

Your Next  Great Read

Creation Lake: A Novel

By Rachel Kushner

“Rachel Kushner turns noir on its head in this mesmerizing, philosophical, and darkly funny tale. *Creation Lake* is a page-turner crackling with electricity from one of our greatest living writers – a spy thriller with literary teeth.”

–Chantel McCray, Rainy Day Books, Fairway, KS

Your Next  Great Read

Colored Television: A Novel

By Danzy Senna

“Incisive, of the moment, and darkly funny, I loved everything about *Colored Television*. Very few contemporary authors can so acutely examine race and class while maintaining a razor-sharp sense of humor, but Danzy Senna is in a league of her own.”

–David Vogel, Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI

Your Next  Great Read

Somewhere Beyond the Sea (Cerulean Chronicles #2)

By TJ Klune

“Returning to Marsyas island is like coming home after a long trip – you are immediately enveloped in warmth and comfort. This novel is a celebration of queer families and inclusive communities. It’s exactly what we need to be reading right now!”

–Jody Hardy, Mostly Books, Tucson, AZ

Your Next  Great Read

Tell Me Everything: A Novel

By Elizabeth Strout

“I’ve just spent the last few days observing a grand reunion in this gorgeous book! All my old friends showed up: 90-year-old Olive, Lucy Barton, the Burgess brothers, even Amy and Isabel! Strout probes human nature and the many meanings of love.”

–Carol Katsoulis, Anderson’s Bookshops, Naperville, IL

Your Next  Great Read

Blue Sisters: A Novel

By Coco Mellors

"I've always wanted a sister; this book gifted me four. Four unique characters, each flawed but lovable in their own way, who seem like they would never be able to get along. Pick up this book, then call your therapist. Better yet, your sister."

—Caroline Giblin, Thunder Road Books, Spring Lake, NJ

Your Next  Great Read

There Are Rivers in the Sky: A Novel

By Elif Shafak

"Water: the omnipresent witness to the reverberation of the underdog and the valorized, to the drenched disorderedness of security throughout civilization. Elif Shafak tackles the toxicity of human greed, cruelty, and survival through water."

—Kayleen Rohrer, InkLink Books, East Troy, WI

Your Next  Great Read

Bluff: Poems

By Danez Smith

"Danez Smith is an artist grappling with the role of art at the end of the world. These poems shine a soft light into the darkest tunnels of our history, into the precise cuts they made into your soul, and leave you with something better than hope."

—Michelle Carroll, Powell's Books, Portland, OR

Your Next  Great Read

The Wildes: A Novel in Five Acts

By Louis Bayard

"Bayard transports us to the British countryside, an Italian villa, the trenches of France, and back to London. Told in the language of the late 19th & early 20th centuries, *The Wildes* involves the entire Wilde family and the scandalous drama that ensues."

—Mindy Ostrow, The River's End Bookstore, Oswego, NY

Your Next  Great Read

The Life Impossible: A Novel

By Matt Haig

"Matt Haig's wonderful book about climate change, aging, and recovering from guilt. Widowed Grace is left a house in Spain by a friend she hasn't heard from in over 30 years. She heads out on an adventure where new friends and life-altering changes await."

—Kathy Clemmons, Sundog Books, Santa Rosa Beach, FL

Your Next  Great Read

By Any Other Name: A Novel

By Jodi Picoult

"A fascinating story of a woman who may have written many of the works attributed to Shakespeare. While this book is fiction, Picoult digs deep into the research that's been done to present an interesting and intriguing tale of what might have been."

—Camille Kovach, Completely Booked, Murrysville, PA

Your Next  Great Read

Where the Forest Meets the River

By Shannon Bowring

"In *Where the forest Meets the River*, Bowring takes us back to Dalton, Maine, where some of my favorite and not-so-favorite people live. Dalton has its secrets, but Bowring spins a tale full of love, sorrow, and laughter."

—Jayne Rowsam, Mystery to Me, Madison, WI

Your Next  Great Read

Madwoman: A Novel

By Chelsea Bieker

"This incredible story of domestic violence survivors had me on the edge of my seat. Fans of *Godshot* will recognize Bieker's humor and depth. But in *Madwoman*, there's growth, not always for the better, of a character trying to forget her dark past."

—Emily Berg, Books & Books, Key West, FL

Your Next  Great Read

That Librarian: The Fight Against Book Banning in America
By Amanda Jones

"Fierceness and bravery should not be a requirement for librarians. In this era of book banning, however, a librarian must be a warrior. Jones is fighting the good fight to give everyone freedom to read and feel safe in a library space."

—Pamela Klinger-Horn, Valley Bookseller, Stillwater, MN

Your Next  Great Read

Becoming Little Shell: A Landless Indian's Journey Home
By Chris La Tray

"With *Becoming Little Shell*, Chris La Tray takes a very personal journey of introspection and familiar heritage and connects it to the larger social issues of the Métis and other Indigenous peoples. This book is an accomplishment."

—Mara Panich-Crouch, Fact & Fiction Downtown, Missoula, MT

Your Next  Great Read

The Night Guest
By Hildur Knútsdóttir, Mary Robinette Kowal (Transl.)

"Why are we all so tired all the time, even after sleeping for a full night? For one woman, the answer is much darker and tied into family history and the misdiagnosis of doctors. A compelling novella that demands to be read in a single sitting."

—William Carl, An Unlikely Story, Plainville, MA

Your Next  Great Read

The Examiner: A Novel
By Janice Hallett

"When faced with a new Janice Hallett mystery, there's nothing to do but dive in and swim for the end. There's no stopping along the way — you don't want to get lost in the clues before you've figured out the solution. (Ha! Good luck with that.)"

—Linda Bond, Auntie's Bookstore, Spokane, WA

Your Next  Great Read

William: A Novel

By Mason Coile

“Henry, an engineer, has created an AI marvel with William. His wife, who’s been standoffish since her pregnancy, invites some colleagues over for lunch. Suspicious of his wife, he decides to introduce them to William. This dark tale will leave you guessing.”

– Jason Kennedy, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI

Your Next  Great Read

We’re Alone: Essays

By Edwidge Danticat

“In so few pages, Edwidge Danticat weaves language that situates us in the moment with compassion and clarity. From odes that ache and appreciate the humanity of brilliant authors, to writings about Haiti and storms to come, Danticat threads it all.”

– Mari Guzman, Politics and Prose Bookstore, Washington, DC

Your Next  Great Read

I’ll Have What He’s Having

By Adib Khorram

“A substitute teacher turned restaurant owner meets a sommelier in this completely charming ‘friends with benefits...oh, oops, we’re in love’ rom-com! Khorram’s impeccably-titled adult debut will surely be a big hit this fall.”

– Kate Storhoff, Bookmarks, Winston-Salem, NC

Your Next  Great Read

Spirit Crossing: A Novel

By William Kent Krueger

“A work of fiction can hold an abundance of truth. In this story, it’s not until the body of a missing white girl from a prominent family is found that a missing Indigenous woman gets attention from law enforcement. Lives are at stake on the path to the truth.”

– Casey Luke, The Book Shoppe, Boone, IA

Your Next  Great Read

The Instrumentalist: A Novel

By Harriet Constable

“Inspired by a true story, *The Instrumentalist* immediately pulled me into 18th-century Venice. Anna Maria’s journey to find love, meaning, and purpose in life kept me turning pages. It’s so satisfying watching her learn to use her gift for good.”

—Michelle Ratto, A Thousand Stories, Herndon, VA

Your Next  Great Read

The Story of a Heart: Two Families, One Heart, and a Medical Miracle

By Rachel Clarke

“An emotionally complex tribute to an unfathomable loss, a profound love, and a choice that offers up a miracle. Dr. Clarke interweaves the emotional story with the medical history that has led up to this lifesaving gift. A stunning, memorable read.”

—Maxwell Gregory, Madison Street Books, Chicago, IL

Your Next  Great Read

Under the Eye of the Big Bird: A Novel

By Hiromi Kawakami, Asa Yoneda (Transl.)

“What will the world look like when humanity is near its end? In short glimpses, this book gives us insight to small groups of people and how they live and survive in an ever-changing, increasingly dystopian world. This is speculative fiction at its best.”

—Miranda Myers, Changing Hands, Tempe, AZ

Your Next  Great Read

The Book Swap: A Novel

By Tessa Bickers

“I am a sucker for a well-written and meaty romance and *The Book Swap* delivers. Erin and James are both imperfect people, but they also both have such a capacity for love and growth. Them falling in love through margin-writing in books is just the cherry on top.”

—Amelia Yasuda, Queen Takes Book, Columbia, MD

Your Next  Great Read

Best Copy Available: A True Crime Memoir

By Jay Baron Nicorvo

“Do *not* shy away from this memoir. It’s a hard read but it’s so worth it. Nicorvo is masterful in his ability to share the trauma of his childhood. Part memoir, part true crime, completely unforgettable!”

–Julie Slavinsky, Warwick’s, La Jolla, CA

Your Next  Great Read

Demon Copperhead: A Novel

By Barbara Kingsolver

“Come for Kingsolver’s classic mastery of language and descriptions that leave you overwhelmed in the most soulful way. Stay for a heart-wrenching and compassionate story of survival that will go down as one of her best works of all time.”

–Libby Monaghan, Twice Told Tales, McPherson, KS

Your Next  Great Read

The Fraud: A Novel

By Zadie Smith

“Zadie Smith is a literary genius. The last time I stopped to marvel at the beauty of a book’s writing was in the Neapolitan novels. This has the same notes of immersive world building and rich, complex characters. One of my favorite reads of 2023!”

–Michelle Zhang, BookPeople, Austin, TX

Your Next  Great Read

Let Us Descend: A Novel

By Jesmyn Ward

“Jesmyn Ward is one of the most important writers of our time. This may be her best to date. Heartbreaking and gorgeous, Annis carries us through her story of loss and brutal enslavement – a story of strength, love, enduring, and finding a way.”

–Jeanne Costello, Maria’s Bookshop, Durango, CO

Your Next



Great Read

Mother-Daughter Murder Night: A Novel

By Nina Simon

"I adored this twisty thriller set in the beauty of the marshlands of California. A grandmother, mother, and daughter try to solve a murder while also healing their troubled relationships. Highly recommend!"

—Elizabeth Barnhill, Fabled Bookshop & Café, Waco, TX

Your Next



Great Read

The Vaster Wilds: A Novel

By Lauren Groff

"Lauren Groff is at the height of her power as a writer. *The Vaster Wilds* explores how one young woman's experience of survival defines her. Rich in nuance, gorgeous, and full of the mystery of spirit, this novel meditates on life itself."

—Deirdre Kidder, Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA

Your Next



Great Read

Whalefall: A Novel

By Daniel Kraus

"This masterfully researched thriller weaves the story of a young diver's tumultuous relationship with his father with the primal terrors of the deep sea. A heart-pounding tale of humanity, science, and survival you won't soon forget."

—Mary Powers, Politics and Prose Bookstore, Washington, DC

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