

Your Next



Great Read

**Bad Words: A Novel**

By Ríoghnach Robinson

"A book about books, publishing, writing, the internet, and the very best, *truly* enemies to lovers, unexpected romance. What a timely read – from the constant pressure online to the ways AI is changing publishing. An incredible look at the power of words."

—Leighellen Landskov, Fabled Bookshop & Café, Waco, TX

Your Next



Great Read

**Partita: A Novel**

By Barbara Kingsolver

"Love can break you, art can save you. A young woman's extraordinary musical talent holds out the hope of escape from the hardscrabble life – and then love intervenes. This book is beautifully written and heartfelt and nuanced."

—Jude Sales, Readers' Books, Sonoma, CA

Your Next



Great Read

**Peck & Peck: A Novel**

By Bonnie Garmus

"You don't have to love poetry to embrace *Peck & Peck* – Batter Gray will do that for you. Batter's journey into literary publishing at the iconic poetry journal, his childhood goal, is quirky, daunting, and totally engaging!"

—Cheryl McKeon, Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza, Albany, NY

Your Next



Great Read

**American Hagwon**

By Min Jin Lee

"A book so thorough, specific, and rich that the reader feels like she hasn't just read about the characters, but lived alongside them. We all want fiction about people who feel so real that we'd recognize them on the street. *American Hagwon* succeeds on every level."

—Emilie Sommer, East City Bookshop, Washington, DC

Your Next



Great Read

### **Free Falling: A Sweetwater Peak Novel**

By Lyla Sage

"Everything you have come to expect from Lyla Sage is back for this masterpiece. Yearning, a sprinkling of mystery, shenanigans, and a semi-complicated love story that will make you smile and also cry a bit."

—Jessica Johnson, Under the Cover, Kansas City, MO

Your Next



Great Read

### **The True Confessions of First Lady Freeman: A Novel**

By Deesha Philyaw

"Deesha Philyaw explores the pressures of Black patriarchal church culture and its double standards of 'purity' for women and virility for men. Anyone who has ever rolled their eyes at a no-good, full of it Pastor will be shouting hallelujah by the end of this novel."

—Errol Anderson, Charis Books & More, Atlanta, GA

Your Next



Great Read

### **Victorious (Villains #3)**

By V. E. Schwab

"When you want to cheer for someone who by all metrics should be the villain, look no further than V. E. Schwab. This book is a work of art, and the hallowed, long-awaited ending this series deserved."

—Jess Feder, Kiss and Tale Romance Bookshop, Decatur, GA

Your Next



Great Read

### **Solace House**

By Will MacLean

"Reading *Solace House* feels like you're staying up way past your bedtime as a kid, reading by flashlight under the covers. Locked rooms, hidden relics, scratched out photographs, and secret passageways drag you through the maze of the story. You can only hope to find your way out."

—Torrin Nelson, Queen Anne Book Company, Seattle, WA

Your Next



Great Read

**Ply: A Novel**

By Hernan Diaz

"An epic dystopian novel that feels familiar, and all too possible, which adds to the sense of dread. This future still has music, art, and against all odds, science. But to balance the darkness, it has a strong dose of love and hope."

—Alana Haley, Schuler Books, Grand Rapids, MI

Your Next



Great Read

**Mothsblood: Deluxe Limited Edition**

By Lynn D. Jung

"A secret, elite, Parisian university. A tortured young alchemist running from her past. An impossible murder. Wealth, power, immortality, and the heartbreaking difficulty of breaking cycles of abuse. Gripping and intensely electric."

—Vaughn Lachenauer, Main Point Books, Wayne, PA

Your Next



Great Read

**The Radiance: A Novel**

By Ayad Akhtar

"A near-fatal accident elevates the author-protagonist to an altered state of perception — mystical and radiant, akin to a religious epiphany or pre-seizure euphoria. His pursuit of an explanation converges with a campus scandal, revealing incisive field notes on the state of higher education in our country."

—Karen Hwang, Wellesley Books, Wellesley, MA

Your Next



Great Read

**Luna, Phoenix, Queen: A Novel**

By Julie Orringer

"An intricate tale of love, loss, passion and identity spanning decades revolving around an unthinkable act of betrayal and artistic theft. A recurring rescue dog's story becomes the beating heart of this touching and unforgettable novel."

—Cody Morrison, Square Books, Oxford, MS

Your Next



Great Read

### **As You Wake, Break the Shell: A Novel**

**By Becky Chambers**

"Becky Chambers, you had me at Lesbian Space Botanists. This is a book of contradictions: time and planets butt heads while humans cling to a world that doesn't want us, life-giving plants are illegally printed from machines, and the promises of yesterday haunt the actions of today."

—Kit Fitzgerald, Noe Valley Books, San Francisco, CA

Your Next



Great Read

### **Look What the Cat Dragged In: A Novel**

**By Jason Rekulak**

"Once you get past the trauma of losing a beloved pet, things take a turn into weirdness with a new, creepy cat with the dietary needs of a Chupacabra. Full of disappearances, possession, cults, murder, and a great Indiana Jones-ish ending!"

—Nichole Bryant, Bryant Books & Music, Hastings, NE

Your Next



Great Read

### **The Court of Venus**

**By Bel Banta**

"Combining historical inspiration from the Tudor area with a zodiac-infused magic system provides such a unique fantasy world to immerse yourself in. I loved the court politics, the murder mystery, and the rich, layered romance."

—Brooke Williams, Beanbag Books, Delaware, OH

Your Next



Great Read

### **The Four Wives and Five Deaths of Richard Milford: A Novel**

**By Nafissa Thompson-Spires**

"A perfect piece of modern Southern folklore. Thompson-Spires crafts rich, recognizable yet unique characters in each chapter vignette. A spectacular tale of vengeance, the power of town gossip, and a little touch of magic."

—Kat Neilson, Paper Hearts Bookstore, Little Rock, AR

Your Next



Great Read

### **Sophie, Standing There: A Novel**

**By Meg Mason**

"*Sophie, Standing There* is about the numbing pain of losing yourself and your confidence and the steep climb to gain it back. For fans of Sally Rooney and Dolly Alderton and anyone who has ever awoken from a season of clouds and found their way back through the mist."

—Jill Smith, Still North Books & Bar, Hanover, NH

Your Next



Great Read

### **The Vanishing Family: Love, Fate, and the Quest to End Dementia**

**By Robert Kolker**

"Robert Kolker presents a compassionate and heartbreaking look at a family of high achievers; they are scientists, engineers and leaders in their fields, but a flawed gene predisposes some of them to an early onset form of dementia. Highly recommend!"

—Caitlin Baker, Island Books, Mercer Island, WA

Your Next



Great Read

### **May We Feed the King**

**By Rebecca Perry**

"A voyeuristic mirror to reflect modern themes of loneliness, surveillance, and being misunderstood, while reminding us that history is written by those who hold the pen. *May We Feed The King* trusts readers to ask questions without the demand for answers."

—Logan Walley, Recluse Books, Fort Worth, TX

Your Next



Great Read

### **Home for the Homicides: A Holly & Mark Mystery**

**By Elle Cosimano, Hannah Morrissey**

"The perfect mix of holiday cheer, hot chocolate and a homicide or two. A merry enemies-to-lovers mystery that has just the right amount of Christmas spice, mystery, and murder. Grab a hot buttered rum, pull up a comfy chair to a warm fire, and enjoy."

—Becky Anderson, Anderson's Bookshops, Naperville, IL

Your Next



Great Read

### **The Given World**

By Melissa Harrison

"Via lulling and compelling nature-documentary narration, each chapter exposes characters in an exhibition which over time becomes overgrown in vast vegetation. A relaxing primer of the waxing storm before the waning calm that is humankind's brief time on this planet."

—Ian McCord, Rec Room Books, Athens, GA

Your Next



Great Read

### **Mazywood**

By Tananarive Due

"This is *American Fiction* meets *Get Out*; the best blend of social commentary mixed with horror. Mazelle Washington, an aspiring actress, makes a wish that brings her into childhood stardom. As she ages, she becomes part of Black Hollywood and all of its burdens."

—Audrey I-Wei Huang, Belmont Books, Belmont, MA

Your Next



Great Read

### **Buzzard**

By Inez Ray

"A feminist dystopian that was a tense but relevant read. Its multi-timeline navigates the complexity and nuance of bodily autonomy well and with care. This book is fast-paced and doesn't shy away from the heavy topics."

—Stephen Hayes, Fred & June's Bookstore, Mooresville, NC

Your Next



Great Read

### **The Memory of Borrowed Books: A Novel**

By Meg Anderson

"This book satisfyingly blends mystery, thriller, and romance through pithy dialogue between relatable characters any reader would be glad to spend time with. Great for fans of *The Midnight Library* and *The Banned Bookshop of Maggie Banks*."

—Julie Schultz, This House of Books, Billings, MT

Your Next



Great Read

### **Rottenheart**

By Kat Dunn

"A sapphic reimagining of Shakespeare by the magnificent Kat Dunn. Written with her usual stunning prose, and Gothic and horror elements, this is atmospheric, haunting, and weaves a tale of love and madness."

—Mirna Villeda, Godmothers, Summerland, CA

Your Next



Great Read

### **As Many Souls as Stars: A Novel**

By Natasha Siegel

"The eldest daughter in a family of witches is born 'cursed' again and again. When a demonic entity takes notice and offers her a deal, she takes it. She never expected a tumultuous relationship with a demon that spans centuries."

—Jennifer Lieberman, Books Are Awesome, Parker, CO

Your Next



Great Read

### **Bad Bad Girl: A Novel**

By Gish Jen

"This is Gish Jen's autobiographical novel, all about her mother and their relationship, spanning decades through wars and Mao's regime. It starts as more of a novel but by the end it reads almost fully as a memoir."

—Anton Bogomazov, Politics and Prose Bookstore, Washington, DC

Your Next



Great Read

### **Buckeye: A Novel**

By Patrick Ryan

"*Buckeye's* got an indelible cast of characters, a propelling narrative, and combines the plainspoken with the mystical, the American everyday with the implacable sweep of history, and unspeakable tragedy with hope."

—Robert McDonald, The Book Stall, Winnetka, IL

Your Next



Great Read

### **We Survived the Night**

By Julian Brave NoiseCat

"An astonishing, engaging, and transforming work of narrative nonfiction that is both personal and historical. NoiseCat has written a smart, lively, and instantly foundational work of the modern Indigenous experience."

—Melinda Powers, Bookshop Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA

Your Next



Great Read

### **The Wilderness: A Novel**

By Angela Flournoy

"These raw, messy, real characters captivated from the very first page. Flournoy's writing is stunning, and the way she portrays the complexities of midlife while taking on the housing crisis, social justice, and mental health is awe-inspiring."

—Brooke Williams, Beanbag Books, Delaware, OH

Your Next



Great Read

### **Will There Ever Be Another You: A Novel**

By Patricia Lockwood

"Lockwood's singular, formidable genius is in how she wields language — like a wand, like a sword — reinventing the world we thought we knew. This is a tender, hilarious odyssey through the uncanny, a monument of courage and love."

—Kristen Iskandrian, Thank You Books, Birmingham, AL

Your Next



Great Read