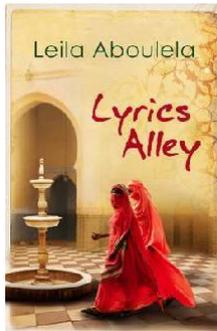


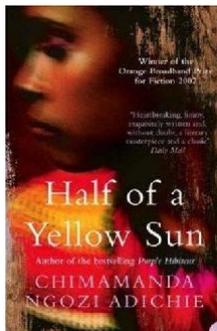
# BOOK GROUP READING LIST

## **ABOULELA, LEILA** **Lyrics Alley**



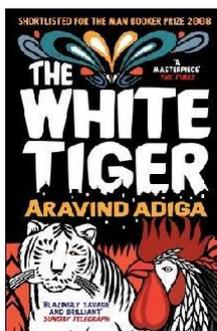
A lyrical and deeply moving novel by a twice Orange-listed rising star, set in pre-Independence Sudan, Egypt and post-war Britain.

## **ADICHIE, CHIMAMANDA NGOZI** **Half of a Yellow Sun**



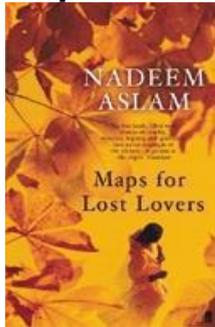
Set in Nigeria during the 1960s, at the time of a vicious civil war in which a million people died and thousands were massacred in cold blood. The three main characters in the novel are swept up in the violence during these turbulent years. As these people's lives intersect, they question their own responses to the unfolding political events.

## **ADIGA, ARAVIND** **The White Tiger**



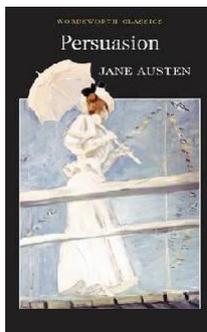
Balam, the White Tiger, was born in a backwater village on the River Ganges, the son of a rickshaw-puller. He works in a teashop, crushing coal and wiping tables, but nurses a dream of escape. When he learns that a rich village landlord needs a chauffeur, he takes his opportunity, and is soon on his way to Delhi behind the wheel of a Honda.

**ASLAM, NADEEM**  
**Maps for Lost Lovers**



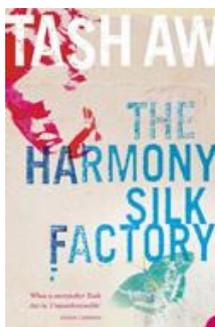
Maps for Lost Lovers opens the heart of a family at the crossroads of culture, community, nationality and religion, and expresses both their joys and their pain in a language that is arrestingly poetic.

**AUSTEN, JANE**  
**Persuasion**



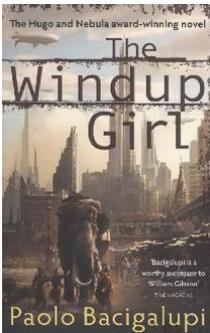
Anne Elliot lives at the time of the Napoleonic wars, a time of accident, adventure, the making of new fortunes and alliances. A woman of no importance, she manoeuvres in her restricted circumstances as her long-time love Captain Wentworth did in the wars.

**AW, TASH**  
**Harmony Silk Factory**



A landmark work of fiction from one of Britain's most exciting new writers: The Harmony Silk Factory is a devastating love story set against the turmoil of mid-twentieth century Malaysia.

**BACIGALUPI, PAOLO**  
**The Windup Girl**



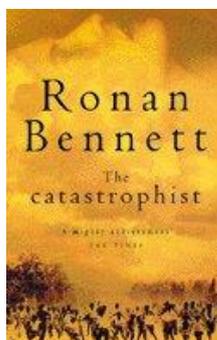
The winner of five major SF awards, *The Windup Girl* is both a heart-stopping dystopian thriller and a razor-sharp vision of our near future.

**BAKKER, GERBRAND**  
**The Twin**



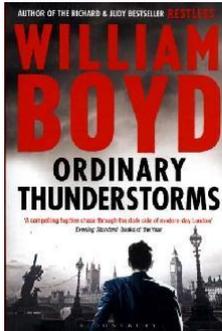
A bestseller in its native Holland, this is the story of a man forced to return to the rural Dutch lifestyle of his childhood when his twin brother dies. This debut novel has been shortlisted for and won many literary prizes.

**BENNETT, RONAN**  
**The Catastrophist**



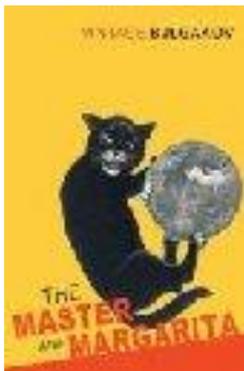
A devastating love story. Set in the Congo in the 1960s, it recounts the story of one man's search for his soul and was shortlisted for the Whitbread Novel Award 1998.

**BOYD, WILLIAM**  
**Ordinary Thunderstorms**



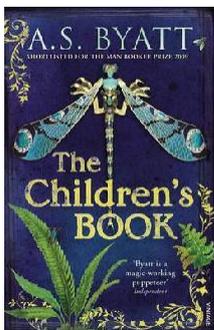
Set in contemporary London, this is a heart-in-mouth conspiracy novel about the fragility of social identity, the scandal of big business, and the secrets that lie hidden in the dark underbelly of every city.

**BULGAKOV, MIKHAIL**  
**The Master and Margarita**



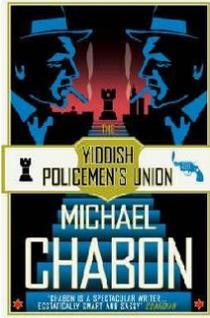
In this novel the devil makes a personal appearance in Moscow accompanied by various demons, including a naked girl and a huge black cat. When he leaves, the asylums are full and the forces of law and order in disarray. Only the Master, a man devoted to truth, and Margarita, the woman he loves, can resist the devil's onslaught.

**BYATT, A.S.**  
**The Children's Book**



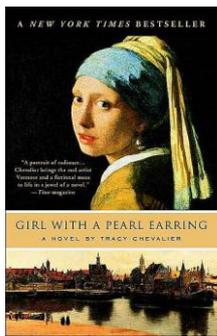
In their rambling house near Romney Marsh, the children play in a story-book world - but their lives, and those of their rich cousins and their friends, the son and daughter of a curator at the new Victoria and Albert Museum, are already inscribed with mystery. Each family carries its own secrets.

## CHABON, MICHAEL The Yiddish Policemen's Union



An ambitious novel from the author of *The Final Solution* and *Wonder Boys*, in which Alaska, rather than Israel, has become the homeland of the Jewish nation after WWII.

## CHEVALIER, TRACY Girl With A Pearl Earring



17th Century Holland. When Griet becomes a maid in the household of Johannes Vermeer in the town of Delft, she thinks she knows her role: housework, laundry and the care of his six children. But as she becomes part of his world and his work, their growing intimacy spreads tension and deception in the ordered household and, as the scandal seeps out, into the town beyond.

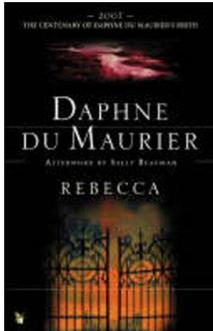
## CHILD, CATRIONA Trackman



Can a song change your life? Can a song bring people, places and moments in time alive again? Davie Watts is the Trackman. He knows what song to play to you and he knows exactly when you need to hear it. Davie seeks out strangers in need and helps them using the power of music. Set in Edinburgh, this touching, funny and quirky new novel is a truly entertaining read for music lovers everywhere.

## **DU MAURIER, DAPHNE**

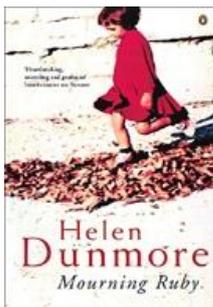
### **Rebecca**



Daphne Du Maurier's *Rebecca* is the chilling classic about a girl haunted by her own imagination and the ghost of her husband-to-be's former mistress, Rebecca de Winter. Set in Manderley, a beautiful family estate in Cornwall, Rebecca's disturbing presence lingers throughout the house. Whilst Du Maurier's shy, unnamed heroine is tortured by constant comparisons to the socialite who was her predecessor, she is beset by tragedy and despair when Rebecca herself appears.

## **DUNMORE, HELEN**

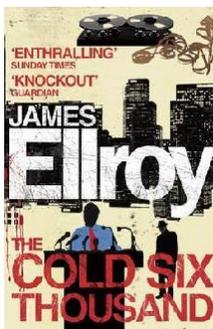
### **Mourning Ruby**



More than thirty years ago, a mother laid her newborn baby in a shoebox and left it by the bins in the backyard of an Italian restaurant. Now the baby, Rebecca, is a mother herself, and she and her husband Adam are about to experience the greatest tragedy parents can face.

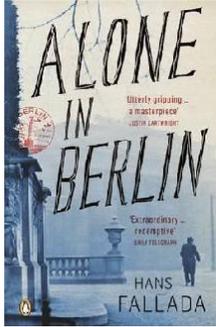
## **ELLROY, JAMES**

### **The Cold Six Thousand**



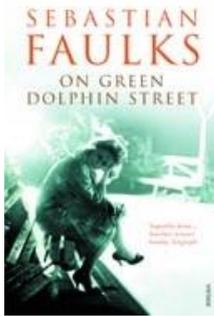
Dallas, November 22nd, 1963. Wayne Tedrow Jr has arrived to kill a man. The fee is \$6,000. He finds himself instead in the middle of the cover-up following JFK's assassination. There follows a hellish five-year ride through the sordid underbelly of public policy via Las Vegas, Vietnam, CIA dope dealing, Cuba, sleazy showbiz, racism and the Klan.

## **FALLADA, HANS** **Alone in Berlin**



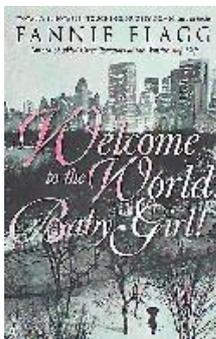
It's Berlin, 1940, and the city is filled with fear. At the house on 55 Jablonski Strasse, its various occupants try to live under Nazi rule in their different ways: the bullying Hitler loyalists the Persickes, the retired judge Fromm and the unassuming couple Otto and Anna Quangel. Then the Quangels receive the news that their son has been killed.

## **FAULKS, SEBASTIAN** **On Green Dolphin Street**



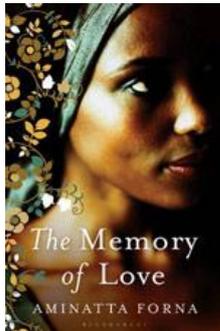
With two young children she adores, loving parents back in London, and an admired husband, Charlie, working at the British embassy in Washington, the world seems an effervescent place of parties, jazz and family happiness to Mary vander Linden. But when Frank, an American newspaper reporter, enters their lives, Mary embarks on a passionate affair.

## **FLAGG, FANNIE** **Welcome to the World, Baby Girl**



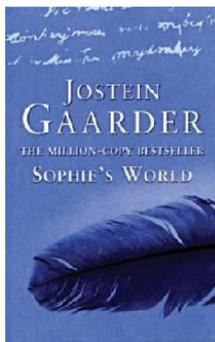
A novel spanning late 1940s small-town America and the New York media world of the 1970s, by the author of Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe. It tells the story of a television interviewer with emotional and drink problems who was abandoned as a teenager by her mother.

**FORNA, AMINATTA**  
**The Memory of Love**



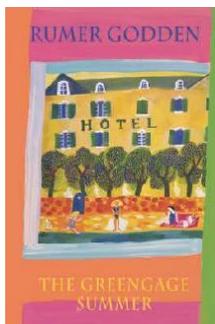
Freetown, Sierra Leone, 1969. Three lives collide in a story about friendship, the nature of obsessive love, war, and understanding the indelible effects of the past

**GAARDER, JOSTEIN**  
**Sophie's World**



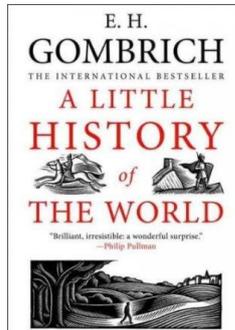
Sophie finds two questions in her mailbox: "Who are you?" and "Where does the world come from?" This is the start of her journey through the history of philosophy, guided by a mysterious mentor. To find the truth, we must understand the questions, but the truth is stranger than Sophie can imagine.

**GODDEN, RUMER**  
**The Greengage Summer**



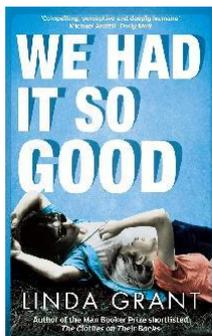
A portrait of love and deceit in the Champagne country of the Marne - which became a memorable film starring Kenneth More and Susannah York.

## **GOMBRICH, E.H.** **A Little History of the World**



In 40 concise chapters, this tells the story of man from the stone age to the atomic bomb. A colourful picture of wars and conquests, grand works of art, and the spread and limitations of science. This is a text dominated not by dates and facts, but by the sweep of mankind's experience across the centuries, a guide to humanity's achievements and an acute witness to its frailties. The product of a generous and humane sensibility, this timeless account makes intelligible the full span of human history.

## **GRANT, LINDA** **We Had It So Good**



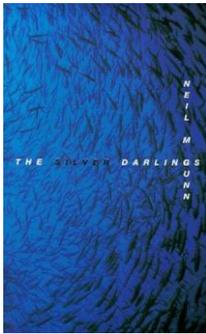
This is the thoughtful and engaging story of a London family from the late sixties to the present. It follows Steven Newman over 40 years, when the events of late middle age and the new century force him and his friends to realise that they've always existed in a fool's paradise.

## **GRUEN, SARA** **Water For Elephants**



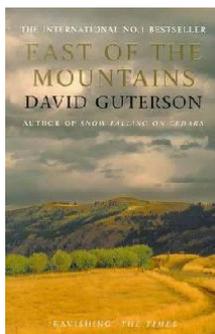
A gritty, compelling New York Times bestselling novel of star-crossed lovers and circus life set in Depression-era USA.

**GUNN, NEIL M**  
**The Silver Darlings**



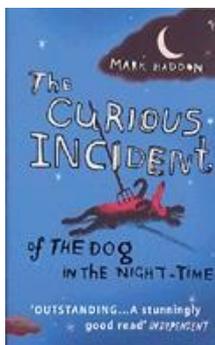
The tale of lives won from a cruel sea and crueller landlords.

**GUTERSON, DAVID**  
**East of the Mountains**



Dr Givens, a heart surgeon, sets out on a journey in his final hours that ends up being a life-enhancing experience.

**HADDON, MARK**  
**Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**



One of the most talked-about books of 2003. Haddon's stunning tale - a crossover for both the adult's and children's markets - is written from the viewpoint of a 15-year old Asperger's sufferer and transcends the usual crime mysteries by cleverly playing on the minutiae which occupy such a large part of the narrator's life.

## HALL, STEVEN

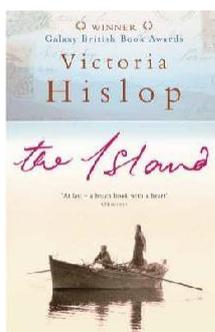
### The Raw Shark Texts



Eric Sanderson wakes up in a place he doesn't recognise, unable to remember who he is. Attacked by a force he cannot see and confronted with memories he cannot ignore, Eric discovers he is being hunted by a psychic predator, a shark. This creature may exist only in his mind, but it soon starts making some very real appearances in his world.

## HISLOP, VICTORIA

### The Island



A compelling tale of family ties, with vivid characters and an authentic Cretan background. Through dramatic storytelling, Victoria Hislop charts the fate of four generations rent by war, illicit love, passion and leprosy, from the thirties through to the present day. It is certain to capture the hearts and imaginations of the nation.

## HOGG, JAMES

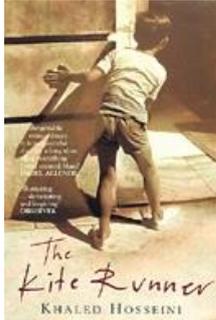
### The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner



Wringhim believes himself to be one of the elect, predestined for salvation and exempt from moral law, who embarks on a career as a murderer under the influence of a mysterious double. A classic novel from 1824 which traces one man's descent into madness and despair.

## HOSSEINI, KHALED

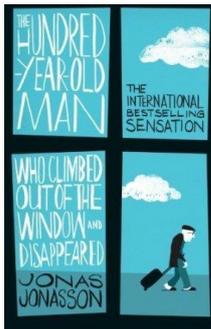
### The Kite Runner



Twelve year old Amir is desperate to win the approval of his father Baba, one of the richest and most respected merchants in Kabul. He has failed to do so through academia or brawn, but the one area where they connect is the annual kite fighting tournament. This is a story of love, loyalty, secrets and vengeance, and of a country and a boy.

## JONASSON, JONAS

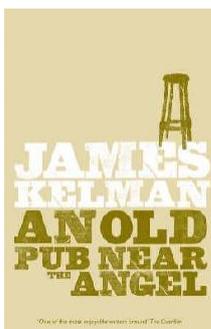
### The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared



It's Allan Karlsson's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Sitting in his room in an old people's home, he is waiting for the party he doesn't want. The mayor and press are going to be there. But Allan isn't. He climbs out of the window and makes his getaway. So begins a journey involving criminals, murders, a suitcase full of cash, and incompetent police. As the story unfolds, we learn about Allan's earlier life in which he became friends with US presidents, Russian tyrants and Chinese leaders, and was involved in many key events of the 20th century.

## KELMAN, JAMES

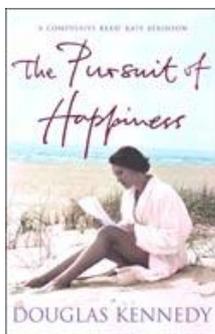
### An Old Pub Near the Angel



Set among the tenements and bedsits of Glasgow, this title presents a collection of short stories which throw light on the exploits of young and old.

## KENNEDY, DOUGLAS

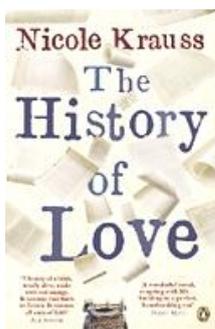
### The Pursuit of Happiness



New York, 1945 - Sara Smythe, a young, beautiful and intelligent woman, ready to make her own way in the big city attends her brother's Thanksgiving Eve party. As the party gets into full swing a US Army journalist back from a defeated Germany and a man unlike any Sara has ever met before - one who is destined to change Sara's future forever.

## KRAUSS, NICOLE

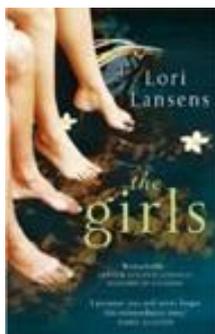
### History of Love



In the Polish village where he was born, Leo Gursky fell in love with a young girl called Alma and wrote a book in her honour. These days he is just about surviving life in America. Meanwhile, a young girl, hoping to find a cure for her mother's loneliness, stumbles across a book that changed her mother's life and she goes in search of the author.

## LANSENS, LORI

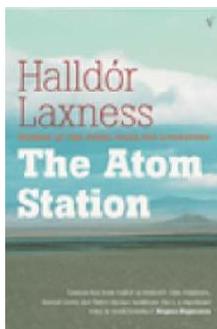
### The Girls



This novel follows the story of conjoined twins, Rose and Ruby. An emotional and immensely readable novel, *The Girls* is an enchanting blend of the extraordinary and the everyday without any trace of mawkishness.

## LAXNESS, HALLDOR

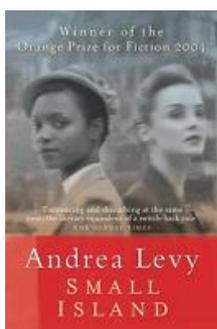
### The Atom Station



When the Americans make an offer to buy Icelandic land to build an atomic war base, a storm of protest is provoked. Told by a country girl from the north, this novel follows her experiences upon taking up employment as a maid in the house of her Member of Parliament. Her observations expose the intellectual society of the south as rootless.

## LEVY, ANDREA

### Small Island



In this delicately wrought and profoundly moving, multi-award winning novel, Andrea Levy handles the weighty themes of empire, prejudice, war and love, with a lightness of touch and a generosity of spirit that challenges and uplifts the reader.

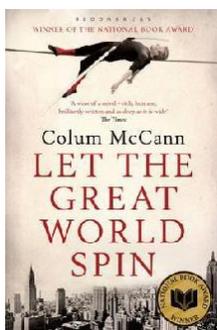
## LEWYCA, MARINA

### A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian



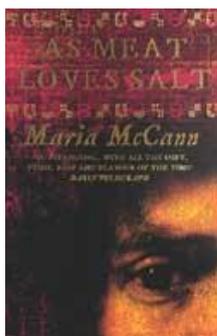
Sisters Vera and Nadezhda must put aside feuding to save their engineer father from gold-digger Valentina. With her proclivity for satin underwear and boil-in-the-bag cuisine, she will stop at nothing in her pursuit of wealth. But the sisters' campaign to oust Valentina unearths secrets and sends them back to roots they'd much rather forget.

## **MCCANN, COLUM** **Let the Great World Spin**



A novel which won the National Book Award in America. Set at the time of Philippe Petit's daredevil tightrope walk between the Twin Towers in 1974, it follows the diverse lives of several characters which will collide and be transformed forever.

## **MCCANN, MARIA** **As Meat Loves Salt**



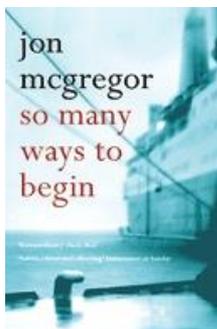
An epic tale of obsession and murder, set during the English Civil War, from a promising young English writer. An intriguing and disturbing first novel which lingers in the mind. Tense with anguish, intimacy and shame, it imaginatively re-creates the mentality of a society racked with war and intoxicated by radical new ideas of freedom and change.

## **MCGREGOR, JON** **If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things**



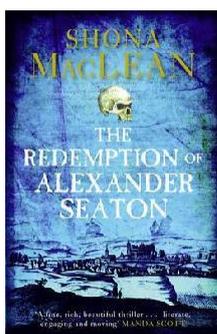
On a street in a town in the North of England, ordinary people are going through the motions of their everyday existence. A young man is in love with a neighbour who does not even know his name. An old couple make their way up to the nearby bus stop. But then a terrible event shatters the quiet of the early summer evening.

## **MCGREGOR, JON** **So Many Ways to Begin**



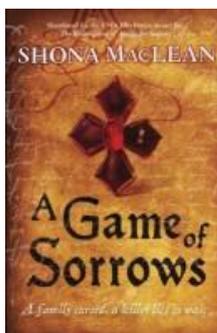
David Carter cannot help but wish for more: that his wife Eleanor would be the sparkling girl he once found so irresistible; that his job as a museum curator could live up to the promise it once held. But a few careless words spoken by his mother's friend have left David restless with the knowledge that his life has been constructed around a lie.

## **MACLEAN, SHONA** **The Redemption of Alexander Seaton**



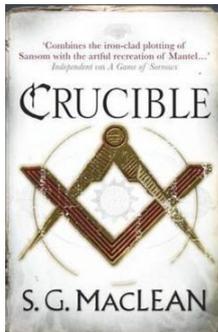
Banff, Scotland in the 1620s: a fallen minister investigates the seemingly motiveless poisoning of a young apothecary's apprentice, a quest that leads to the heart of darkness that lies in the souls of men. A flawless evocation of 17th Century Scotland.

## **MACLEAN, SHONA** **A Game of Sorrows (Alexander Seaton, book 2)**



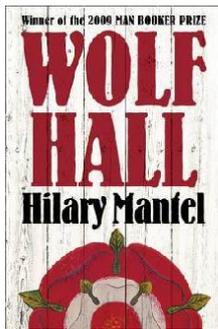
It is 1628, and Alexander Seaton's happily settled life in Aberdeen is shattered by the arrival of a stranger who carries a plea for help from Alexander's dead mother's family in Ireland. The family has been placed under a poet's curse, threatening death to various members. Reluctantly answering the call, Alexander leaves his home and his beloved Sarah and travels to Ulster, to find himself among a family torn apart by secrets and long-buried resentments.

**MACLEAN, SHONA**  
**Crucible (Alexander Seaton, book 3)**



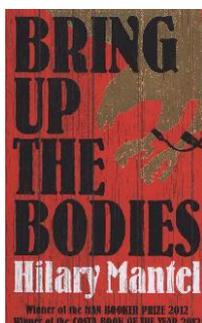
Aberdeen, 1631. University librarian Robert Sim takes receipt of a gift of books recently arrived from overseas, mysterious works on alchemy and hermetics - the pursuit of ancient knowledge. By nightfall he has been brutally murdered. His colleague and good friend Alexander Seaton is left with the task of hunting for clues as to his killer's motive, as well as locating the missing books. What did Sim discover in the package, and what makes these books so dangerous?

**MANTEL, HILARY**  
**Wolf Hall**



Winner of the Man Booker Prize 2009. In England, the 1520s, Henry VIII is on the throne but has no heir; Cardinal Wolsey is his chief advisor; Thomas Cromwell, Wolsey's clerk. Cromwell is a briber and a bully, an expert at manipulating people and events, and his ruthless ambition will affect politics far and wide.

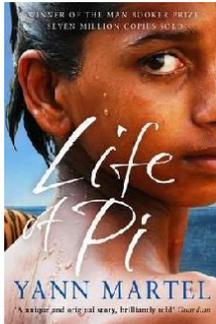
**MANTEL, HILARY**  
**Bring up the bodies**



The sequel to 'Wolf Hall', 'Bring up the Bodies' explores one of the most mystifying and frightening episodes in English history: the destruction of Anne Boleyn.

## MARTEL, YANN

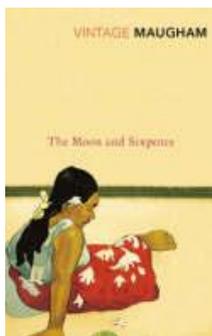
### Life of Pi



After the tragic sinking of a cargo ship, a solitary lifeboat remains bobbing on the wild, blue Pacific. The only survivors from the wreck are a sixteen year-old boy named Pi, a hyena, a zebra (with a broken leg), a female orangutan and a 450-pound Royal Bengal tiger. A story to make you believe the impossible, it is a novel that has captured hearts and minds like no other.

## MAUGHAM, SOMERSET

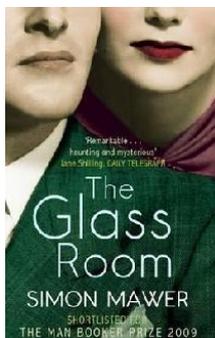
### The Moon and Sixpence



Charles Strickland, a conventional stockbroker, abandons his wife and children for Paris and Tahiti, to live his life as a painter. Whilst his betrayal of family, duty and honour gives him the freedom to achieve greatness, his decision leads to an obsession which carries severe implications.

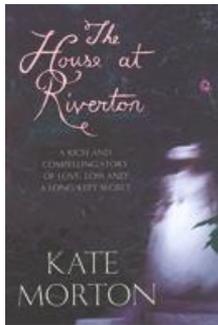
## MAWER, SIMON

### The Glass Room



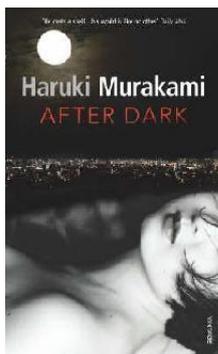
Inspired by a real house, this is the tale of the people that come and go from Landauer House over the years as it passes from Czech to Russian hands. Shortlisted for the Booker Prize, it follows Mawer's previous novels *The Gospel of Judas*, *The Fall* and *Swimming to Ithaca*.

**MORTON, KATE**  
**The House at Riverton**



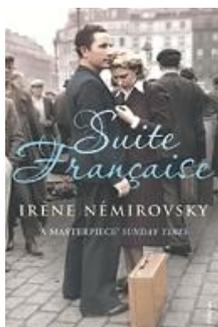
Within these four walls lay a secret that would last a lifetime. A novel about love, loss and long-buried family secrets.

**MURAKAMI, HARUKI**  
**After Dark**



Mari sips her coffee and glances up from a book as a young man, intrudes on her solitude. Both have missed the last train home. Shortly afterwards Mari will be interrupted a second time by a girl from the Alphaville Hotel; a Chinese prostitute has been hurt by a client, the girl has heard Mari speaks fluent Chinese and requests her help.

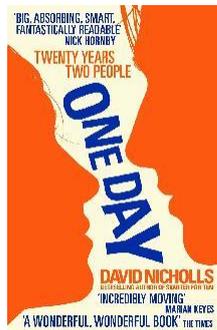
**NEMIROVSKY, IRENE**  
**Suite Française**



A lost masterpiece written in France in 1941, telling the story of a group of characters living under the Nazi occupation. The author died in Auschwitz in 1942, and was awarded the prestigious Prix Renaudot in 2005 - the first time that the prize has been awarded posthumously.

## NICHOLLS, DAVID

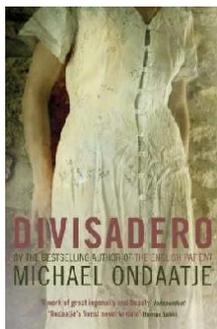
### One Day



From being a celebrity in the 90's to having a boss with a large beard, nothing is shielded away from in this big pot of life. This book follows every 15th July from 1988 (end of their studentship) to near present day in the lives of two characters; Emma and Dexter, and their relationship with each other and others.

## ONDAATJE, MICHAEL

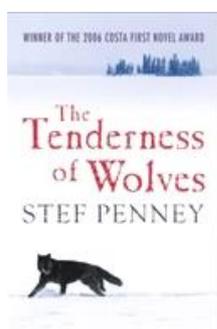
### Divisadero



From the author of *The English Patient*. Beginning in 1970s northern California, it follows the lives of a makeshift family who are split apart by an incident of violence. A story of possession and loss, and the discordant demands of love and memory. Plumply imagined, deeply romantic but vividly traumatic.

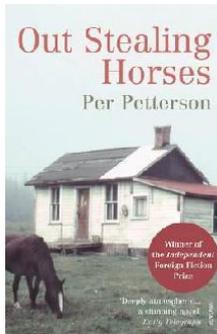
## PENNEY, STEF

### The Tenderness of Wolves



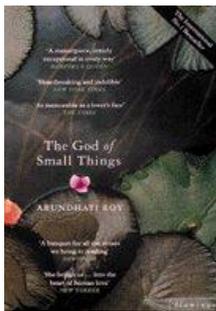
Winner of the Costa First Novel Award, this is an extraordinary debut, a panoramic epic combining murder mystery, adventure and romance, and powerfully evoking the harsh environment of an isolated settlement in Canada, 1867. Exhilarating in its scope and quality.

## PETTERSON, PER Out Stealing Horses



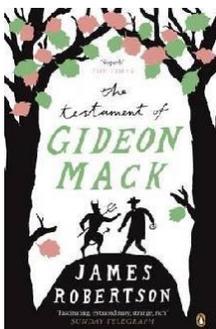
In 1948, when he is fifteen, Trond spends a summer in the country with his father. The events - the accidental death of a child, his best friend's feelings of guilt and eventual disappearance, his father's decision to leave the family for another woman - will change his life forever.

## ROY, ARUNDHATI The God of Small Things



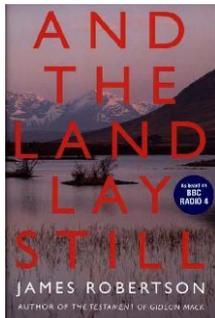
Arundhati Roy's phenomenal debut novel, which beat the favourites to the 1997 Booker Prize, and emerged as something of a surprise winner. A witty and magical piece of work, it describes the lives of two twins growing up in a factory in Kerala, southern India amidst an extended and chaotically dysfunctional family. Roy has intimated that this may be her first and last novel.

## ROBERTSON, JAMES The Testament of Gideon Mack



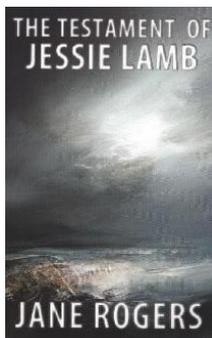
If the devil didn't exist, would man have to invent him? For Gideon Mack, faithless minister, unfaithful husband and troubled soul, the existence of God, let alone the Devil, is no more credible than that of ghosts or fairies. Until the day he falls into a gorge and is rescued by someone who might just be Satan himself.

**ROBERTSON, JAMES**  
**And the land lay still**



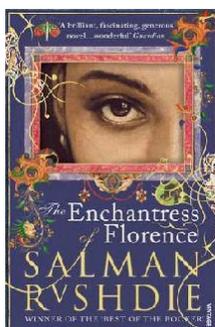
It is the age of the bomb, the Cold War, Margaret Thatcher and North Sea Oil. As nationalism becomes a credible force in Scotland, a gay photographer, a feminist journalist, a war veteran and a guilt-ridden Conservative MP find their private lives entangled with the ideological conflicts of the times.

**ROGERS, JANE**  
**The Testament of Jessie Lamb**



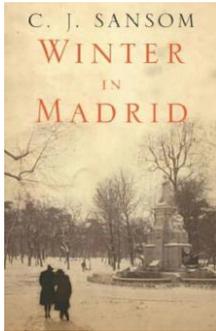
Women are dying in their millions. Some blame scientists, some see the hand of God. As she watches her world collapsing, Jessie Lamb decides she wants to make her life count.

**RUSHDIE, SALMAN**  
**The Enchantress of Florence**



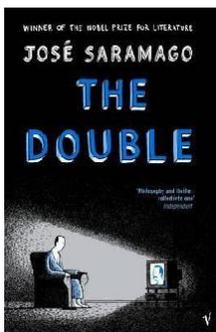
A young European traveler calling himself 'Mogor dell 'Amora', the Mughal of Love arrives at the court of Emperor Akbar. The stranger claims to be the child of a lost Mughal princess, the youngest sister of Akbar's grandfather Babar, Qara Koz, a great beauty believed to possess powers of enchantment and sorcery.

**SANSOM, C.J.**  
**Winter in Madrid**



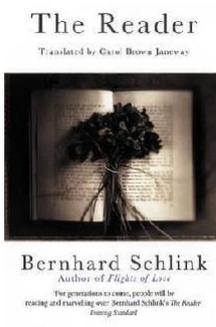
1940: The Spanish Civil War is over, and Madrid lies ruined. Into this uncertain world comes Harry Brett: a traumatised veteran of Dunkirk turned reluctant spy for the British Secret Service. In a depiction of wartime Spain, this work is a tale, which offers a sense of history unfolding, and the impact of impossible choices.

**SARAMAGO, JOSE**  
**The Double**



What happens when Deadline Maximo Afonso, a 38-year-old professor of history, discovers that there is a man living in the same city who is identical to him on every physical detail, but not related by blood at all. And what happens when each of these men attempt to investigate each other's lives?

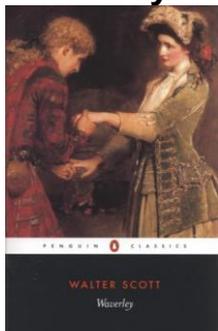
**SCHLINK, BERNARD**  
**The Reader**



An exceptionally powerful novel exploring the themes of betrayal, guilt and memory against the background of the Holocaust. An international bestseller.

## SCOTT, SIR WALTER

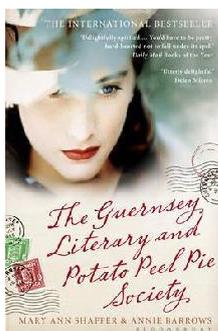
### Waverley



Set against the backdrop of the Jacobite Rebellion of 1745, *Waverley* depicts the story of Edward Waverley, an idealistic daydreamer whose loyalty to his regiment is threatened when they are sent to the Scottish Highlands. With its vivid depiction of the wild Highland landscapes and patriotic clansmen, *Waverley* is a brilliant evocation of the old Scotland - a world Scott believed was swiftly disappearing in the face of a new, modern era.

## SHAFFER, MARY ANN

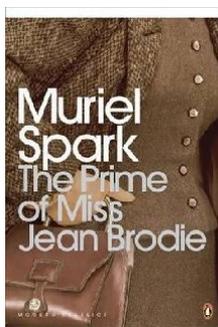
### The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society



Set in 1946 and in the form of letters, mainly to and from the central character, Juliet Ashton, a successful writer who becomes, wholly coincidentally, involved with a group of people on Guernsey who lived through the wartime German Occupation. The characters are thoroughly engaging and Mary Ann Shaffer (although born in the USA) manages to capture the English voice of the time beautifully.

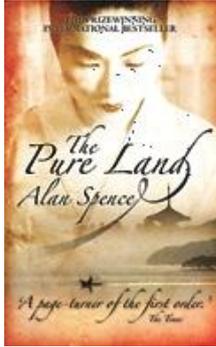
## SPARK, MURIEL

### The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie



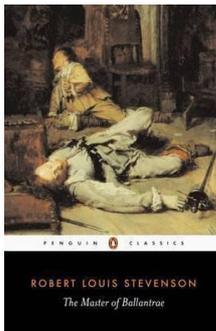
In this classic novel Jean Brodie is a teacher whose unconventional ideas put her at odds with the other members of staff at the Marcia Blaine School in Edinburgh, as she endeavours to shape the lives of the select group of girls who form her "set".

## SPENCE, ALAN The Pure Land



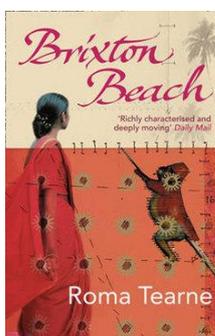
The year is 1858. Thomas Glover is a gutsy eighteen-year-old who grasps the chance of escape to foreign lands and takes a posting as a trader in Japan. Within ten years, he amasses a great fortune, learns the ways of the samurai, and, on the other side of the law, brings about the overthrow of the Shogun.

## STEVENSON, ROBERT LOUIS The Master of Ballantrae



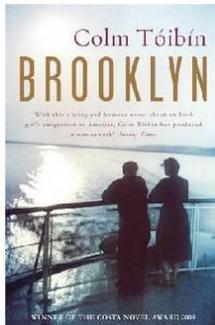
The Master of Ballantrae tells of a family divided at the time of the Jacobite uprising. James Durie, Master of Ballantrae, abandons his ancestral home to support the Scottish rebellion - leaving his younger brother Henry, who is faithful to the English crown, to inherit the title of Lord Durrisdier. But he is to return years later to demand his inheritance

## TEARNE, ROMA Brixton Beach



Opening dramatically with the horrors of the 2005 London bombings, this is the profoundly moving story of a country on the brink of civil war and a child's struggle to come to terms with loss.

## TOIBIN, COLM Brooklyn



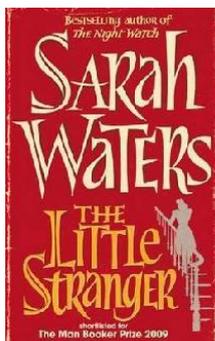
It is Enniscorthy in the south-east of Ireland in the early 1950s. Ellis Lacey is one among many of her generation who cannot find work at home. Thus when a job is offered in America, it is clear to everyone that she must go.

## TRAPIDO, BARBARA Frankie and Stankie



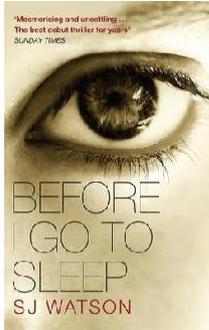
This is the story of Dinah, growing up in South Africa in the 1950s and 1960s. Living with liberal parents, she experiences apartheid with growing disgust, but nevertheless does not allow it to interfere with the importance of a first boyfriend, doing well in exams and finding best friends.

## WATERS, SARAH The Little Stranger



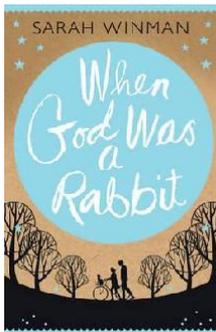
In a post-war summer in rural Warwickshire, a doctor is called to a patient at lonely Hundreds Hall. Home to the Ayres family for over two centuries, the Georgian house, once grand, is now in decline. Its owners - mother, son and daughter - struggle to keep pace. But are they haunted by something more sinister than a dying way of life? Little does Dr Faraday know how closely, and how terrifyingly, their story is about to become entwined with his.

**WATSON, S.J.**  
**Before I Go To Sleep**



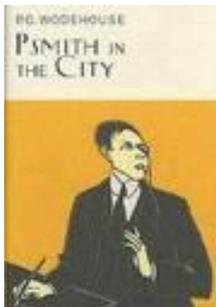
A debut crime novel featuring a woman who loses her memories every time she goes to sleep. A hardback bestseller, with glowing reviews, the book has already been acquired for film by Ridley Scott's production company.

**WINMAN, SARAH**  
**When God Was a Rabbit**



A portrait of childhood and growing up, the loss of innocence, eccentricity and family bonds. Both funny and moving, it's the story of the bond between a brother and sister.

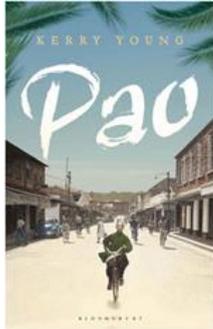
**WODEHOUSE, P.G.**  
**Psmith in the City**



In this story, Mike Jackson has to go to a bank to earn his money, instead of going to Varsity. At the bank, by an unusual and artistic coincidence he meets Psmith. Both of them loathe the bank manager for reasons of their own. What follows is plot after plot, from the attempt to gain the friendship of Mr. Rossiter to the offering of their resignation.

## **YOUNG, KERRY**

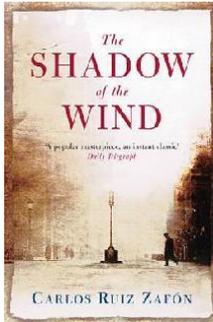
### **Pao**



Kingston, Jamaica, 1938. Fourteen-year-old Yang Pao steps off the ship from China with his mother and brother, after his father has died fighting for the revolution. They are to live with Zhang, the 'godfather' of Chinatown, who mesmerises Pao with stories of glorious Chinese socialism on one hand, and the reality of his protection business on the other. Richly imagined and utterly captivating, Pao is a dazzling tale of race, class and colour, and love and ambition.

## **ZAFON, CARLOS RUIZ**

### **Shadow of the Wind**



A stunning literary thriller in the tradition of Umberto Eco. The discovery of a forgotten book leads to a hunt for an elusive author who may or may not still be alive, as every last copy of his work is collected by a stranger intent on burning them. This novel explores the obsessions humans have with literature and love and the risks we take for them.

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