

The Ministry of Time: A Novel By Kaliane Bradley

"The Ministry of Time is a rare story that mashes up favorite time-worn tropes – from *Star Trek* to spy thrillers to Victorian romances – in a crucible of colonialism and the pitfalls of diversity in a near-future London. Oh, and it's sexy as hell."

-Amanda Qassar, Warwick's, La Jolla, CA



Funny Story By Emily Henry

"If Emily Henry has thousands of fans, I am one of them. If Emily Henry has one fan, I am that one. If Emily Henry has no fans, I am dead. Daphne and Miles are the comfortable reliability of your dinnertime game show & the warmest quilt of eccentricities. A beautiful friends-to-lovers story."

-Nyawira Nyota, Page 158 Books, Wake Forest, NC



All Fours: A Novel By Miranda July

"A compulsively readable novel that follows a middle-aged artist as she undergoes a sexual and spiritual awakening. I loved this meditation on aging, restlessness, isolation, obsession, and the trials and triumphs of self-reinvention."

-Caitlyn Lyles, Hooked Community, Lansing, MI



Real Americans: A Novel By Rachel Khong

"Rachel Khong's latest tells the story of a first generation American's adulthood and her teenage son looking for answers 20 years later. *Real Americans* grapples with racial identity, family inheritance, and becoming one's true self."

-Rebekah Rine, Watermark Books & Cafe, Wichita, KS



Long Island (Eilis Lacey Series) By Colm Tóibín

"Eilis Lacey's story continues in this superb follow-up to *Brooklyn*. Twenty years later, Eilis is stunned by her husband's affair and the child he has fathered, and returns alone to her small Irish village. A beautiful, moving novel."

-Marilyn Negip, R.J. Julia Booksellers, Madison, CT



The Paradise Problem By Christina Lauren

"A fake marriage trope with hints of *Succession*, all of the spice, and set on a beautiful private island? Sign me *up*! This had the predictability of a romance with enough intrigue to entertain. Christina Lauren just keep getting better!"

-Amy Dickinson, Book Ends Winchester, Winchester, MA



Sipsworth By Simon Van Booy

"Simon Van Booy performs a special type of alchemy by taking the simplest of tales -a woman approaching the end of her life discovering a small mouse in her house -and turning it into an astonishingly moving story of love and resilience."

-Luisa Smith, Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA



Woodworm

By Layla Martínez, Sophie Hughes (Transl.), Annie McDermott (Transl.)

"Martínez bends a haunting to her will. *Woodworm* is an offbeat tale about intergenerational trauma, classism, and the measures we take to grasp at anything resembling justice. I could taste its righteous malevolence; I savoured every word."

-Lauren Abesames, Wind City Books, Casper, WY



Every Time I Go on Vacation, Someone Dies: A Novel (The Vacation Mysteries #1) By Catherine Mack

"A mystery writer, a con man, and a ex-boyfriend walk into the Colosseum...in the perfect book to sit by the pool and read as you sip an aperol spritz. Mack's perfect vacation read is packed with murder, mayhem, and the funniest footnotes."

-Katie Fransen, The Novel Neighbor, Webster Groves, MO



Miss Morgan's Book Brigade: A Novel By Janet Skeslien Charles

"As a female Army combat veteran, I know all too well how women's contributions get forgotten. Follow 'Kit' Carson as she and women from all walks of life bring hope and books to families devastated by the German occupation of France in WWI."

-Casey Luke, The Book Shoppe, Boone, IA



A Letter to the Luminous Deep (The Sunken Archive #1) By Sylvie Cathrall

"Sylvie Cathrall wraps cozy aquatic academia, strange abyssal mysteries, and deeply endearing characters into one delightful epistolary novel that is sure to reel you in! A fun and cozy science fiction/fantasy that pulls at your heartstrings!"

-Oli Schmitz, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI



Reading the Room: A Bookseller's Tale By Paul Yamazaki

"Reading the Room is a precious artifact, a rare transmission from a truly great mind. If you're a bookseller, pull up a chair and learn from a master; if you're a reader, you'll walk away with an entirely new appreciation for your local indie."

-Vanessa Martini, Green Apple Books & Music, San Francisco, CA



888 Love and the Divine Burden of Numbers: A Novel By Abraham Chang

"Young recalls the first five loves of his life while making his way through his sophomore year of college with his sixth love, Erena. The book is warm and loving, peppered with '80s and '90s pop culture references and so many possibilities."

-Paul Swydan, The Silver Unicorn Bookstore, Acton, MA



The Z Word By Lindsay King-Miller

"A gruesome, campy book that plays on the beautiful and messy dynamics of queer community, the seedy claws of rainbow capitalism, and every zombie killing method ever fantasized. *The Z Word* will leave you laughing between every shocked gasp!" —Skye Euryale, Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI



Summers at the Saint: A Novel By Mary Kay Andrews

"While the cover screams 'beach read,' Mary Kay Andrews fans know there's more to the story. An emotional ride through grief, friendships, secrets, two murder mysteries, new love, and doing whatever it takes to protect home."

-Alecia Castro, Sweet Home Books, Wetumpka, AL



Darling Girls: A Novel By Sally Hepworth

"Sally Hepworth has masterfully crafted another suspense about families, secrets, lies, and love. Three foster sisters struggle to deal with their horrific past when a child's bones are found under the foster home where they grew up."

-Sharon Davis, Book Bound Bookstore, Blairsville, GA



The Paris Novel By Ruth Reichl

"I long to be a 'tumbleweed'! Reading a book every day, helping customers, going on errands, enjoying a crepe, and living in the City of Lights! *The Paris Novel* is an escape into food, art, and couture with mystery and a cast you'll adore!"

-Sara Rishforth, Roundabout Books, Bend, OR



A Magical Girl Retires: A Novel By Park Seolyeon, Anton Hur (Transl.)

"A quixotic blend of fantasy and reality. Magical girls are real, but so too are credit card debt, COVID-19, and mass unemployment. This strangely nostalgic, deceptively simple novel taps into both the dreams and anxieties of millenials."

-Shay Shortt, Brick & Mortar Books, Redmond, WA



Colton Gentry's Third Act: A Novel By Jeff Zentner

"I loved this second-chance romance about a high school football star turned Country singer who heads back to Kentucky after his marriage and career fall apart. Zentner captures Colton and Luann's nostalgia and reconnection beautifully."

-Amy Traughber, pages: a bookstore, Manhattan Beach, CA



Ocean's Godori By Elaine U. Cho

"Elaine Cho articulates delicate, intergalactic celebrity politics and the nuances of queerness and racism in this incredible space opera, where we follow Ocean and her found-family crew setting off from a distant-future Korea."

-Devon Overley, Loganberry Books, Shaker Heights, OH



Loneliness & Company By Charlee Dyroff

"Lee is an overachiever, but when she's hired to teach an AI program the meaning of loneliness, her life skills are challenged. Dyroff draws an artful and memorable portrait of a woman trying to find answers in a world consumed by technology."

-Manda Riggs, Elm Street Books, New Canaan, CT

Your Next NDENEXT Great Read

Whale Fall: A Novel By Elizabeth O'Connor

"A debut and a paean to the forgotten cultures on the British Isles. An intelligent yet innocent protagonist is confronted with ethnographers from the mainland, as class, gender, and education meet, while the prose mirrors island life."

-Richard Dixon, Politics and Prose Bookstore, Washington, DC



The Demon of Unrest: A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War By Erik Larson

"Larson vividly depicts Fort Sumter's untenable position, the inpetitude of the Buchanan administration, and the impossibility of a remedy from Lincoln, exposing Southern planters who linked slavery, secession, and war in a corrupted Code of Honor."

-Mike Hare, Northshire Saratoga, Saratoga Springs, NY



Bite by Bite: Nourishments and Jamborees By Aimee Nezhukumatathil

"These essays are not just meditations on mouthwatering mastications of exotic fruits and savory favorites, but joyous and generous glimpses into the genius of a spirit that embraces the ascendance of the everyday into the sublime."

-Emily Liner, Friendly City Books, Columbus, MS



How to Read a Book: A Novel By Monica Wood

"A charming novel about the power of books to heal, connect, and teach. A prison inmate, her reading group teacher, and the man damaged by the inmate's crime are drawn together by their love of reading and their need for human connection."

-Susan Taylor, Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza, Albany, NY



Death Valley: A Novel By Melissa Broder

"A hike becomes a metaphysical journey straight into the center of grief, featuring literature's most memorable cactus. Broder delivers us directly to the site of the wound and somehow makes us linger. Beautiful, exciting, and profound."

-Kristen Iskandrian, Thank You Books, Birmingham, AL



The Late Americans: A Novel

By Brandon Taylor

"With writing that is equal parts piercing and tender, this novel shifts through a cast of grad students and laborers, lovers and friends – many of them queer men – as they navigate sex, money, art, and uncertain modern life in Iowa City."

-Owen Elphick, Main Point Books, Wayne, PA



A Living Remedy: A Memoir By Nicole Chung

"A heartbreaking, yet deeply loving memoir about the complexities of healthcare inequality. Chung draws on her experiences in her white adoptive family to understand how inequalities perpetuate distance and divisiveness."

-Erin Pastore, Water Street Bookstore, Exeter, NH



Murder Your Employer: The McMasters Guide to Homicide By Rupert Holmes

"Dastardly, devious, and utterly delightful! Welcome to The McMaster's Conservatory for The Applied Arts, a unique school that teaches you to get away with murder. Prepare to be thoroughly entertained! A unique, original and fun read."

-Maxwell Gregory, Madison Street Books, Chicago, IL

Your Next NDIE NEXT Great Read

Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club: A Novel By J. Ryan Stradal

"J. Ryan Stradal captures so much about small town life and families in his stories. Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club was like sitting down at The Club back in my hometown. There's comfort and delicious food on every page."

-Terri LeBlanc, Swamp Fox Bookstore, Marion, IA



Small Mercies: A Detective Mystery By Dennis Lehane

"Lehane is one of the best writers of his generation. He depicts Boston like no one else can, and the story, the characters, as well as the deep dive into the social fabric of a place make this a must read."

-Cody Morrison, Square Books, Oxford, MS

