

Selections: July 2025



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BOOK TITLE	Author	Reviewed by	Genre
A Proposal to Die For	Molly Harper	Sandra	Mystery
Atmosphere ^{GMA}	Taylor Jenkins Reid	Sandra	Historical Fiction
Code Word Romance	Carlie Walker	Sandra	Romance
Finlay Donovan Digs Her Own Grave ^{WW}	Elle Cosiman	Sandra	Mystery
Isola ^{RBC}	Allegra Goodman	Sandra	Historical Fiction
My Father Always Find Corpses	Lee Hollis	Sandra	Mystery
My Friends ^{WW}	Frederick Backman	Sandra	Fiction
Pomona Afton Can So Solve A Murder ^{FBC}	Bellamy Rose	Sandra	Mystery
Songs of Summer	Jane L. Rosen	Sandra	Fiction
The Filling Station	Vanessa Miller	Sandra	Historical Fiction
The Maid's Secret ^{WW}	Nita Prose	Sandra	Mystery
The Names ^{RWJ}	Florence Knapp	Sandra	Fiction
The Page Turner ^{WW}	Viola Shipman	Sandra	Fiction
The Sirens ^{GMA}	Emilia Hart	Sandra	Magical Realism
The Windsor Knot	SJ Bennett	Sandra	Mystery
Welcome to the Hyunam-Dong Bookshop	Hwang Bo-Reum	Sandra	Fiction
Written in the Waters	Tara Roberts	Sandra	Nonfiction
The Correspondent	Virginia Evans	Sandra	Fiction

NOTES:

GMA: Good Morning America Book Club or Book Buzz Pick

RBC: Reese's Book Club

RWJ: Read with Jenna

ANO: A Novel Obsession Author

FBC: First for Women Book Club

CBS: A CBS Book Club

WW: Woman's World Book Club

MBS: Mindy Kaling Book Studio

A Proposal to Die For by Molly Harper

A delightful cozy mystery when a wedding planner finds a dead body and the mean-girl bridezilla wants the wedding to go on no matter what. Hilarity ensues.

Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid

An amazing story of the first female astronauts in space. Historical fiction some say based off of Sally Ride. I was on edge to the end.

Code Word Romance by Carlie Walker

Fun and campy, “Princess Diaries” meets “Freaky Friday”. Recruited to be a body double for a CIA operation protecting a monarch, our heroine has to deal with not only espionage, but her ex being her handler.

Finlay Donovan Digs Her Own Grave by Elle Cosiman

Book 5 in the Finley Donovan series, this time it hits close to home. Once more, there are dead, movable bodies, plenty of suspects, and so much fun to be had.

Isola by Alegra Goodman

Historical fiction about a sixteenth century heroine who was dropped with her lover on a deserted island and lived to tell the tale.

My Father Always Finds Corpses by Lee Hollis

Former child star Jared once found a body and solved the murder. Flash forward to the modern day when Jared’s daughter’s boyfriend is murdered. Armed with a criminal justice degree, she convinces her father to help her solve the murder where the police can’t.

My Friends by Frederick Backman

I loved it. An experience you have to read to understand. A poignant story of a seaside town where five teenagers bonded and the young woman in present day who hears their story and finds it entwining with her own.

Pomona Afton Can So Solve A Murder by Bellamy Rose

Pomona is an heiress who’s recently been cut off along with the rest of her family due to her grandmother’s murder. Now, to get out of the red and earn her trust fund back, she has to solve the case or adapt to a ‘normal’ life.

Songs of Summer by Jane L. Rosen

Beautiful story. When a young woman accidentally crashes the wedding of the summer while searching for her birth mother, love and family ensues. Heartwarming and sweet, this is the third book of the Fire Island trilogy.

The Filling Station by Vanessa Miller

Heart-wrenching and hopeful historical fiction about the Black Wall Street Massacre. Two sisters escaped to the filling station. An examination of Route 66, the Black Wall Street Massacre, and the Green book.

The Maid’s Secret by Nita Prose

Third in “the Maid” series, this one focuses on Molly’s history, her grandmother, and the murder and heist of an heirloom given to her by the woman that is worth far more than it would appear. Quirky and delightful.

The Names by Florence Knapp

This book answers the question of how a name might affect someone’s destiny. The story focuses on a young boy and how he’d have changed if he’d been given a name by his father, his mother, or his sister. Heavier themes do crop up, this promises to be an excellent read for book clubs everywhere.

The Page Turner by Viola Shipman

A lighter offering from the masterclass writer that is Shipman.

The Sirens by Emily Hart

The legacy and lore of sirens/mermaids told between a dual perspective of modern day sisters and sisters in the 1800s. A wonderful take on the bonds between siblings and female resilience.

The Windsor Knot by SJ Bennett

What happens when 89 year-old Queen Elizabeth and her trusted secretary band together to solve a murder? Fun, obviously! Age cannot stop Her Majesty, especially when a body turns up in Windsor Castle.

Welcome to the Hyunam-Dong Bookshop by Hwang Bo-Reum

A little book with a large impact. A wonderful showcase of sharing the power of books with the power of words and memory, and how they can change your life.

Written in the Waters by Tara Roberts

Powerful memoir by Roberts about her adventures as a Black scuba diver finding and mapping the locations of sunken slave ships and exploring their history and impact, both personally and professionally.

The Correspondent by Virginia Evans

Breathtaking novel, told solely through letters and emails. Protagonist Sybil uses letters to better understand the world, her family, and the friends surrounding her. It makes you long to put pen to paper and write a letter yourself. On the shortlist for the best book of the year.