

Your Next



Great Read

Make Believe: On Telling Stories to Children

By Mac Barnett

"With a profound respect for the intellect of children and their openness to the world, both real and imagined, Mac Barnett has written a love letter to not only children's literature, but to childhood as well."

—Diane Capriola, Little Shop of Stories, Decatur, GA

Your Next



Great Read

The Calamity Club

By Kathryn Stockett

"What makes Kathryn Stockett's blockbuster *The Help* and her long-awaited return in *The Calamity Club* so special is the feeling that you're witnessing ordinary women make history in extraordinary ways."

—Emily Liner, Friendly City Books, Columbus, MS

Your Next



Great Read

The Lost Book of Lancelot: A Novel

By John Glynn

"A lush, rich, deeply emotional love story that will remind you of the things most important to cherish in life. Whether you're new to Lancelot's story or a long-time lover of Arthurian lore, you'll find something new and fresh in this take."

—Su Kim, Old Town Books, Alexandria, VA

Your Next



Great Read

Enormous Wings: A Novel

By Laurie Frankel

"Laurie Frankel has a way of treating serious issues in a warm and loving way, and of bringing understanding to contentious topics. Maybe this book can open a few eyes to the horrors of the Texas (and unfortunately other states') laws."

—Karen Emmerling, Beach Books, Seaside, OR

Your Next



Great Read

We Burned So Bright

By TJ Klune

"As the end of the world approaches, elderly husbands Don and Rodney set off on one last road trip to keep a promise before it's too late. Klune's story feels tangible, distressingly realistic and achingly beautiful."

—Kelsie Berger, Mysterious Galaxy Books, San Diego, CA

Your Next



Great Read

Mad Mabel: A Novel

By Sally Hepworth

"Hepworth once again excels at pulling the rug out from under the reader's figurative feet with the story of octogenarian Elsie Fitzpatrick, whose quiet life on a small Melbourne street is blown up by her discovery of her next door neighbor dead."

—Barbara Peters, The Poisoned Pen Bookstore, Scottsdale, AZ

Your Next



Great Read

The Things We Never Say: A Novel

By Elizabeth Strout

"Another perceptive character study from Elizabeth Strout, this time centered around a Massachusetts high school history teacher who presents an amiable face to the world but is riddled with self-doubt and pessimism."

—Anne Peck, Lakeville Books & Stationery, Lakeville, CT

Your Next



Great Read

John of John

By Douglas Stuart

"I'll go wherever Douglas Stuart leads, knowing he's going to deliver. In *John of John*, he gets right to the core of human emotion as the young John Callum tries to break the cycle of generational, malignant masculinity his father is trapped in."

—Richard Dixon, The Ivy Bookshop, Baltimore, MD

Your Next



Great Read

Ghost Town: A Novel

By Tom Perrotta

"On hearing that his father has been memorialized in his hometown of Creamwood, NJ, Jimmy Perrini recalls the fateful summer after his mother's death. Fast cars, Ouija boards, and strong weed all feature in this powerful story about grief, prejudice, and adolescence."

—Daniel Goldin, Boswell Book Company, Milwaukee, WI

Your Next



Great Read

The Duke: A Novel

By Anna Cowan

"A sapphic historical romance full of secrets, political plotting, blackmail, revenge, and double revenge that will keep you on the edge of your seat as emotional and erotic tension builds between The Duke and her 'ward,' Celine."

—Kinsey Foreman, High Five Books, Florence, MA

Your Next



Great Read

Homebound: A Novel

By Portia Elan

"Like all great sci-fi novels do, *Homebound* blends the anxieties around new technology, like AI, with stirring themes of belonging and hope. This remarkable debut is a perfect read for fans of Becky Chambers and Amal El-Mohtar."

—Olivia Marchese, Author's Note, Medina, NY

Your Next



Great Read

Platform Decay (The Murderbot Diaries #8)

By Martha Wells

"Martha Wells always delivers. Getting to meet Three as it comes into itself and watching Murderbot wrestle with its humanity is just a magical ride through what is, essentially, a living nightmare for them."

—Jess Feder, Kiss & Tale: A Romance Bookshop, Collingswood, NJ

Your Next



Great Read

Five: A Novel

By Ilona Bannister

"Five is wholly original, masterfully plotted, and thrilling. My allegiance switched as swiftly as the impending train bearing down on the antiheroes in this story. You know someone will die, but who do you want to survive?"

—Maggie Robe, Flyleaf Books, Chapel Hill, NC

Your Next



Great Read

Small Boat: A Novel

By Vincent Delecroix, Helen Stevenson (Transl.)

"A short, translated novella based on the deadly travels of a migrant dinghy across the Channel from France to Britain, and the questionable morals of the rescue operators — one in particular, who put aside the truth of these migrants as human beings in order to do their job."

—Jennifer Bischof, Frisco Booksellers, Frisco, TX

Your Next



Great Read

Seek the Traitor's Son

By Veronica Roth

"A stunning science fantasy novel with a virus that can kill or give superpowers, world-altering prophecies, mysterious aliens, secret dads, surprise romance, and a whole lot of trauma. If you're looking for a chunky book with high stakes, great characters, and a propulsive plot, you're in the right place."

—Alex Schaffner, Brookline Booksmith, Brookline, MA

Your Next



Great Read

Thistlemarsh

By Moorea Corrigan

"*Thistlemarsh* was so easy to get swept into as our main protagonist Mouse comes back to a home she doesn't recognize to meet expectations that seem impossible. This book pulled at my heartstrings with the trauma and grief but it never took me out of the story."

—Mekhala Villegas, Fountain Bookstore, Richmond, VA

Your Next



Great Read

The Foursome: A Novel

By Christina Baker Kline

"A book about Eng and Chang Bunker, the famous conjoined twins. The story touches on so many interesting themes, from complicated sibling relationships and dysfunctional families to traditional gender and class roles, slavery, and abolition."

—Kelly Klein, Reads by the River, Waterford, WI

Your Next



Great Read

American Rambler: Walking the Trail of Johnny Appleseed

By Isaac Fitzgerald

"You will laugh, you will cry, you will learn. You will enjoy the adventure with Fitzgerald as he debunks myths about our history and our humanity. Rambling and reflecting on the best gifts from his parents: the love of nature and books and the power of prayer."

—Jeri Kay Thomas, 2 Dandelions Bookshop, Brighton, MI

Your Next



Great Read

The Caretaker: A Novel

By Marcus Kliewer

"*The Caretaker* is deeply unsettling in the best way, with smart ties to Kliewer's previous novel while still standing strong on its own. It's emotionally intense, psychologically rich, and genuinely scary. So good."

—Brynna Neal, Severna Park Books & LitCoLab, Severna, MD

Your Next



Great Read

Patient, Female: Stories

By Julie Schumacher

"All the wit and wry observation you expect from Julie Schumacher, but deeper, and darker. Some of these stories left me breathless and a little shocked, in awe of the courage it took to identify and embrace some very human and very ugly emotions."

—Sharon Weinberg, The Chatham Bookstore, Chatham, NY

Your Next



Great Read

Last Night in Brooklyn: A Novel

By Xochitl Gonzalez

"Gonzalez has a gift for capturing the essence of a specific time and place. She does it again with Brooklyn in the mid 2000s and the gentrification of the area. The story of La Garza, a fashion designer and an icon of the neighborhood, explores racism, misogyny and class struggle."

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

Your Next



Great Read

The Radiant Dark: A Novel

By Alexandra Oliva

"A gripping multi-generational story that delves into messy relationships, motherhood struggles, inherited trauma, dreams for the future, AND the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence."

—Rachel Burgoon, Brick & Mortar Books, Redmond, WA

Your Next



Great Read

Good News: A Novel

By Alexa Yasemin Brahme

"Brahme knows the dramatics of being a young woman in her twenties well. She has a skill that illustrates the immense and overwhelming chaos of what it's like to think that the world is ending, while knowing that everything will be okay."

—Isabella Barbuto, Merritt Bookstore, Millbrook, NY

Your Next



Great Read

The Mountains We Call Home: The Book Woman's Legacy

By Kim Michele Richardson

"Unjustly incarcerated, Cussy Lovett's steadfast courage is at the heart of this historical fiction novel set in 1950s Kentucky. As a believer in the power of literacy, and as a devoted wife and mother, Cussy stays forever hopeful even in the toughest of times."

—Caroline Buchta, Andover Bookstore, Andover, MA

Your Next



Great Read

Entomology of the Pin-Up Girl

By Lauren Osborn

"A grotesquely satisfying book that will stick with you. Osborn has accomplished the perfect melding of 'good for her' with an unflinching stare down the barrel of some of society's most pressing problems."

—Cassie Goodwin, Loudmouth Books, Indianapolis, IN

Your Next



Great Read

Don't Let Him In: A Novel

By Lisa Jewell

"If you enjoy a tale full of complicated relationships filled with secrets, then this is a necessary read. Told with many voices, the reader is offered a platter of delectable bites to sample as they savor the plot bite by bite."

—R. Aimee Chipman, The Bluestocking Bookshop, Holland, MI

Your Next



Great Read

The Girls Who Grew Big: A Novel

By Leila Mottley

"Just as she did in *Nightcrawling*, Leila Mottley gives voice and understanding to parts of life that our culture often tells us to ignore. The book is full of life and heart and hope."

—Beth Black, The Bookworm of Omaha, Omaha, NE

Your Next



Great Read

The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate — Discoveries from A Secret World

By Peter Wohlleben

"*The Hidden Life of Trees* reads like a 250-page epiphany. Wohlleben knows trees inside and out, and his revelatory examination of the inner lives of forests provides evidence of what many sensitive nature-lovers long suspected: that trees form friendships, sustain one another, and should be viewed as more than a natural resource."

—Stephen Sparks, Point Reyes Books, Point Reyes Station, CA

Your Next



Great Read

Make Me Famous: A Novel

By Maud Ventura, Gretchen Schmid (Transl.)

"Ventura offers a hilarious yet harrowing story of a young French American musician's rise to fame. A flawless depiction of the pressures of being young, beautiful, maintaining a fan base, and staying on top."

—Melanie Fleishman, Center for Fiction Bookstore, Brooklyn, NY

Your Next



Great Read

Ordinary Time: Lessons Learned While Staying Put

By Annie B. Jones

"Fans of Annie Jones will love this peek behind the scenes, but even for those unfamiliar with Annie's story, these essays are deeply relatable. Perfect for people who stayed in their hometowns, who lead a quieter life, and who have struggled with their faith."

—Claire McWhorter, River & Hill Books, Rome, GA

Your Next



Great Read

You Belong Here: A Novel

By Megan Miranda

"Megan Miranda delivers a fast-paced thriller set on a small college campus in the mountains of Virginia. Ghosts and memories of the past eerily surface in this suspenseful, tension-filled novel!"

—Caroline Buchta, Andover Bookstore, Andover, MA

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Great Read