress is accused of murdering her two-year-old daughter for cramping her party life. A verdict of not guilty creates uproar and puts Sydney's life at risk. When a woman bearing a striking resemblance to Sydney ends up dead, the media blame Jack's defense team, but something bigger and more organized is at work, and Jack sets out to find it.

Linda Howard

Shadow Woman

Lizette Henry wakes up and doesn't recognize the face she sees in the mirror. She remembers what she looks like, but her reflection is someone else's. Lizette also discovers that she has acquired some unusual skills and that assassins are out to get her. With nowhere to hide, Lizette has no choice but to rely on a strange strong and magnetic man she doesn't trust, to help confront a truth that, once revealed, may silence her for good.

Liz Jensen

The Uninvited

Hesketh has Asperger's Syndrome and a talent for spotting behavioral patterns. When acts of sabotage and child violence sweep the globe, he is forced to acknowledge possibilities that defy the rational principles on which he has staked his life, his career, and, most devastatingly of all, his role as a father in this novel that is part psychological thriller, part dystopian nightmare.

Robert Knott

Robert B. Parker's Ironhorse

For years, Virgil Cole and Everett Hitch have ridden roughshod over rabble-rousers and gun hands in troubled towns like Appaloosa, Resolution, and Brimstone. Now, newly appointed as Territorial Marshalls, they find themselves traveling by train through the Indian Territories. A simple mission to escort Mexican prisoners to the border becomes much more complicated when the Governor of Texas, his wife and daughters climb aboard with their bodyguards and \$500,000 in tow.



Coming Soon

Tracie Peterson and Judith Miller

To Honor and Trust

It's 1913, and the Bridal Veil Island resort now features a golf course, tennis courts, and bicycles for transportation. The wealthy have built large cottages with the grandest luxuries available. When thefts occur, everyone becomes a suspect. Meanwhile, Callie Deboyer and Wesley Townsend meet at the golf links, and Callie soon finds herself falling for him. But when Wesley's true past is revealed, will Callie ever be able to place her trust in him again?

Karen Robards

Shiver

Repossessing cars to support her small son after being abandoned on the harsh streets of East St. Louis, young single mother Samantha Jones discovers a dying man in the trunk of a car who takes her hostage and forces her to help him reach his protectors.

J. D. Robb

Calculated in Death

On Manhattan's Upper East Side, well-off accountant, beloved wife, and mother, Marta Dickenson, lies dead at the bottom of the stairs, stripped of all her valuables. Why was she on someone's hit list? Eve Dallas and her partner, Peabody, must immerse themselves in the world of big business to figure out who's cruel and callous enough to hire a hit on an innocent woman.

James Rollins and Rebecca Cantrell

Blood Gospel

An earthquake in Masada, Israel, kills hundreds and reveals a tomb buried in the heart of the mountain. Three investigators—Sergeant Jordan Stone, a military forensic expert; Father Rhun Korza, a Vatican priest; and Dr. Erin Granger, a disillusioned archaeologist—are sent to explore the macabre discovery, a subterranean temple holding the crucified body of a mummified girl. A brutal attack sets the three on the run, and into a race to recover what was once preserved in the tomb's sarcophagus—a book rumored to have been written by Christ's own hand.

Jose Saramago

Raised from the Ground

Published for the first time in English, this City of Lisbon Prize-winning novel documents the changing fortunes of the Mau Tempo family, poor, landless peasants living in Alentejo, a southern province of Portugal, during a time of political strife.

Will Self

Umbrella

In the hospital at which he has just begun working, maverick psychiatrist Zachary Busner notices that many of the patients exhibit the same strange physical tic. One such patient, Audrey Dearth, is an elderly woman born in the slums of West London in 1890. Her memories of a bygone Edwardian London, and, in particular, her time working in an umbrella shop, alternate with Busner's attempts to treat her condition. Busner's investigations into Audrey's illness lead to discoveries about her family that are shocking and tragic.

Haywood Smith

Out of Warranty

Cassie Jones, who has been branded a hypochondriac, is relieved to learn that her symptoms can be traced to a mold allergy, but since she's uninsured, she can get no relief. At the doctor's, she meets cranky Jack Wilson, whose filthy farmhouse is packed to the rafters with "part trash, part treasure." They begin a friendship based on their mutual poor health. When it dawns on Jack that he has the insurance Cassie seeks, while she has a clean place for him to live, Jack proposes that they marry and live as friends.

Stuart Woods

Collateral Damage

Terrorist Jasmine Shazaz orchestrates a series of bombings to avenge her brothers. She leaves a trail of carnage before Stone Barrington and CIA director Holly Barker get involved. Soon, it is a dangerous game of murder and vengeance, and Shazaz has bigger plans than they could ever imagine.

A Trip to Laura World

The Wilder Life: My Adventures in the Lost World of Little House on the Prairie by Wendy McClure is a nostalgic first-person account of the author's obsessive pursuit of the "Laura Experience." The discovery of her childhood copies of the Little House books sparks the year-long journey that takes her across the country and back. What begins innocently enough with a butter churn in her apartment ends with a harrowing overnight stay in a covered wagon, a series of pageants, and a Little House inspired musical. Well-researched facts about the Ingalls coupled with hilarious personal anecdotes make this a charming must-read for any Little House fan.

—Megan Alabaugh

In An Instant Everything Changes

The first two sentences in Richard Ford's **Canada** read "First I'll tell about the robbery our parents committed. Then about the murders, which happened later." Even though the writer elaborates on those two sentences for 203 pages before moving on to Part Two of the book, I found myself savoring every word. The son, Dell, narrates the story of how this incident impacted his life, and the lives of his twin sister, Berner, and their parents. When the robbery occurs, the fifteen-year-old twins have to grow up quickly and both will do anything to avoid becoming wards of the state. Berner disappears down the street then drifts in and out of Dell's life through old age, and Dell is rushed off to Canada with a family friend, and hides out there until adulthood, when he returns to the states. Read the title **Canada** not as a place, but rather as a synonym for growth, change and peace.

Don't miss reading **Independence Day**, winner of Pulitzer Prize and the PEN/Faulkner Award, **The Lay of the Land** and numerous short-story collections by Richard Ford.

—Chris Nowak

What in God's Name?

In **What in God's Name** by Simon Rich, God, CEO of Heaven Inc., is bored with human beings, so he plans to destroy the earth and open up an Asian fusion restaurant. Craig and Eliza, two angels in the Department of Miracles, strike a deal with God to save the human race. If they can help two painfully shy people who live a few blocks from each other fall in love within thirty days, God will save the planet. Craig and Eliza begin the task of arranging chance encounters and eventually recruit God's assistant Archangel Flynn to assist.

Rich, a staff writer for "Saturday Night Live", has created a quick funny read with an irreverent take on heaven and God.

—Emma Dittmar

A Cheater's Life

In his recent collection of nine short stories, **This is How You Lose Her**, Junot Diaz revisits the themes of love and lust, Dominican immigrant life and parental shortcomings that he began in his first collection **Drown**. His alter ego Yuniór also returns as narrator in eight of the stories, still with the swagger, but older and more vulnerable. He describes women in swooning detail but his womanizing is leaving him heartbroken. Diaz' language thrills; it's breathtaking but gritty, full of literary references and bits of Spanish. He jumps from first person narration to second as we learn of Yuniór's painful childhood, his brother's cancer, an underage affair with a neighborhood woman, encounters with racism and his aging body. As the stories weave back and forth, we learn a little more about what makes Yuniór tick, how he suffers and survives, but will he overcome his past to find love?

—Dori Olivos

Between the Covers features a taste of what you'll find in **The Reading Room**, our browsing database of over 7,500 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.

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

Pure

Juliana Baggot

When she turns sixteen, Pressia must enlist in an army that would kill her as soon as let her serve in the post-apocalyptic wasteland world that was left after the 'detonations.' Like everyone outside, Pressia has been scarred, and she lives with a doll's head fused to her fist. Partridge, safe within the Dome, is unmarked. Called a Pure, Partridge's kind are both envied and hated by those outside, but this Pure has secrets in his past. To find answers, he escapes from the Dome and meets Pressia, who is now on the run. When their worlds collide, these two young people will find they have more in common than they ever imagined.

Fast paced and tough to put down, this first in a planned trilogy will appeal to fans of the Hunger Games series. Readers should be warned: Baggot's world is violent, dark, and frightening.

TEEN FICTION

Throne of Glass

Sarah J. Maas

Celaena Sardothien is an eighteen-year-old assassin doing hard labor for her crimes when Crown Prince Dorian offers her an opportunity to earn her freedom. She must compete against other outlaws, criminals and assassins in order to become the king's new assassin.

This is an exciting debut and series opener. Royal intrigue, a strong heroine, and a surprise supernatural element mix with action and romance for a suspenseful read. Readers will be eager for the sequel.

NONFICTION/MEMOIR

When I Stop Talking You'll Know I'm Dead: Useful Stories From A Persuasive Man

Jerry Weintraub

This autobiography of music manager and movie mogul Jerry Weintraub, traces his exploits, from taking Elvis on tour and producing Oh God and the Ocean's Eleven movies, among others.

Written in a quick and funny voice, this is a very breezy read. Packed with stories of the biggest names, like Elvis and Sinatra, this book gives insight into the life of a big-time producer, without slinging too much mud

Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Trail

Cheryl Strayed

This is an emotionally gripping memoir about the author's journey hiking the Pacific Crest Trail after the death of her mother and a painful divorce. As she hikes, the weight of her grief and pain begins to lift.

Lyrical written, gripping, and often funny, this is a memoir that reads like fiction. Strayed lays it all out there, baring her anguish and weaknesses.

HISTORICAL FICTION

Ruth's Redemption

Marlene Banks

Bo Peace, a free black from Virginia, buys slaves in order to set them free and eventually purchases Ruth, his future wife. Due to her young life as a slave breeder, Ruth has a hard time adjusting to freedom and marriage to a man who totally adores her.

An amazing story of courage and redemption.

Between the Covers...

MYSTERY

The Skeleton Box

Bryan Gruley

After a series of break-ins, the residents of Starvation Lake are worried, but when one of their own is murdered, panic sets in. The victim was found in the house of local newspaper editor Gus Carpenter's mother and the police think she's hiding something. As Gus begins to investigate, he uncovers long held secrets that shake him to his core.

This third in a mystery series set in Starvation Lake, a small town that's seen better days, is full of twists and turns, faulty memories and family skeletons.

Miss Me When I'm Gone

Emily Arsenault

Once best friends, Jamie and Gretchen had been drifting apart since college. Sadly, it is Gretchen's unexpected death that brings the two friends close again. Asked to complete Gretchen's current manuscript, Jamie stumbles upon old secrets someone is willing to kill to keep.

This is more than a murder mystery, this story is also about: friendship, divorce, career, motherhood, and how women identify themselves in relation to these topics. Not a fast page turner but nicely thought-provoking.

Murder Most Austen

Tracy Kiely

Elizabeth Parker and her Aunt Winnie are headed for the week-long Jane Austen Festival in Bath. On the plane, they meet a so-called expert who plans to wow everyone with his theory that Jane Austen died of syphilis. It really shouldn't be a surprise when he's murdered, but that doesn't keep Elizabeth from investigating!

A smart mystery with likeable characters, this might be the fourth book in the series but could also be enjoyed on its own.

FICTION

Where'd You Go, Bernadette

Maria Semple

Bernadette, wife of a Microsoft executive and mother to her 15-year-old daughter Bee, has gone missing. Once a rising star architect, the unconventional Bernadette has lost her vision somewhere between moving out of L.A. and raising her child. Feeling crushed by the competitive motherhood scene in Seattle, she's become somewhat agoraphobic. When confronted by her husband, Bernadette disappears, without a trace.

This novel's format, a scrapbook containing email correspondence, interoffice school memos, letters, and FBI documents which Bee uses to attempt to find Bernadette, adds to the originality of this fabulous book. A laugh out loud book about mothers and daughters and reconnecting to oneself.

The Beginner's Goodbye

Anne Tyler

After middle-aged Aaron loses his wife Dorothy to an accident involving a fallen tree, he's heartbroken and upended. Crippled as a child, he's spent his life pushing pity away, so finds it difficult to mourn. When, however, Dorothy starts appearing to him, Aaron is able to revisit their relationship and begin to heal.

Tyler's humor and skill in dissecting domestic life continue to shine. Not a saccharine, but a sensitive look at recovering from loss.

Care of Wooden Floors

Will Wiles

Life unravels quickly when our unnamed narrator agrees to house-sit his obsessive, perfectionist college friend's flat in Eastern Europe while he is away and then accidentally ruins his precious wood flooring.

What a unique book! This first novel is intriguing, well-written, comical, a bit dark and strangely suspenseful. It will make you alternatively laugh and cringe while you await Oskar's return.

...25 Years and Counting!

And She Was

Brenna Spector has a rare neurological disorder that enables her to recall every detail of every day of her life. This ability is a plus and a minus in Brenna's work as an investigator of missing persons. Now she has been hired by a man whose wife has gone missing, but also had ties to a missing 6-year-old girl from the past. **And She Was** by Alison Gaylin is a paperback original that grabs you from the first chapter, and Brenna is a cool new character in mystery-suspense.

—Ann Jackson

The Testament of Jessie Lamb

In the not so distant future, a virus strikes that causes MDS, Maternal Death Syndrome, killing women who become pregnant and thus ensuring the end of humankind. 16-year-old Jessie is, at first, not concerned; she's a typical teenager and is thinking about boys and school. However, as life becomes more uncertain, and friends and relatives affected, she begins to look for purpose and meaning in the chaos. Meanwhile, her father, a scientist, tells her about a breakthrough: they've been able to keep mothers alive long enough to deliver healthy babies by inducing comas, calling the women, 'Sleeping Beauties'. When scientists then begin to enlist young woman as volunteers to become incubators for frozen embryos, Jessie feels like she's found something within her power to do, the ultimate sacrifice for the future of humanity.

Jane Rogers, in the Arthur C. Clarke award-winning **The Testament of Jessie Lamb**, writes a harrowing tale about one young woman's attempt to make sense of a bleak and unforgiving world.

—Dori Olivos

The Revised Fundamentals of Caregiving

On the surface, Jonathan Evison's novel **The Revised Fundamentals of Caregiving** should be one depressing read. The novel's protagonist, a heartbroken once stay-at-home-dad, Ben Benjamin, has been left by his wife, is about to go bankrupt, and worst of all, has had to bury his two young children. After spending 18 months in a deep depression, Ben takes a health care class and accepts a minimum pay job as a caregiver to 19-year-old Trevor, who is in advanced stages of Muscular Dystrophy. While his body is becoming more and more uncooperative, Trevor's mind is clear, and he has only one thing on it—girls. As Ben carries, showers and dresses Trevor daily, the two men form a friendship that culminates in a mad-cap, cross country road trip that holds the possibilities of liberation and healing for both of them. This triumphant and emotionally charged novel will both break your heart and make you laugh a hundred different times and leave you believing that, "Around every corner is a reason to hope."

—Carol O'Keefe

Calling all Crafters!

Are you a dedicated crafter? Then here is the perfect challenge for you! Check out *Craft-a-Day: 365 Simple Handmade Projects* by Sarah Goldschadt and see if you can keep your fingers flying with the author's daily craft offering. Weekly themes nicely match the seasons and holidays, instructions are easy to follow, and there are plenty of great ideas for all levels of expertise. Conquer the crafts provided and you'll not only have made some wonderful trinkets and toys, but you'll also have the seeds of inspiration for years to come. What a great gift to give your inner-crafting-child!

—Stacey Hayman

And Everywhere that Mary Went

For a truly unusual reading experience, check out Matthea Harvey's poetry book **Of Lamb**. In a graphic novel format, **Of Lamb** is like a picture book for adults. This retelling of Mary Had a Little Lamb is filled with absolutely lovely paintings by Amy Jean Porter on every page. What is gorgeous to look at and magical to read becomes more extraordinary when you learn about this book's evolution. Begun as an experiment in erasure poetry, the process of creating poems by omitting words from an already created or published piece of text, this book's inspiration came from a randomly-selected biography of 18th century British essayist Charles Lamb. In Harvey's adult version of this oh-so-familiar nursery rhyme, Mary and Lamb are in love—but can they figure out a way to make it work? Read this delightful book to find out.

—Carol O'Keefe

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope, by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer, is one of those stories that makes you want to applaud. It's the true account of William Kamkwamba and his quest to build a windmill in his poor village in Malawi. William tells of the tragic conditions that he and his family endure just trying to survive on their farms. In 2002 a horrible drought hits, but using their very basic food supply and some business sense, William and his family are able to ride it out. Throughout these tribulations, William, unable to pay the fees for school, uses the books in the village library to teach himself. It is in these books that he sees a windmill, and begins his self-taught quest to build one, amassing junk parts and ignoring those who call him crazy. William succeeds and brings electricity to his home, and soon his story goes worldwide. This is one book that will definitely make you aspire to do more with what you have, and marvel at what others are able to accomplish with so little.

—Steve Haas

Shrouded In Mystery

Gilded Shroud is the first in a new mystery series by Elizabeth Bailey set in Georgian England. It features amateur sleuth, Ottilia Draycott, an intelligent young widow who takes a position as lady's companion. Her first day sees the companion's daughter-in-law murdered, son presumably on the run, and a family heirloom missing. Many would've taken the first coach out of town, but Ottilia is a keen observer with an unflappable disposition and is determined to help the family, including the rather attractive younger brother, find the truth. This historical novel of manners and murder will have you whiling away the afternoon ensconced in a cozy chair.

—Julie Mortensen

It's a Wilde, Wilde World

In Hester Browne's new book, **The Runaway Princess**, Amy Wilde is small town girl from Yorkshire, transplanted into the big city of London. Amy's left her childhood home to grow a landscaping business focused on creating beautifully useful gardens. Working with good-natured Ted, co-owner of the business, and living with Jo, the best friend a girl could ever have, Amy's pretty content. Then she meets Leo, more formally known as Prince Leopold of Nirona, and love blooms. But Amy isn't just a commoner in love with royalty, Amy's family has some dirty secrets and Leo's family has some skeletons of their own. Can true love really conquer all? Such likable characters in such an engaging and amusing story, this book is the perfect choice to have waiting after a long day of work, or to pass a quiet afternoon. In classic Hester Browne style, readers have plenty of troubles to worry over while hoping for a happy ending.

—Stacey Hayman

Rocky River Public Library

The Diviners

The Diviners by Libba Bray is a dark and dangerous journey through New York City during the Roaring Twenties. When Evie O'Neill causes a scandal in her small Ohio town her parents ship her off to live with her uncle in New York City. Evie has every intention of living a glamorous flapper lifestyle, despite having to help out at The Museum of American Folklore, Superstition, and the Occult, aka, "The Museum of the Creepy Crawlies", where Uncle Will is the curator. When a rash of occult-based murders begin to plague the city Evie, her uncle, and his assistant, the mysterious Jericho Jones, find themselves mixed up with the police investigation. Evie is forced to come clean about her secret "gift." This could be the key to solving the murders or the curse that makes her a target. This spine-chilling thriller is rich in history, steeped in dark magic, and packed with secrets.

—Megan Alabaugh

The Orchardist

In her debut novel, ***The Orchardist***, Amanda Coplin introduces us to Talmadge, a solitary man farming apples and apricots in his vast orchards in Washington State at the turn of the 20th century. He is on his own, his mother having passed away in his teenage years and his beloved younger sister Elsbeth having disappeared mysteriously in the forest surrounding their farmland not long after. Talmadge spends his days quietly tending his farm and selling his produce, occasionally hosting a group of horse wranglers on his property and visiting his friend and confidant, Caroline Middey. One day, however, Talmadge's life changes profoundly when two young, homeless pregnant girls appear on his land and he begins, in his own way, to take care of them.

This first novel, with its beautifully written prose and lovely scenic descriptions of the Pacific Northwest countryside quickly pulls you in and the shocking story that unfolds will keep you riveted until the end.

—Maureen Stratton

Warm Up With New Holiday Titles!



The 13th Day of Christmas by Jason F. Wright

Merry Ex-Mas by Sheila Roberts

An O'Brien Family Christmas by Sherryl Woods

Rescuing Christmas by Vickie Lewis Thompson

When Snow Falls by Brenda Novak

An Outlaw's Christmas by Linda Lael Miller

An Angel for Christmas by Heather Graham

My Kind of Christmas by Robyn Carr

The Bridge by Karen Kingsbury

What Happens at Christmas by Victoria Alexander

A Season for Tending by Cindy Woodsmall

Winter Wonderland by Fern Michaels, Leslie Meier
and others

The Christmas Kid by Pete Hamill