

***Let Me Explain You*** by Annie Liontas

Sending a scathing email to his family members after becoming convinced he will die within days, a proud Greek immigrant garners laughter and scorn from his recipients, who are dismayed when he promptly disappears.

***A Constellation of Vital Phenomena*** by Anthony Marra

Set in a rural village in December 2004 Chechnya, failed doctor Akhmed harbors the traumatized 8-year-old daughter of a father abducted by Russian forces and treats a series of wounded rebels and refugees while exploring the shared past that binds him to the child.

***Re Jane*** by Patricia Park

Jane Re--a half-Korean, half-American orphan--takes a position as an au pair for two Brooklyn academics and their daughter, but a brief sojourn in Seoul, where she reconnects with family, causes her to wonder if the man she loves is really the man for her as she tries to find balance between two cultures.

***Bel Canto*** by Ann Patchett

When terrorists seize hostages at an embassy party, an unlikely assortment of people is thrown together, including American opera star Roxanne Coss, and Mr. Hosokawa--a Japanese CEO and her biggest fan.

***Waiting for Columbus*** by Thomas Trofimuk

A delirious mental patient claiming to be the legendary explorer Christopher Columbus captures the attention of Nurse Consuela, who endeavors to make sense of his fantastical tales about how he really obtained three ships from Spanish royalty and the events that led to his disconnect from reality.

***Mayumi and the Sea of Happiness*** by Jennifer Tseng

As a disenchanted wife and dutiful mother, Mayumi's work as a librarian on a small island feeds her passion for reading and provides her with many occasions for wry observations on human nature, but it does little to remedy the mundanity of her days. That is, until the day she issues a library card to a shy seventeen-year-old boy and swiftly succumbs to a sexual obsession that subverts the way she sees the library, her family, the island she lives on, and ultimately herself.

***Stoner*** by John Edward Williams

Recounts the life of a Missouri farm boy-turned-English professor who deals with an unstable wife, an affair, and his own emotions.

## Mt. Lebanon Public Library

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Updated June 2017

# Summer Reading 2017

Find your new favorite book this summer!

Suggestions from the Mt. Lebanon Public Library

Share with us what you're reading on Twitter @MtLebLibrary  
#LeboReads

**Fiction:*****Stay with Me*** by Ayobami Adebayo

A novel about a married Nigerian couple who must grapple with staggering levels of loss and betrayal in their quest to create a family for themselves.

***Beartown*** by Fredrik Backman

Backman's most complex novel to date takes place in the small, hockey-crazed village of Beartown. He deftly weaves together the stories of the players, the coaches, the parents, and the fans as Beartown's hockey team chases its dream of winning a championship. Weighty themes are explored. How high a price is too high for success? How deadly is silence? Who can you trust with your secrets? How far will you compromise your beliefs in the name of friendship? There are no easy answers.

***The Last Kid Left*** by Rosecrans Baldwin

When a family tragedy goes viral, a young girl grapples with how to control her public persona just as she's coming to terms with her private self.

***The Idiot*** by Elif Batuman

Embarking on her freshman year at Harvard in the early tech days of the 1990s, a young artist and daughter of Turkish immigrants begins a correspondence with an older mathematics student from Hungary while struggling with her changing sense of self, first love and a daunting career prospect.

***Marlena*** by Julie Buntin

Everything about fifteen-year-old Cat's new town is lonely and off-kilter, until she meets her neighbor, the manic and beautiful Marlena. Within the year, Marlena is dead, drowned in six inches of icy water in the woods nearby. Now, decades later, when a ghost from that pivotal year surfaces unexpectedly, Cat must try to forgive herself and move on, even as the memory of Marlena keeps her tangled in the past.

***No Middle Name: The Complete Collected Jack Reacher Short Stories*** by Lee Child

A high-action anthology of Jack Reacher stories includes a previously unseen novella and 11 other stories collected for the first time in print, in a volume that complements each story with an original author introduction.

***What We Lose*** by Zinzi Clemmons

Raised in America, the multiracial daughter of a mother from Johannesburg struggles with her mother's terminal cancer and her own need to find love and a place to belong, quests shaped by losses, changes in her sense of identity, and unexpected motherhood.

***Dragon Teeth*** by Michael Crichton

A recently discovered novel by the ER creator and best-selling author of *Jurassic Park* is set in the Wild West during the golden age of fossil hunting and follows the exploits of two ambitious paleontologists who sabotage each others' careers in a rivalry that came to be known as the Bone Wars.

***Universal Harvester*** by John Darnielle

Working for a 1990s small-community video rental store under threat by a major chain competitor, Jeremy is reluctantly drawn into a mystery involving chilling footage of criminal activity that has been recorded onto the store's VHS tapes.

***American War*** by Omar El Akkad

In the not too distant future, the United States is again at war with itself. Fossil fuels, which have decimated the environment, are banned, but the states rich in them refuse to comply and thus break away from the union. Biological warfare, drones as killing machines, and state fighting against state contribute to make this a prescient novel. Multiple narration and differing viewpoints combine to make this an absorbing, shocking read of what could be.

***So Much Blue*** by Percival Everett

Unable to move on from an affair he had with a young watercolorist 10 years ago, Kevin Pace, who is working on a painting he won't let anyone see, finds events of his past intersecting with the present as he struggles to justify the sacrifices he made for his art and the secrets he kept from his wife.

***History of Wolves*** by Emily Fridlund

Living with her parents in a nearly abandoned counterculture commune, 14-year-old Linda finds her perspectives and desires changed by the scandal-marked arrest of a teacher and the secrets of a new neighbor family as she wrestles with the consequences of actions and failures in the name of love.

***Quiet Until the Thaw*** by Alexandra Fuller

Two Native American cousins, Rick Overlooking Horse and You Choose Watson, though bound by blood and by land, find themselves at odds as they grapple with the implications of their shared heritage.

***The Little French Bistro*** by Nina George

Overcome by regrets after decades in a loveless and unhappy marriage, Marianne attempts suicide and is abandoned by her husband before finding herself in picturesque Brittany, where she finds loving new friends who encourage her to develop her talents for her own pleasure. By the best-selling author of *The Little Paris Bookshop*.

**What to Read While Waiting for Your Holds:*****The Sense of an Ending*** by Julian Barnes

Tony Webster and his clique first met Adrian Finn at school. Maybe Adrian was a little more serious than the others, certainly more intelligent, but they all swore to stay friends for life. Now Tony is in middle age. He's had a career and a single marriage, a calm divorce. He's certainly never tried to hurt anybody. Memory, though, is imperfect. It can always throw up surprises, as a lawyer's letter is about to prove.

***In Zanesville*** by Jo Ann Beard

Along with her best friend, the fourteen-year-old narrator navigates a 1970s American girlhood, including challenges from popular girls and the first hints of womanhood.

***Open City*** by Teju Cole

Feeling adrift after ending a relationship, Julius, a young Nigerian doctor living in New York, takes long walks through the city while listening to the stories of fellow immigrants until a shattering truth is revealed.

***Geek Love*** by Katherine Dunn

Aloysious and Lillian Binewski, proprietors of a traveling carnival, attempt to reduce overhead by breeding their own freak show, with tragic results.

***My Brilliant Friend*** by Elena Ferrante

Beginning in the 1950s Elena and Lila grow up in Naples, Italy, mirroring two different aspects of their nation. This is the first novel in a four part series, soon to be an eight-episode mini-series on HBO.

***The Turner House*** by Angela Flournoy

Learning after a half-century of family life that their house on Detroit's East Side is worth only a fraction of its mortgage, the members of the Turner family gather to reckon with their pasts and decide the house's fate.

***84, Charing Cross Road*** by Helene Hanff

It all began with a letter inquiring about second-hand books, written by Helene Hanff in New York, and posted to a bookshop at 84, Charing Cross Road in London. As Helene's sarcastic & witty letters are responded to by Frank Doel, a relationship blossoms into a warm and charming long-distance friendship lasting many years.

***Our Souls at Night*** by Kent Haruf

A spare yet eloquent, bittersweet yet inspiring story of a man and a woman who, in advanced age, come together to wrestle with the events of their lives and their hopes for the imminent future.

***The Salinger Contract*** by Adam Langer

Adam is a writer and stay-at-home dad in Bloomington, Indiana, drawn into an uneasy friendship with the charismatic and bestselling thriller author Connor Joyce. Connor is having trouble writing his next book, and when a menacing stranger approaches him with an odd and lucrative proposal, events quickly begin to spiral out of control.

***Hourglass: Time, Memory, Marriage*** by Dani Shapiro

An intimate and life-affirming memoir by the best-selling author of *Still Writing* explores themes of marriage, memory, the frailty of bonds, and the time accretion of sorrow and love.

***Thunder in the Mountains: Chief Joseph, Oliver Otis Howard, and the Nez Perce War*** by Daniel J. Sharfstein

Chronicles the epic clash between General Oliver Otis Howard, who took on a mission in the Pacific Northwest to force Native Americans onto reservations, and the Nez Perce leader Chief Joseph, who refused to leave his ancestral land.

***Mind: A Journey to the Heart of Being Human*** by Daniel Siegel

Neuroscience studies the brain. But what does science have to say about the mind? A full examination of what we mean by the term “mind” has traditionally been the province of philosophers, but what might neuroscience teach us about it? How does the mind differ from consciousness? And how do we know who we really are?

***The Upstarts: How Uber, Airbnb, and the Killer Companies of the new Silicon Valley Are Changing the World*** by Brad Stone

The world today is vastly different than it was even ten years ago, and it is due to the upstarts. In *The Upstarts*, Brad Stone provides the rollicking narrative that shows how our latest—and perhaps greatest—technological wave was born.

***Astrophysics for People in a Hurry*** by Neil de Grasse Tyson

Tyson’s writing style is always approachable and entertaining, and his latest book is no exception. Clear and concise, *Astrophysics for People in a Hurry* gives readers exactly what the title promises, a basic understanding of a deeply fascinating subject. Highly recommended for readers who want to understand our universe better.

***Ice Ghosts: The Epic Hunt for the Lost Franklin Expedition*** by Paul Watson

A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, author of *Where War Lives* and expedition member describes how an unlikely combination of marine science and Inuit knowledge helped solve the mystery of the lost Franklin expedition of 1845.

***Grown-Up Anger: The Connected Mysteries of Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie, and the Calumet Massacre of 1913*** by Daniel Wolff

A tour de force of storytelling years in the making: a dual biography of two of the greatest songwriters, Bob Dylan and Woody Guthrie, that is also a murder mystery and a history of labor relations and socialism, big business and greed in twentieth-century America—woven together in one epic saga that holds meaning for all working Americans today.

***Letterman: The Last Giant of Late Night*** by Jason Zinoman

A definitive account of the life and career of comedic talk show host David Letterman evaluates how his ironic style transcended traditional television and how his remote and reclusive personality contrasts with his widely misunderstood achievements.

***A House Among the Trees*** by Julia Glass

When a revered children's book author dies accidentally and leaves everything to his trusted assistant, the assistant reflects on their long bond and the complicated aspects of her late employer's life and final wishes.

***Stephen Florida*** by Gabe Habash

A troubled college wrestler in North Dakota falls in love and becomes increasingly unhinged during his final season.

***Exit West*** by Mohsin Hamid

The internationally best-selling author of *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* presents the story of two young lovers whose furtive affair is shaped by local unrest on the eve of a civil war that erupts in a cataclysmic bombing attack, forcing them to abandon their previous home and lives.

***Standard Deviation*** by Katherine Heiny

A first novel by the author of *Single, Carefree, Mellow: Stories* follows the marriage between a man and his spontaneous but exhausting second wife, a relationship that is further shaped by their Asperger's patient child and an effort to be friends with the man's very different first wife.

***Celine*** by Peter Heller

Establishing an excellent record as a missing-persons tracker who specializes in reuniting families to make amends for a loss in her own past, Celine searches for a presumed-dead photographer in Yellowstone, only to be targeted by a shadowy figure who would keep the case unsolved.

***Magpie Murders*** by Anthony Horowitz

Susan Ryeland is a London book editor who has just received the latest manuscript from one of her most irascible authors, Alan Conway. But the manuscript's ending appears to be missing and she learns that Conway has committed suicide. As Ryeland learns more about his death, she starts to question whether a murder has occurred and begins to investigate.

***Gwendy's Button Box*** by Stephen King

When twelve-year-old Gwendy Peterson takes the stairs up the cliffside to Castle Rock, Maine, she encounters a mysterious stranger, who calls out to her wanting to talk.

***The Leavers*** by Lisa Ko

One morning, eleven-year-old Deming Guo's mother, an undocumented Chinese immigrant named Polly, goes to her job and never comes home. Deming is eventually adopted by two white college professors who move him from the Bronx to a small town. This is a poignant story of a boy who struggles to find his footing in a new world. It's also an unflinching look at the difficult decisions a mother faces. This novel explores what it means to be a family and the duality of lives, especially through adoption.

**White Tears** by Hari Kunzru

Two ambitious young musicians, one shy, the other a glamorous heir, are drawn into the dark underworld of blues-record collecting while navigating the ghosts of a repressive past and the fallout of a scam involving one's claim that a viral video of an unknown singer is long-lost recording of a famous blues musician.

**Rich People Problems** by Kevin Kwan

Rushing to the deathbed of his grandmother, Nicholas Young encounters a massive clan eager to claim a share of the family fortune, win the hearts of loved ones, destroy each other's reputations and outmaneuver professional rivals.

**The Answers** by Catherine Lacey

A formerly paralyzed woman applies for a job on Craigslist to be the "Emotional Girlfriend" of an eccentric and narcissistic actor desperate to find the perfect relationship.

**Pachinko** by Min Jin Lee

In early 1900s Korea, prized daughter Sunja finds herself pregnant and alone, bringing shame on her family until a young tubercular minister offers to marry her and move with her to Japan, in the saga of one family bound together as their faith and identity are called into question.

**Since We Fell** by Dennis Lehane

Rachel is a journalist who, after her online breakdown, becomes a recluse scared to resume her daily life. She is recently divorced and meets an old friend who wants to help her overcome her fear. They fall in love, marry and appear to have the perfect life, until Rachel ventures out of the house one day and sees something that makes her question everything she knows about her new husband. Once a reporter, always a reporter and Rachel has to get to the bottom of her story.

**White Fur** by Jardine Libaire

A disadvantaged, racially ambiguous girl who lives paycheck to paycheck and the Ivy League son of famous and wealthy parents who would have him marry a socialite bride fall powerfully in love at the risk of everything they have ever known.

**The Madwoman Upstairs** by Catherine Lowell

Meet Samantha Whipple, a descendant of the Bronte family, who arrives at Oxford to study literature, as her father did before her. She receives a copy of *Jane Eyre* – a volume that she thought was destroyed in the fire that took her father's life. When a second Bronte novel belonging to her father turns up, she is convinced he has staged an elaborate treasure hunt for her promised inheritance.

**Black Moses** by Alain Mabanckou

Three orphans in 1970s Africa escape their orphanage to the busy port town of Pointe-Noire where they form a gang of petty thieves and become part of the underworld.

**Touch** by Courtney Maum

A New York City trend forecaster finds herself wanting to overturn her own predictions, move away from technology, and reclaim her heart.

**The Road to Camelot: Inside JFK's Five-Year Campaign** by Thomas Oliphant  
A behind-the-scenes account of the 35th President's journey to the White House includes coverage of his failed vice presidential nomination in 1956, the ways his Catholic faith challenged his campaigns and the successful efforts of his team of young advisors to reinvent the traditional party.

**Last Hope Island: Britain, Occupied Europe, and the Brotherhood that Helped Turn the Tide of War** by Lynne Olson

Chronicles how Britain became an island of refuge for Europeans who escaped the Nazi juggernaut, exploring how royals, soldiers, government leaders, and resistance fighters found safety and established bases of operations to reclaim their homelands.

**My Life with Bob: Flawed Heroine Keeps Book of Books, Plot Ensues** by Pamela Paul

The *New York Times Book Review* editor reveals how for 28 years she has maintained a personal journal recording every book she has ever read, sharing literature-influenced experiences that shaped her personal and professional life.

**Imagine Wanting Only This** by Kristen Radtke

In this genre-smashing graphic memoir, Kristen Radtke leads us through deserted towns in the American Midwest, Italian villas, islands in the Philippines, New York City, and the delicate passageways of the human heart.

**Churchill and Orwell: The Fight for Freedom** by Thomas Ricks

A dual portrait of Winston Churchill and George Orwell focuses on the pivotal years from the mid-1930s through the 1940s, describing how both suffered nearly fatal injuries before their vision and campaigns inspired action to preserve democracy throughout the world.

**Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, & Finding Joy** by Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant

From the Facebook COO and #1 *New York Times* best-selling author of *Lean In*, and the #1 *New York Times* best-selling author of *Originals* comes a book about finding resilience and moving forward after life's inevitable setbacks.

**Cannibalism: A Perfectly Natural History** by Bill Schutt

Eating one's own kind is completely natural behavior in thousands of species, including humans. Throughout history we have engaged in cannibalism for reasons of famine, burial rites, and medicinal remedies. With unexpected wit and a wealth of knowledge, biologist Bill Schutt takes us on a tour of the field, dissecting exciting new research on the topic.

**Theft by Finding: Diaries 1977-2002** by David Sedaris

An anthology of personal favorite diary entries features excerpts that have inspired his famed essays and shares insights into the intimate arenas of his life.

***Shake It Up: Great American Writing on Rock and Pop From Elvis to Jay Z*** edited by Jonathan Lethem and Kevin Dettmar

Jonathan Lethem and Kevin Dettmar's *Shake It Up* invites the reader into the tumult and excitement of the rock revolution through fifty landmark pieces by a supergroup of writers on rock in all its variety, from heavy metal to disco, punk to hip-hop.

***Priestdaddy*** by Patricia Lockwood

The author of *Motherland Fatherland Homelandsexuals* presents a darkly comic memoir about her relationship with her unconventional married Catholic priest father, describing emblematic moments from her youth and the crisis that led the author and her non-religious husband to briefly live in her parents' rectory.

***The Rules Do Not Apply: A Memoir*** by Ariel Levy

A *New Yorker* staff writer shares a profound, hopeful memoir of her own experiences with devastating loss to council fellow survivors about the healing aspects of accepting difficult life challenges that are beyond our control.

***The Fact of a Body: A Murder and a Memoir*** by Alexandria Marzano-Lesnevich

A National Endowment for the Arts fellow documents the story of how a summer job at a Louisiana law firm and the case of a convicted murderer and child molester changed her views about the death penalty and forced her to confront traumatic secrets in her own family.

***The American Spirit: Who We Are and What We Stand For*** by David McCullough

A timely collection of speeches by David McCullough, the most honored historian in the United States—winner of two Pulitzer Prizes, two National Book Awards, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, among many others—that reminds us of fundamental American principles.

***Woolly: The True Story of the Quest to Revive One of History's Most Iconic Extinct Creatures*** by Ben Mezrich

Science fiction becomes reality in this Jurassic Park-like story of the genetic resurrection of an extinct species—the woolly mammoth.

***October: The Story of the Russian Revolution*** by China Mieville

The renowned fantasy and science fiction writer China Mieville has long been inspired by the ideals of the Russian Revolution and here, on the centenary of the revolution, he provides his own distinctive take on its history. In February 1917, in the midst of bloody war, Russia was still an autocratic monarchy; nine months later, it became the first socialist state in world history. How was a ravaged and backward country, swept up in a desperately unpopular war, rocked by not one but two revolutions?

***Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*** by Trevor Noah

The host of *The Daily Show With Trevor Noah* traces his wild coming of age during the twilight of apartheid in South Africa and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed, offering insight into the farcical aspects of the political and social systems of today's world.

***My Italian Bulldozer*** by Alexander McCall Smith

Food writer Paul Stuart heads to the idyllic Italian hill town of Montalcino to finish his late manuscript, but he discovers his rental car is missing. With no record of any reservation and no other cars available, Paul is stuck at the airport until he is offered a bulldozer. Paul accepts the offer and this begins a series of surprising adventures in food, wine, Tuscan history and modern romance as Paul travels through the countryside on his Italian bulldozer.

***The Burning Girl*** by Claire Messud (Release date: August 29, 2017)

Julia and Cassie have been friends since nursery school. They have shared everything, including their desire to escape the stifling limitations of their birthplace, the quiet town of Royston, Massachusetts. But as the two girls enter adolescence, their paths diverge and Cassie sets out on a journey that will put her life in danger and shatter her oldest friendship.

***The Thirst*** by Jo Nesbo

Harry Hole is inextricably drawn back into the Oslo police force by a serial murderer who has been targeting Tinder daters using methods reminiscent of a nemesis from Harry's past.

***Oola*** by Brittany Newell

When he meets Oola, a music school dropout, 25-year-old drifter Leif, as they settle for a summer in Big Sur, attempts an infinitesimal cartography of this woman who perfectly fits with him, but as the boundaries between them break down and the outside world recedes, the sinister undertones to his grand gesture come to the surface.

***The Refugees*** by Viet Thanh Nguyen

The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Sympathizer* presents a new collection of stories, written over a 20-year period, which explores questions of home, family, immigration, the American experience and the relationships and desires for self-fulfillment that define our lives.

***Made for Love*** by Alissa Nutting

From one of our most exciting and provocative young writers, a poignant, riotously funny story of how far some will go for love—and how far some will go to escape it.

***DISMEMBER: And Other Stories of Mystery and Suspense*** by Joyce Carol Oates

Oates is renowned for her rare ability to “illuminate the mind’s most disturbing corners” (*Seattle Times*). That genius is on full display in this meticulously crafted, deeply disquieting collection of girls and women confronting the danger around them, and the danger hidden inside their turbulent selves.

***Mrs. Fletcher*** by Tom Perrotta (Release date: August 1, 2017)

From one of the most popular and bestselling authors of our time, a penetrating and hilarious new novel about sex, love, and identity on the frontlines of America’s culture wars.

***The Essex Serpent*** by Sarah Perry

An exquisitely talented young British author makes her American debut with this rapturously acclaimed historical novel, set in late nineteenth-century England, about an intellectually minded young widow, a pious vicar, and a rumored mythical serpent that explores questions about science and religion, skepticism and faith, independence and love. Winner of the British Book Awards Fiction Book of the Year.

***Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk*** by Kathleen Rooney

A love letter to city life in all its guts and grandeur, *Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk* paints a portrait of a remarkable woman across the canvas of a changing America: from the Jazz Age to the onset of the AIDS epidemic; the Great Depression to the birth of hip-hop. Lillian figures she might as well take her time. For now, after all, the night is still young.

***The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*** by Arundhati Roy

A provocative love story explores a spectrum of powerful emotions experienced by diverse protagonists, each of them searching for meaning, love, and a place of safety. A dazzling, richly moving new novel by the internationally celebrated author of *The God of Small Things*.

***Trajectory: Stories*** by Richard Russo

A new collection of short fiction by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Everybody's Fool* includes the stories of a professor who confronts a plagiarist during a Thanksgiving holiday, a realtor who faces an ominous medical prognosis that places him in his father's shadow, and a lapsed novelist who struggles with a spouse's illness while rekindling his career.

***No One Can Pronounce My Name*** by Rakesh Satyal

Struggling with cultural divisions in a Cleveland suburb mostly populated by Indian Americans, lonely forty-something Harit dresses up in a sari to comfort his grief-stricken mother before befriending a woman who writes paranormal romances to manage her fears about her husband's affair. A humorous and tender multi-generational novel about immigrants and outsiders, those trying to find their place in America and with their own families.

***Lincoln in the Bardo*** by George Saunders

Traces a night of solitary mourning and reflection as experienced by the sixteenth president after the death of his eleven-year-old son at the dawn of the Civil War.

***The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*** by Lisa See

Li-Yan and her family devote their lives to farming tea. Like her mother, Li-Yan is being groomed to become a midwife in her Chinese village. She yearns for more and is allowed to pursue her schooling. The arrival of outsiders seeking the Pu'er tea of Yunnan brings the modern world into this isolated village. When Li-Yan finds herself alone and pregnant, she leaves her child, wrapped with a tea cake, at an orphanage. Her daughter is adopted by a couple from California, but she is drawn to the study of tea. A sweeping historical novel that juxtaposes ancient China with its modern incarnation.

***Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*** by David Grann

In the 1920s, a string of unsolved murders rocked the Osage Indian Nation in Oklahoma. Made rich by oil rights, the Osage were already victimized by unscrupulous businessmen and societal prejudice, but these murders were so egregious, the newly formed FBI was brought in to investigate. Immensely readable, this book brings a shameful part of U.S. history alive and will keep readers thinking long after they have finished the book.

***The Road to Jonestown: Jim Jones and Peoples Temple*** by Jeff Guinn

A portrait of the influential cult leader behind the Jonestown Massacre examines his personal life, from his extramarital affairs and drug use to his fraudulent faith healing practices and his decision to move his followers to Guyana, sharing astonishing new details about the events leading to the 1978 tragedy.

***Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow*** by Yuval N. Harari

*Homo Deus* explores the projects, dreams and nightmares that will shape the twenty-first century—from overcoming death to creating artificial life. It asks the fundamental questions: Where do we go from here? And how will we protect this fragile world from our own destructive powers? This is the next stage of evolution. This is Homo Deus.

***A Really Big Lunch*** by Jim Harrison

An array to be published on the one-year anniversary of the author's death collects many of his food essays for the first time—from the titular *New Yorker* piece about a French lunch that went to 37 courses to pieces on the relationship between hunter and prey and the obscure language of wine reviews.

***We Are Never Meeting in Real Life: Essays*** by Samantha Irby

Sometimes you just have to laugh, even when life is a dumpster fire. With *We Are Never Meeting in Real Life*, blogger and comedian Samantha Irby turns the serio-comic essay into an art form. Whether talking about how her difficult childhood has led to a problem in making “adult” budgets, explaining why she should be the new Bachelorette—she's “35-ish, but could easily pass for 60-something”—detailing a disastrous pilgrimage-slash-romantic-vacation to Nashville to scatter her estranged father's ashes, or dispensing advice on how to navigate friendships, she's as deft at poking fun at the ghosts of her past self as she is at capturing powerful emotional truths.

***Chuck Klosterman X: A Highly Specific, Defiantly Incomplete History of the Early 21st Century*** by Chuck Klosterman

An anthology of articles, essays and columns by the cultural critic and best-selling author of *Sex, Drugs, and Cocoa Puffs* celebrates more than a decade of journalism and includes signature pieces, original drafts and previously unpublished passages on a wide range of subjects.

***Reading with Patrick: A Teacher, a Student, and a Life-Changing Friendship*** by Michelle Kuo

A former alternative school teacher and Harvard Law School fellow shares the story of her work with a gifted student who was imprisoned for murder in the Mississippi Delta and whose education she continued through classic works of literature.

***Richard Nixon: The Life*** by John Farrell

An extensively researched portrait of the 37th president by the biographer of Clarence Darrow traces Nixon's early political ambitions in his post-military years, his early achievements as a senator and vice president and his forward-thinking ideas in health care, poverty, civil rights, the environment and foreign affairs.

***The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the North Pond Hermit*** by Michael Finkel

There are three types of hermits in the world, according to Finkel: protesters, pilgrims, and pursuers. But Christopher Knight doesn't seem to fit any of these categories. So why, at the age of 20, did he drive into a forest in Maine and disappear for 27 years, his only human interaction a single 'hi' with a passing hiker? This book uses the incredible but true story of Knight, 'the last true hermit,' to explore themes of solitude, introversion and the meaning of life.

***Between Them: Remembering My Parents*** by Richard Ford

The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of the Bascombe novels presents a memoir in two parts on the lives of his parents in the Depression-era South that explores their motivations and dreams, his traveling salesman father's early death and the family's transient lives in a series of hotels.

***The Jersey Brothers: A Missing Naval Officer in the Pacific and His Family's Quest to Bring Him Home*** by Sally Mott Freeman

Documents the extraordinary story of three brothers in World War II who found themselves at the epicenter of three of the war's most crucial moments, describing the rescue mission launched by the elder two when their youngest brother was declared missing in action in the Philippines.

***Somebody with a Little Hammer: Essays*** by Mary Gaitskill

From one of the most singular presences in American fiction comes a searingly intelligent book of essays on matters literary, social, cultural, and personal. Whether she's writing about date rape or political adultery or writers from John Updike to Gillian Flynn, Mary Gaitskill reads her subjects deftly and aphoristically and moves beyond them to locate the deep currents of longing, ambition, perversity, and loneliness in the American unconscious.

***Hunger: A Memoir of (My) Body*** by Roxane Gay

The best-selling author of *Bad Feminist* presents a searingly frank memoir of food, weight, self-image and learning how to feed one's hunger in healthy ways, drawing on the popular essays of her long-running Tumblr blog to illuminate the challenges of navigating the boundaries between self-comfort and self-care.

***Sunshine State: Essays*** by Sarah Gerard

Rising literary star and *Los Angeles Times* First Fiction Award finalist Sarah Gerard uses her experiences growing up on Florida's gulf coast to illuminate the struggles of modern human survival—physical, emotional, environmental—through a collection of essays exploring intimacy, addiction, obsession, religion, homelessness, and incarceration.

***Startup*** by Doree Shafrir

Mack McAllister: the it-boy visionary of the moment trying to take his app to the next level; Isabel: a social media ninja working for him a bit too closely; and Katya: an ambitious Russian emigre journalist desperate for a scoop. When a scandal erupts in the lower Manhattan loft building where all three work, they quickly discover just how small a world the Big Apple's tech community can be.

***The Women in the Castle*** by Jessica Shattuck

Three German women's lives are abruptly changed when their husbands are executed for their part in an attempt to assassinate Hitler. They band together in a crumbling estate to raise their children and keep each other standing. Rich in character development, this book is narrated by each of the women, giving us a clear understanding of their sense of loss, inner strength and the love they have for each other. This story examines the human side of war, where the lines are blurred between hero and victim.

***The Stars Are Fire*** by Anita Shreve

Grace, a young woman with two small children, lives by the coast in Maine in 1947. Her marriage isn't very happy, but she's dutiful and devoted to her children. After escaping a devastating fire that wiped out her town and nearby forests, Grace has to become braver, stronger, and more resourceful than she's ever had to be before. She manages it, and it's lovely to watch happen, until something unexpected makes her life contract once more.

***Anything Is Possible*** by Elizabeth Strout

Two sisters, one who trades self-respect for a wealthy husband and one who discovers a kindred spirit in the pages of a book, struggle with intimate human dramas at the sides of their community members and a returned Lucy Barton. *Anything Is Possible* again underscores Elizabeth Strout's place as one of America's most respected and cherished authors.

***Midnight at the Bright Ideas Bookstore*** by Matthew Sullivan

Lydia Smith is enjoying her comfortable life. She has a job she loves at the Bright Ideas Bookstore. Then one of her favorite "bookfrogs" (code word for eccentric bookstore regulars) commits suicide and leaves her his small horde of books. She discovers a strangely methodical defacement which is a kind of code. A delicate spiderweb of connections leading back to a murderous incident in Lydia's childhood is revealed.

***The Hate U Give*** by Angie Thomas

Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, Angie Thomas's searing debut about an ordinary girl in extraordinary circumstances addresses issues of racism and police violence with intelligence, heart, and unflinching honesty.

***House of Names*** by Colm Toibin

From the thrilling imagination of bestselling, award-winning Tóibín comes a retelling of the story of Clytemnestra and her children in the legendary Greek city of Mycenae, describes how at the side of her lover she plots to murder her long-absent husband for his betrayals and infidelities.

***A Gentleman in Moscow*** by Amor Towles

Deemed unrepentant by a Bolshevik tribunal in 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is sentenced to house arrest in a hotel across the street from the Kremlin, where he lives in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history unfold.

***Chemistry*** by Weike Wang

Losing her love for her major when her graduate studies become subject to research failures and high pressure, a Boston University student contemplates a marriage proposal from a more successful fellow scientist while she pursues an entirely different kind of chemistry.

***Sing, Unburied, Sing*** by Jesmyn Ward (Release date: September 5, 2017)

In Ward's first novel since her National Book Award-winning *Salvage the Bones*, this singular American writer brings the archetypal road novel into rural twenty-first-century America. Drawing on Morrison and Faulkner, *The Odyssey* and the *Old Testament*, Ward gives us an epochal story, a journey through Mississippi's past and present that is both an intimate portrait of a family and an epic tale of hope and struggle.

***No One Is Coming to Save Us*** by Stephanie Powell Watts

A tale inspired by *The Great Gatsby* is set in the contemporary South and follows the difficulties endured by an extended black family with colliding visions of the American dream.

***The Force*** by Don Winslow

A searing portrait of a city on the edge of an abyss and of a courageous, heroic, and deeply flawed man who stands at that edge, *The Force* is a masterpiece of urban realism full of shocking and surprising twists, leavened by flashes of dark humor, a morally complex and utterly riveting dissection of modern American society and the controversial issues confronting us today.

***The Book of Joan*** by Lidia Yuknavitch

After a series of endless wars sends most humans to live on a mysterious platform known as CIEL, the remaining earthlings, who have mutated, become galvanized by a child-warrior named Joan who possesses a mysterious power and can commune with the earth.

***Young Jane Young*** by Gabrielle Zevin (Release date: August 22, 2017)

Aviva Grossman, an ambitious congressional intern in Florida, makes the mistake of having an affair with her boss—and blogging about it. When the affair comes to light, the beloved congressman doesn't take the fall. But Aviva does, and her life is over before it hardly begins: slut-shamed, she becomes a late-night talk show punch line, anathema to politics.

***Sour Heart*** by Jenny Zhang (Release date: August 1, 2017)

A sly debut collection that conjures the experience of adolescence through the eyes of Chinese American girls growing up in New York City—for readers of Zadie Smith, Helen Oyeyemi, and Junot Díaz.

**Non-Fiction:*****You Don't Have to Say You Love Me*** by Sherman Alexie

The author of *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* presents a literary memoir of poems, essays and intimate family photos that reflect his complicated feelings about his disadvantaged childhood on a Native American reservation with his siblings and alcoholic parents.

***The Unwomanly Face of War: An Oral History of Women in WWII*** by Svetlana Alexievich (Release date: July 25, 2017)

The Nobel Prize-winning author of *Voices from Chernobyl* offers a collection of deeply personal stories that share the World War II perspectives of women from the front lines, at home and in occupied territories.

***Rebel Mother: My Childhood Chasing the Revolution*** by Peter Andreas

A true account of a deep mother-son bond and the joy and toll of growing up with a radical mother in a radical age follows Carol Andreas, a traditional 1950s Mennonite housewife-turned-Marxist rebel, as she and her young son, whom she kidnapped from his straitlaced father, travel the world, chasing the revolution together.

***The Novel of the Century: The Extraordinary Adventure of Les Misérables*** by David Bellos

A narrative account of the story behind Victor Hugo's literary masterpiece describes how he wrote the book under violent conditions and during exile, the considerable measures that were required for its publication and its various stage and screen interpretations.

***Blind Spot*** by Teju Cole

*The New York Times* photography critic and award-winning author pairs more than 150 images with lyrical text to explore his complex relationship to the visual world through his great passions—writing and photography—in a testament to the art of seeing.

***Miss Burma*** by Charmaine Craig

Set against the vibrant backdrop of Burma from the 1940s to the 1960s, *Miss Burma* is a powerful and epic novel that follows one prominent Burmese family struggling to overcome war and political repression while trying to build a meaningful life.

***Ernest Hemingway: A Biography*** by Mary V. Dearborn

A revelatory look into the life and work of Ernest Hemingway, considered in his time to be the greatest living American novelist and short-story writer. Mary Dearborn's new biography gives the richest and most nuanced portrait to date of this complex, enigmatically unique American artist, whose same uncontrollable demons that inspired and drove him throughout his life undid him at the end.

***Guidebook to Relative Strangers: Journeys into Race, Motherhood, and History*** by Camille Dungy

An award-winning African American poet debuts in prose with a stunningly graceful and honest exploration of race, motherhood, and history.