# DAISY Quarterly New Titles List - July to September 2022

Dear Library member,

Welcome to the New Titles List

The Library continually adds new titles to the collection in DAISY. Four times a year we produce a list of titles which inform Library members about what’s recently been added to the catalogue.

The list is also available in Microsoft Word.

## Further sources

We hope you enjoy the selection and would like to remind you of other avenues you can use to access our collection:

i-Access Library: Our online library catalogue.

Hear This – The Library radio show’s blog

## To contact the Library team

Call 1300 654 656

Emaillibrary@visionaustralia.org

**Please note**: When requesting titles please indicate the title or the book number.

## ANIMALS

### Book 1 - Shearwater by Roger Morgan-Grenville

Ten weeks into its life, a Manx shearwater chick will emerge from its burrow and fly 8,000 miles from the west coast of the British Isles to the South Atlantic. It will be unlikely to touch land again for four years. Part memoir, part homage to wilderness, 'Shearwater' traces the author's 50-year obsession with one of nature's supreme travellers. In the finest tradition of nature writing, Roger Morgan-Grenville unpicks the science behind its incredible journey; and into the story of a year in the shearwater's life, he threads the inspirational influence of his Hebridean grandmother who instilled in him a love of wild places and wild animals.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4838005?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 2 - What do animals think and feel? by Karsten Brensing

A fascinating study of animal behaviour, from an eminent German marine biologist, revealing them to be as sentient and self-aware as we humans are.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4637416?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 3 - The dog share by Fiona Gibson

Suzy Medley is having a bad day. Then, a shabby terrier turns up at her door. Just like Suzy, Scout has been abandoned, although only Suzy has been left with a financial mess and a business in tatters thanks to her ex. Suzy takes Scout in and her chaotic world changes in unexpected ways: strangers have never been more welcoming and her teenage kids can't wait to come home to visit. A chance encounter on a windy Hebridean beach makes things more complicated, because Suzy isn't the only one who needs a friend. Scout has plenty of love to go round - but does Suzy?

### Book 4 - An Australian birding year by R. Bruce Richardson

A highly personal account of a phenomenal, once-in-a-lifetime adventure that saw Bruce and his wife, Lynn, embark on a year of travel and birding across the entire continent in a camper van. Their aim was to see Australia, but also to keep a list of the birds that they saw together. That list began with two Gang-gang Cockatoos flying over their son’s yard in Torquay, Victoria and ended a year later watching a lovely little Speckled Warbler on a chilly morning back in Victoria with 638 other species seen in between.

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## AUSTRALIANA

### Book 5 - A million things by Emily Spurr

Rae is ten years old, and she's tough. She's had to be: life with her mother has taught her the world is not her friend. Now suddenly her mum is gone and Rae is alone, except for her dog Splinter. Rae can do a lot of things pretty well for a kid. She can take care of herself and Splints, stay under the radar at school and keep the front yard neat enough that the neighbours won't get curious. But she is gnawed at by fear and sadness; haunted by the shadow of a terrible secret. Lettie, who lives next door, might know more about Rae than she lets on. But she has her own reasons for keeping the world at arm's length. When Rae finds out what they are, it seems like she and Lettie could help each other. But how long can a friendship last when it's based on secrets?

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### Book 6 - New animal by Ella Baxter

It's not easy getting close to people. Amelia's meeting a lot of men but once she gets the sex she wants from them, that's it for her; she can't connect further. A terrible thing happened to Daniel last year and it's stuck inside Amelia ever since, making her stuck too. Maybe being a cosmetician at her family's mortuary business isn't the best job for a young woman. It's not helping her social life. She loves her job, but she's not great at much else. Especially emotion. And then something happens to her mum and suddenly Amelia's got too many feelings and the only thing that makes any sense to her is running away. It takes the intervention of her two fathers and some hilariously wrong encounters with other broken people in a struggling Tasmanian BDSM club to help her accept the truth she has been hiding from.

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### Book 7 - The pick up by Fiona Harris

Busy mum-of-four Lizzie, newly divorced Sam and single mum Megan are best mates. And after a couple of decent coffees, they reckon they can handle anything. So when Baytree Primary calls out for volunteers to help at an upcoming camp, these three jump at the chance. Because nothing ever goes wrong at school camp, right?

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### Book 8 – The price of two sparrows by Christy Collins

Heico is an ornithologist fighting a losing battle to protect the birds in his beachside suburb. When a journalist asks for comment on a planned development, Heico exaggerates his reports on how many migratory birds use the site. Soon it is revealed that the proposed building is a mosque, and he finds himself embroiled in community resistance to the project. Still, he refuses to back down. Nahla, Heico's house cleaner, is trying to find her place in a new country and a new marriage. Isolated and lonely, she sees the mosque as a symbol of what she hopes to find in Australia: community, familiarity, acceptance. But as resistance to the project intensifies, she must summon the courage and the language to claim her space in this new life.

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### Book 9 – The morbids by Ewa Ramsey

Caitlan is convinced she's going to die. Two years ago she was a normal 20-something with a blossoming career and a plan to go travelling with her best friend, until a fatal car accident left her with a deep, unshakeable understanding that she's only alive by mistake. She deals with these thoughts by throwing herself into work, self-medicating with alcohol, and attending a support group for people with death-related anxiety, informally known as The Morbids. But when her best friend announces she's getting married in Bali, and she meets a handsome doctor named Tom, Caitlan must overcome her fear of death and learn to start living again.

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### Book 10 – The drop-off by Fiona Harris

Lizzie, Megan and Sam became accidental friends over good coffee, banter and wrong-world jokes at school drop off. Lizzie is a part-time midwife with four kids and a secret past. Sam is an ex-chef and stay-at-home dad with an absent, high-flying corporate wife. Megan is an ex-model single mum with a thriving online business and no time for loneliness. None of them have much interest in their school community, but when tragedy deals Baytree Primary's reputation a potentially crippling blow, this unlikely trio have to step up. Forced out of their respective comfort zones, Lizzie, Megan and Sam learn more about each other, the school and themselves than they thought possible.

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### Book 11 – Born into this by Adam Thompson

The stories in 'Born Into This' throw light on a world of unique cultural practice and perspective, from Indigenous rangers trying to instil some pride in wayward urban teens on the harsh islands off the coast of Tasmania, to those scraping by on the margins of white society railroaded into complex and compromised decisions. To this mix Adam Thompson manages to bring humour, pathos and occasionally a sly twist as his characters confront racism, untimely funerals, classroom politics and, overhanging all like a discomforting, burgeoning awareness for both white and black Australia, the inexorable damage and disappearance of the remnant natural world.

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### Book 12 – The labyrinth: a pastoral by Amanda Lohrey

Winner of the Miles Franklin Literary Award, 2021. Erica Marsden’s son, an artist, has been imprisoned for homicidal negligence. In a state of grief, Erica cuts off all ties to family and friends, and retreats to a quiet hamlet on the south-east coast near the prison where he is serving his sentence. There, in a rundown shack, she obsesses over creating a labyrinth by the ocean. To build it—to find a way out of her quandary—Erica will need the help of strangers. And that will require her to trust, and to reckon with her past. The Labyrinth is a hypnotic story of guilt and denial, of the fraught relationship between parents and children, that is also a meditation on how art can both be ruthlessly destructive and restore sanity.

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### Book 13 – At the edge of the solid world by Daniel Davis Wood

Shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award, 2021. In a snowbound village in the heart of the Alps, a husband and wife find their lives breaking apart in the days and months following the death of their firstborn. On the far side of the world, in their hometown of Sydney, a man on the margins of Australian society commits an act of shocking violence that galvanises international attention. As the husband recognises signs of his own grief in both the survivors and the perpetrator, his fixation on the details of the case feeds into insomnia, trauma, and an obsession with the terms on which we give value to human lives.

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### Book 14 – Whatever happened to Ned Kelly's head by Eamon Evans

Who stole the priceless Picasso from the NGV? Was Errol Flynn a Nazi spy? Did an Australian kill the infamous Red Baron? If you think Australia's history is straightforward, you're dead wrong. This is a land of the strange, the spooky and the unexplained. From the eerie ball of light that stalked a terrified family across the Nullabor, to the whereabouts of Victoria's parliamentary mace, to the unidentified body found propped up on an Adelaide beach, and, yes, to the whereabouts of Ned Kelly's skull, you'll find our history has plenty of mysterious twists and unanswered questions. With his signature wit, Eamon Evans investigates Australia's most curious mysteries, digs up the evidence and lays it out for the court of public opinion to decide.

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### Book 15 – Truth-telling: history, sovereignty and the Uluru Statement by Henry Reynolds

If we are to take seriously the need for telling the truth about our history, we must start at first principles. What if the sovereignty of the First Nations was recognised by European international law in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries? What if the audacious British annexation of a whole continent was not seen as acceptable at the time and the colonial office in Britain understood that 'peaceful settlement' was a fiction? If the 1901 parliament did not have control of the whole continent, particularly the North, by what right could the new nation claim it? The historical record shows that the argument of the Uluru Statement from the Heart is stronger than many people imagine and the centuries-long legal position about British claims to the land far less imposing than it appears. In Truth-Telling, influential historian Henry Reynolds pulls the rug from legal and historical assumptions, with his usual sharp eye and rigour, in a book that's about the present as much as the past. His work shows exactly why our national war memorial must acknowledge the frontier wars, why we must change the date of our national day, and why treaties are important. Most of all, it makes urgently clear that the Uluru Statement is no rhetorical flourish but carries the weight of history and law and gives us a map for the future.

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### Book 16 – Kayang and me by Kim Scott

Award-winning novelist Kim Scott and his elder, Hazel Brown, have created a monumental family history of the Wilomin Noongar people. Kayang & Me is a powerful story of community and belonging, revealing the deep and enduring connections between family, country, culture and history that lie at the heart of Indigenous identity.

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### Book 17 – After story by Larissa Behrendt

When Indigenous lawyer Jasmine decides to take her mother Della on a tour of England's most revered literary sites, Jasmine hopes it will bring them closer together and help them reconcile the past. Twenty-five years earlier the disappearance of Jasmine's older sister devastated their tight-knit community. This tragedy returns to haunt Jasmine and Della when another child mysteriously goes missing on Hampstead Heath. As Jasmine immerses herself in the world of her literary idols - including Jane Austen, the Brontë sisters and Virginia Woolf - Della is inspired to rediscover the wisdom of her own culture and storytelling. But sometimes the stories that are not told can become too great to bear. Ambitious and engrossing, After Story celebrates the extraordinary power of words and the quiet spaces between. We can be ready to listen, but are we ready to hear?

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### Book 18 – The inland sea by Madeleine Watts

Shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award, 2021. In the early 19th century, British explorer John Oxley traversed the then-unknown wilderness of central Australia in search of water. Oxley never found it, but he never ceased to believe it was out there. The myth of the inland sea was taken up by other men, and over the years search parties walked out into the desert, dying as they tried to find it. Two centuries later, his great-great-great-great granddaughter (and our narrator) spends a final year in Sydney reeling from her own self-destructive obsessions. She's working part-time as an emergency dispatch operator, drinking heavily, sleeping with strangers, wandering Sydney's streets late at night, and navigating an affair with an ex-lover. Reckless and adrift, she prepares to leave.

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### Book 19 – Rural dreams by Margaret Hickey

Funny, heartbreaking and true; the characters in Rural Dreams are the people we know and grew up with. Some of them might even be us. A girl finds strength in poetry, a football coach ponders obsession, a woman grapples with the fall out of an affair and a mother can't and won't stop swearing. In 'Binky', the character asks, 'who gets the farm?' and in 'Rescue', a backpacker is pulled out of a crocodile swamp. Written through the lens of landscape, Rural Dreams highlights the richness of life on the land and showcases the beauty of lives lived outside city walls.

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### Book 20 - Empires by Nick Earls

Alaska, 2018, and Mike is a long way from home, nursing a wrecked knee and an unspoken grief, striking out into real estate and parenting his partner’s son. London, 1978, and Simon is an Australian fish out of water navigating adolescence during the Winter of Discontent, and drawn to an eccentric impresario next door. Washington, DC, 1928, and a retired US senator is interviewed about his time in Russia in 1916, and his mission to save a young heir to an empire. Vienna, 1809, and an Irish teenager on the run from the law takes refuge among composers as Napoleon besieges and shells the city. Hong Kong, 2019, and estranged brothers Mike and Simon reunite in midlife to face the secrets of the past, and reconnect in more ways than one. Empires rise and fall, human lives play out, encounters, collisions and connections occur more than we can ever know – and yet, the unexpected can still happen.

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### Book 21 – A solitary walk on the moon by Hilde Hinton

"Evelyn went to the third drawer down in her dresser. It was her drawer of things past ... she had an item from each of her previous lives. Evelyn was good at reinventing herself, becoming who she was going to be next, but she still kept one thing from each life. Never two." For Evelyn, mornings pass as mornings always do. She ticks off the jobs at the laundromat and gives welcoming smiles to those who come in. If they've earned one. Evelyn knows what is going on in her community because she pays attention. She sees the weariness of the frazzled shop owners, the woman with the nasty boyfriend, the nice man with the curly-topped dog, the car parking war and the forgetful man. The community might not notice Evelyn, because it is easy to overlook the seemingly ordinary. But Evelyn is far from ordinary. She isn't afraid to put things right, and is always ready to find lost property or lost people - even if that means breaking the rules. For a boy with a struggling mum, and a lonely man with a smile in his eyes, Evelyn is going to make a difference, whether they like it or not. She will teach them that you don't have to be blood to be family. And they will remind her of what comes from loving someone. It is up to Evelyn if she can pay the price.

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### Book 22 – Truly madly guilty by Liane Moriarty

Sam and Clementine have a wonderful, albeit, busy life: they have two little girls, Sam has just started a new dream job and Clementine, a cellist, is busy preparing for the audition of a lifetime. If there’s anything they can count on, it’s each other. Clementine and Erika are each other’s oldest friends. A single look between them can convey an entire conversation. But theirs is a complicated relationship, so when Erika mentions a last minute invitation to a barbecue with her neighbors, Tiffany and Vid, Clementine and Sam don’t hesitate. Having Tiffany and Vid’s larger than life personalities there will be a welcome respite. Two months later, it won’t stop raining, and Clementine and Sam can’t stop asking themselves the question: What if we hadn’t gone?

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### Book 23 – The very last list of Vivian Walker by Megan Albany

"Now that I've got cancer, I know I should be letting go and just being in the moment with my child but, seriously, what mother has got time to spend with their kids?" Vivian Walker's life is exceptionally ordinary. Average husband, check. Darling son, check. Refrigerator in a state of permanent disarray, check. Everything is thoroughly and frustratingly routine, even being terminally ill. After receiving her diagnosis, Viv's family won't let her lift a finger . . . for at least a week. But once the novelty wears off, she's lucky to get a cup of tea for her trouble. In preparation for D-day, self-professed control freak Viv has made a list of essential things to do, such as decluttering the playroom and preparing her taxes. She doesn't expect to become spiritually enlightened or have any outlandish last-minute successes. All she wants is to finish her unfinished business. As her final days unfold, Viv realises her life has become a love letter to the mundane but she still manages to keep her wicked sense of humour and cynical take on life unapologetically intact.

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### Book 24 - The Opera House by Peter FitzSimons

"The sun did not know how beautiful its light was until it was reflected off this building." - Louis Kahn, US architect If only these walls and this land could talk ... The Sydney Opera House is a breathtaking building, recognised around the world as a symbol of modern Australia. Along with the Taj Mahal and other World Heritage sites, it is celebrated for its architectural grandeur and the daring and innovation of its design. It showcases the incomparable talents involved in its conception, construction and performance history. But this stunning house on Bennelong Point also holds many secrets and scandals. In his gripping biography, Peter FitzSimons marvels at how this magnificent building came to be, details its enthralling history and reveals the dramatic stories and hidden secrets about the people whose lives have been affected, both negatively and positively, by its presence. He shares how a conservative 1950s state government had the incredible vision and courage to embark on this nation-defining structure; how an architect from Denmark and construction workers from Australia and abroad invented new techniques to bring it to completion; how ambition, betrayal, professional rivalry, sexual intrigue, murder, bullying and breakdowns are woven into its creation; and how it is now acknowledged as one of the wonders and masterpieces of human ingenuity. In The Opera House, Peter FitzSimons captures the extraordinary stories around this building that are as mesmerising as the light catching on its white sails.

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### Book 25 - Bodies of light by Jennifer Down

A quiet, small-town existence. An unexpected Facebook message, jolting her back to the past. A history she's reluctant to revisit: dark memories and unspoken trauma, warning knocks on bedroom walls, unfathomable loss. She became a new person a long time ago. What happens when buried stories are dragged into the light?

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### Book 26 - Scary monsters by Michelle de Kretser

Lili's family migrated to Australia from Asia when she was a teenager. Now, in the 1980s, she's teaching in the south of France. She makes friends, observes the treatment handed out to North African immigrants and is creeped out by her downstairs neighbour. All the while, Lili is striving to be A Bold, Intelligent Woman like Simone de Beauvoir. Lyle works for a sinister government department in near-future Australia. An Asian migrant, he fears repatriation and embraces 'Australian values'. He's also preoccupied by his ambitious wife, his wayward children and his strong-minded elderly mother. Islam has been banned in the country, the air is smoky from a Permanent Fire Zone, and one pandemic has already run its course. Three scary monsters - racism, misogyny and ageism - roam through this mesmerising novel.

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### Book 27 - The things we see in the light by Amal Awad

Eight years ago, Sahar pursued her happily ever after when she married Khaled and followed him to Jordan, leaving behind her family, her friends and a thriving cake business. But married life didn't go as planned and, haunted by secrets, Sahar has returned home to Sydney without telling her husband. With the help of her childhood friends, Sahar hits the reset button on her life. She takes a job at a local patisserie run by Maggie, a strong but kind manager who guides Sahar in sweets and life. But as she tentatively gets to know her colleagues, Sahar faces a whole new set of challenges. There's Kat and Inez, who are determined that Sahar try new experiences. Then there's Luke, a talented chocolatier and a bundle of contradictions. As Sahar embraces the new, she reinvents herself, trying things once forbidden to her. But just when she is finally starting to find her feet, her past finds its way back to her.

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### Book 28 - Love & virtue by Diana Reid

Michaela and Eve are two bright, bold women who befriend each other their first year at a residential college at university, where they live in adjacent rooms. They could not be more different; one assured and popular - the other uncertain and eager-to-please. But something happens one night in O-week - a drunken encounter, a foggy memory that will force them to confront the realities of consent and wrestle with the dynamics of power. Initially bonded by their wit and sharp eye for the colleges' mix of material wealth and moral poverty, Michaela and Eve soon discover how fragile friendship is, and how capable of betrayal they both are.

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### Book 29 - The bride of Almond Tree by Robert Hillman

Welsey Cunningham grew up running barefoot through the orchards of his Quaker family farm, working with horses and dreaming of one day building himself a house on his own patch of ground above the river. The Second World War interrupted those dreams: it took Wes to New Guinea as a medic, and then sent him home with healing bullet wounds in his legs. While Wes was away, life in Almond Tree continued; but everyone's been changed by the war. None more so than Beth Hardy - his headstrong, fiercely intelligent and beautiful neighbour. As Wes begins again to construct the peaceful life he's always wanted, Beth sets herself on a very different path, committing herself to the Communist Party and all it stands for. Their dreams and desires may be at odds, but there is something they don't yet know. Wes and Beth need each other, desperately: neither will be able to survive what life has in store without the other.

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### Book 30 - Chai time at Cinnamon Gardens by Shankari Chandran

Welcome to Cinnamon Gardens, a home for those who are lost and the stories they treasure. Cinnamon Gardens Nursing Home is nestled in the quiet suburb of Westgrove, Sydney – populated with residents with colourful histories, each with their own secrets, triumphs and failings. This is their safe place, an oasis of familiar delights – a beautiful garden, a busy kitchen and a bountiful recreation schedule. But this ordinary neighbourhood is not without its prejudices. The serenity of Cinnamon Gardens is threatened by malignant forces more interested in what makes this refuge different rather than embracing the calm companionship that makes this place home to so many. As those who challenge the residents’ existence make their stand against the nursing home with devastating consequences, our characters are forced to reckon with a country divided. Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens is about family and memory, community and race, but is ultimately a love letter to storytelling and how our stories shape who we are.

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### Book 31 - Sunbathing by Isobel Beech

After weeks of grieving, a woman books a plane ticket bound for an old villa in the mountains of Abruzzo. Invited to stay with her friends Giulia and Fab - in the weeks before they marry in a village orchard - she lives for a summer in the house's Birthing Room, where generations of women once had their babies. More often, though, she lives in her head: in the past, trying to make sense of her grief and wondering how to go on, or if she can. As her inner and outer worlds spar and converge, she passes the time helping with the household chores, walking in the sunshine and plucking fruit from the nearby orchards, all while dwelling on the moments with her father that might have warned her something was wrong.

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### Book 32 - The Bellbird River country choir by Sophie Green

Bellbird River, 1998: Teacher and single mum Alex is newly arrived in the small NSW country town of Bellbird River after escaping the city in search of a change of pace and the chance to reconnect with her young daughter. Across town, well-known matriarch Victoria and her globe-trotting, opera-singing cousin Gabrielle find themselves at a crossroads in their personal and professional lives, while local baker Janine and newcomer to the district Debbie are each secretly dealing with the consequences of painful pasts. With its dusty streets, lone pub and iron-lace verandahs, Bellbird River could just be a pit stop on the road to somewhere else. But their town holds some secrets and surprises - and it has a heart: the Bellbird River Country Choir. Amid the melodies and camaraderie of the choir, each of the women will find the courage to leave the past behind. And together, they'll discover that friends are much closer to home than they'd ever realised.

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### Book 33 - Happy hour by Jacquie Byron

Gin in one hand, paintbrush in the other, Franny Calderwood has turned her back on the world, or at least the world she used to love. Having lost her husband, Frank, in tragic circumstances three years earlier, 65-year-old Franny copes the only way she knows how: by removing herself completely from the life she had before. Franny lives a life of decadent seclusion, with only her two dogs, Whisky and Soda, a stuffed cat, cocktails and the memory of Frank for company. Then the Salernos move in next door. The troubled but charming trio - beleaguered mother Sallyanne, angry teenager Dee and eccentric eight-year-old Josh - cannot help but pull Franny into the drama of their lives. But despite her air of independence, Franny's wisecracks and foodie obsessions hide considerable trauma and pain, and when her eccentric behaviour has life-threatening consequences she faces a reckoning of sorts.

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### Book 34 - When things are alive they hum by Hannah Bent

Marlowe and Harper share a bond deeper than most sisters, shaped by the loss of their mother in childhood. For Harper, living with what she calls the Up syndrome and gifted with an endless capacity for wonder, Marlowe and she are connected by an invisible thread, like the hum that connects all things. For Marlowe, they are bound by her fierce determination to keep Harper, born with a congenital heart disorder, alive. Now 25, Marlowe is finally living her own life abroad, pursuing her studies of a rare species of butterfly secure in the knowledge Harper’s happiness is complete, having found love with boyfriend, Louis. But then she receives the devastating call that Harper’s heart is failing. She needs a heart transplant but is denied one by the medical establishment because she is living with a disability. Marlowe rushes to her childhood home in Hong Kong to be by Harper’s side and soon has to answer the question – what lengths would you go to save your sister?

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### Book 35 - The beautiful fall by Hugh Breakley

Every 179 days, Robbie forgets everything. He knows this because last time it happened he wrote himself a letter explaining it. The disorientation. The fear. The bizarre circumstances imposed by the rare neurological condition he lives with. To survive the forgetting - to cope with his recurring loss of identity - Robbie leads a solitary, regimented life. Lives alone. Speaks to no one if he can avoid it. Works to complete a strange herculean task set for him by his former self. And then, with twelve days left before his next forgetting, Julie invades his life. Young, beautiful - the only woman he can ever remember meeting. As the hour draws near, Robbie is forced to confront the fact that his past is very different from how he had imagined it. And when Julie reveals her own terrible secret, he must find a way to come to terms with the truth about himself.

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### Book 36 - The breaking by Irma Gold

Hannah Bird has just arrived in Thailand. Disoriented and out of her depth, she meets Deven, a fierce and gutsy Australian expat who sweeps her into thrilling adventures rescuing elephants. As they head deeper and deeper into the fraught world of elephant tourism, their lives become tangled in ways Hannah never imagined. But how far will they go to save a life? Hannah is about to make a critical decision from which there will be no turning back, with shattering consequences.

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## BIOGRAPHIES AND MEMOIRS

### Book 37 - Body image warrior (one woman’s fight for change in the modelling industry) by Chelsea Bonner

The modelling and advertising industries persistently tell women they're fat, ugly and abnormal if they conform to anything other than a western ideal of beauty. In 2002 Chelsea Bonner founded BELLA, a modelling agency focused on healthy body size and dedicated to changing our dangerously narrow perception of 'beautiful'. Chelsea was born into the Australian entertainment industry, daughter of one of the country's most famous media couples, and grew up with the painful reality of her family life hidden behind a facade of gloss. She was expected to follow effortlessly in her parents' beautiful shadows, but her natural body shape led to teenage rebellion. Instead, Chelsea decided on a career as a modelling agent and, shocked at what she witnessed, became determined to change the industry from within.

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### Book 38 - Valhalla: a story of love and duty by Alan Clark

Following the death of Prince Eddy, his intended wife Mary of Teck becomes instead the consort of his brother Georgie, who was later to be known as King George V. Born into the lower ranks of royalty, and with neither beauty or fortune, Mary of Teck never expected to find herself admitted to its highest echelon. Forced to be totally subservient to her husband, Mary lets her true self freeze over, sacrificing the person she might have become to do her duty.

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### Book 39 - Tussaud by Belinda Lyons-Lee

Paris, 1810. Haunted by the French Revolution, Marie Tussaud has locked herself away in her shop with the death masks she was forced to make to avoid the guillotine. Philidor, a famous magician, offers her the chance to accompany him to London to assist in creating a wax automaton that will bring them both money and success. Following a disastrous performance on their opening night in which the wax on their prized spectacle melts, the eccentric Duke, William Cavendish, invites them to his rambling estate, Welbeck, where he suggests they take up residence, use his underground ballroom for a new show and in return create a private commission for him: a wax automaton in the likeness of Elanor, a beautiful girl who mysteriously disappeared from the estate when he was a child.

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### Book 40 - The king in the north by Max Adams

A charismatic leader, a warrior whose prowess in battle earned him the epithet Whiteblade, an exiled prince who returned to claim his birthright, the inspiration for Tolkien's Aragorn. Oswald of Northumbria was the first great English monarch, yet today this legendary figure is all but forgotten. In this panoramic portrait of Dark Age Britain, archaeologist and biographer Max Adams returns the king in the North to his rightful place in history.

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### Book 41 - Call the vet: my life as a young vet in the 1970s by Bruce Fogle

In 1970, newly qualified vet Bruce Fogle arrived in London from Canada assuming that because he spoke English he would understand the English. He also thought that because he'd graduated from the world's best veterinary school he would understand how to be a decent vet. He quickly learned that both assumptions were quite wrong. Working at the prestigious Woodrow & Singleton, a surgery in the heart of Knightsbridge, Bruce's services were called upon by the most distinguished pet owners in Britain - from Duchesses and Sultans to Paul McCartney and Elizabeth Taylor. He also cared for the exotic inhabitants of the 'Zoo Department' at Harrods. Treating cats and dogs as well as alligators, monkeys and even a puma, with the support of the far more knowledgeable nurses around him, Bruce's veterinary education began in earnest leading to many unforgettable adventures.

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### Book 42 - The boy with two hearts: a story of hope by Hamed Amiri

When Hamed Amiri was ten years old he watched his mother give a speech in his home town of Herat, Afghanistan, speaking out for women's rights and education, and against the ruling Taliban. That night, an order was given for her execution. The family packed up their most precious belongings and escaped in darkness, starting what would be a long and dangerous journey. But his mothers' was not the only life in danger. Hamed's older brother suffered a rare heart condition, and this escape offered a chance of life-saving treatment in the West. Exploring the humanity of refugeeism, this is not only a tale of a family in crisis, but a love letter to the NHS, which provided hope and reassurance as they sought asylum in the UK and fought to save their loved ones.

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### Book 43 - The Cromwell enigma by Derek Wilson

July 1540. The shock news of Cromwell's fall reaches the court of Margaret of Navarre, sister of Francis I of France and arguably the most cultured woman north of the Alps. She sends her courtier and poet, Nicolas Bourbon, an avid reformer with many friends in English court circles, to find out what is happening. What Bourbon discovers from members of Cromwell's family, his proteges and his enemies sets him what becomes a hazardous quest for the real man behind all the competing versions on offer. What emerges is a 'biography in reverse' which takes Bourbon to various English locations, thence to the Antwerp business community, on to Florence and, finally, back to London and Putney, where Cromwell's remarkable career began. Gradually, it is revealed not only how Cromwell became a remarkably astute businessman and student of politics, but also how he was won over to evangelical Christianity.

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### Book 44 - We learnt about Hitler at the Mickey Mouse Club by Enid Elliott Linder

Enid Elliot Linder was the daughter of a butler and a lady’s maid in service in some of England’s grandest country houses. Evoking the lost world of a childhood ‘below stairs’, Linder’s touching memoir describes how her life changed as Britain headed towards war. After the family moved to a Marylebone tenement, her father sought work in London restaurants whilst battling personal demons. Meanwhile Linder’s aunt was nanny to a high-ranking member of the British Union of Fascists as they grew in influence. In a photorealistic and immensely charming narrative reminiscent of Patrick Hamilton, Linder evokes the sights and smells of prewar London - and of lonely Cornwall, to where she was unhappily evacuated - in a way that will appeal to fans of Downton Abbey. A unique personal account of a tumultuous time.

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### Book 45 - Before the crown by Flora Harding

Windsor Castle, 1943. As war rages across the world, Princess Elizabeth comes face to face with the dashing naval officer she first met in London nine years before. One of the youngest first lieutenants in the Royal Navy, Philip represents everything she has always been taught to avoid. Instability. Audacity. Adventure. But when the king learns of their relationship, the suitability of the foreign prince is questioned by all at court. He is the risk she has never been allowed to take. The risk not even the shadow of the crown will stop her from taking.

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### Book 46 - Eleven bats by Anthony 'Harry' Moffitt

Anthony 'Harry' Moffitt spent more than 20 years in the SAS. Alongside the SAS, Harry's other lifetime love is cricket. An improvised game of cricket was often the circuit-breaker Harry and his team needed after the tension of operations. He began a tradition of organising matches wherever he was sent, whether it was in the mountains of East Timor with a fugitive rebel leader, or on the dusty streets of Baghdad, or in exposed Forward Operating Bases in the hills of Afghanistan. Soldiers, locals and even visiting politicians played in these spontaneous yet often bridge-building games. As part of the tradition, Harry also started to take a cricket bat with him on operational tours, eleven of them in total. They'd often go outside the wire with him and end up signed by those he met or fought alongside. These eleven bats form the basis for Harry's extraordinary memoir.

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### Book 47 - Ten feet tall and not quite bulletproof by Cameron Hardiman

As a member of Victoria Police's Air Wing, Cameron Hardiman felt like he was ten feet tall and bulletproof. The air wing brought him plenty of excitement and drama - from searching for missing aircraft to accidentally discovering marijuana crops to working with paramedics. But it also brought him plenty of trauma... Cameron Hardiman lived a life most young boys could only dream of. Every morning he put on a navy blue police flight suit, grabbed his flight helmet, and prepared to work on the police helicopter. He could be called to anything during a shift, to search for a missing child, to pull an injured driver from a wrecked car, or a dangerous sea rescue. He saw his fair share of trauma and dealt with it like most coppers would: he quickly put each dangerous job out of his mind as soon as it was over. But one particular rescue in Bass Strait brought about a reckoning - and Cameron was never the same again. This is the brilliantly told, white-knuckle story of one cop learning every lesson the hard way - and coming to find out that being not quite bulletproof doesn't mean that you're not a good cop.

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### Book 48 - The narrow land by Christine Dwyer Hickey

1950: late summer season on Cape Cod. Michael, a ten-year-old boy, is spending the summer with Richie and his glamorous but troubled mother. Left to their own devices, the boys meet a couple living - the artists Jo and Edward Hopper - and an unlikely friendship is forged. She, volatile, passionate and often irrational, suffers bouts of obsessive sexual jealousy. He, withdrawn and unwell, depressed by his inability to work, becomes besotted by Richie's frail and beautiful Aunt Katherine who has not long to live - an infatuation he shares with young Michael.

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### Book 49 - The last lighthouse keeper by John Cook

In Tasmania, John Cook is known as 'The Keeper of the Flame'. As one of Australia's longest-serving lighthouse keepers, John spent 26 years tending Tasmania's well-known kerosene 'lights' at Tasman Island, Maatsuyker Island and Bruny Island. From sleepless nights keeping the lights alive, battling the wind and sea as they ripped at gutters and flooded stores, raising a joey, tending sheep and keeping ducks and chickens, the life of a keeper was one of unexpected joy and heartbreak. But for John, nothing was more heartbreaking than the introduction of electric lights, and the lighthouses that were left empty forever. Evocatively told, 'The Last Lighthouse Keeper' is a love story between a man and a dying way of life, as well as a celebration of wilderness and solitude.

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### Book 50 - Meghan and Harry: the real story by Lady Colin Campbell

Lady Colin knows her royal history and psychology, and as the first seven years of her adult life were spent in the USA she has a foot in both the American and British camps. With unique breadth of insight she goes behind the scenes, speaking to friends, relations, courtiers, and colleagues on both sides of the Atlantic to reveal the most unexpected royal story since the Abdication. She highlights the dilemmas involved and the issues that lurk beneath the surface, as to why the couple decided to step down as senior royals. She analyses the implications of the actions of a young and ambitious couple, in love with each other and with the empowering lure of fame and fortune. She leads the reader through the maze of contradictions, revealing how Californian culture has influenced the couple's conduct.

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### Book 51 - Beyond impossible by Mimi Anderson

When Mimi first started jogging on a treadmill as an unfit 36-year-old mother-of-three, she never imagined she would go on to become a World-Record-breaking ultrarunner. This incredible story of how an ordinary mum ran her way into the record books will inspire beginner runners and die-hard marathon devotees alike.

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### Book 52 - The song of Simon de Montfort by Sophie Thérèse Ambler

It was around half-past eight in the morning, with summer rainclouds weighing heavy in the sky, that Simon de Montfort decided to die. It was 4th August 1265 and he was about to face the royal army in the final battle of a quarrel that had raged between them for years. Outnumbered, outmanoeuvred, and certain to lose, Simon chose to fight, knowing that he could not possibly win the day. 'The Song of Simon de Montfort' is the story of this extraordinary man: heir to a great warrior, devoted husband and father, fearless crusader knight and charismatic leader. It is the story of a man whose passion for good governance was so fierce that, in 1258, frustrated by the King's refusal to take the advice of his nobles and the increasing injustice meted out to his subjects, he marched on Henry III's hall at Westminster and seized the reins of power.

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### Book 53 - The footy lady: the trailblazing story of Susan Alberti by Stephanie Asher

No tragedy, no challenge, has proved too hard for Susan Alberti. The woman from the working-class suburbs has battled boardrooms, courts, lymphoma and adult diabetes; and was one of the driving forces behind the AFL’s move into women’s football. When her first husband was killed by a truck, Susan took over their construction business, becoming a female pioneer in the building industry. When her daughter was diagnosed with type-1 diabetes she embarked on a mission to find a cure. When her beloved football club the Western Bulldogs was threatened with annihilation she worked as vice-president to bring home the 2016 premiership flag. Confronted with the exclusion of women from AFL, she battled to open the game to all and kept up the fight with money and on-ground support when others were ready to signal defeat.

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### Book 54 - Beyond the Outback: Gulf women of remote north west Queensland edited by Bronwyn Blake

Twenty women share their incredible stories of surviving and thriving in the remote Australian 'Gulf Country', near the Gulf of Carpentaria. Gulf women are self-sufficient, generous, and can cope with almost anything that life and the environment throws at them: floods, drought, sickness, emergencies. Whether they are graziers, fisherwomen, ringers, women in tourism, aviation and education, Indigenous women or descendants from early women settlers, this powerful book gives these women a voice to tell their own stories. There are stories of new mothers on properties isolated and inaccessible for months in the wet season; women giving birth at home with only neighbours to assist; reminiscences from last century and World War II, and accounts of fishing in the Gulf in sometimes unimaginable conditions. From the kids wanting a baby croc for a pet to the terror of a snake bite with a flooded airstrip and impassable roads, these women treat the extraordinary events in their lives as just part of their remote way of life. Set in a world of vast landscapes, distance and merciless climate, Beyond the Outback contains riveting tales of the lives of the women who live, work and raise families in one of Australia's most isolated regions.

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### Book 55 - Blind man's bluff: a memoir by James Tate Hill

At age 16, James Tate Hill was diagnosed with Leber’s hereditary optic neuropathy, a condition that left him legally blind. After high school friends stopped calling and a disability counselor advised him to aim for C's in his classes, he used his remaining blurry peripheral vision to pretend he could still see. Feigning eye contact, memorizing common routes, filling shelves with paperbacks he read via tape cassettes, he organized his life around passing for sighted. A wealth of pop-culture knowledge allowed him to steer conversations from what he couldn’t see. For 15 years, Hill hid his blindness from friends, colleagues, and lovers, even convincing himself that if he stared long enough, things would come into focus. At 30, faced with a stalled writing career, a crumbling marriage, and a growing fear of leaving his apartment, he began to wonder if there was a better way.

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### Book 56 - It's not what it looks like by Molly Burke

Close your eyes and get ready to see the world in a new and more positive way. As a child in Toronto, Molly Burke was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa and became completely sightless as a teenager. Now an award-winning YouTube star and global influencer, Molly shares what it's like to be a purple-haired, pink-obsessed fashion and makeup lover in a seeing world. She speaks with authenticity and candor about how she tackles the preconceived notions we have around blindness; Molly has made it her mission to make us see her and ourselves in a wholly empowering way. Learn about her struggles with bullying and anxiety, her quest for inclusivity, how she built a successful influencer business (with more than 1.8 million followers), and what it's really like to travel with the true star of this audio, her service dog, Gallop.

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### Book 57 - Ten doors down by Robert Tickner

Robert Tickner had always known he was adopted, but had rarely felt much curiosity about his origins. Serving in the Hawke and Keating governments, he held the portfolio of minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs, and while there he was instrumental in instigating the national inquiry into the Stolen Generations. When, in his forties, Robert at last turned his attention to the question of his own birth, he had some sense of the potentially life-changing course that lay ahead of him. But he could not have anticipated learning of the exceptional nature of the woman who had brought him into the world, the deep scars that his forced adoption had left on her, or the astonishing series of coincidences that had already linked their lives. And this was only the first half of a story that was to lead to a reunion with his birth father and siblings. This deeply moving memoir is a testament to the significance of all forms of family in shaping us – and to the potential for love to heal great harm.

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### Book 58 - Bowie: the biography by Wendy Leigh

David Bowie, the iconic superstar of rock, fashion, art, design, and the quintessential sexual liberator, is a living legend. For five decades, he has managed to retain his Hollywood star mystique. Now, Wendy Leigh reveals the real man behind the mythology. Through scores of interviews with Bowie's lovers (both male and female), his girlfriends, business associates, groupies, and band members, Leigh has painted an intimate biography of rock's greatest enigma.

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### Book 59 - A nurse on the edge of the desert by Andrew Cameron

Red Cross Nurse and New Zealander Andrew Cameron is the winner of the coveted Florence Nightingale Medal. In this book he recounts his life nursing in some of the world’s most dangerous and challenging locations, including South Sudan, Yemen, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan. He also details his nursing career in some of Australia’s most remote settlements, where anything can be waiting at the end of a long and dusty outback road: a major road accident, a suicide, a broken arm, a stabbing. With mordant humour, wisdom and insight, he recounts the challenges, excitements, and huge rewards of a nursing life.

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### Book 60 - Unmasked by Andrew Lloyd Webber

One of the most successful and distinguished artists of our time, Andrew Lloyd Webber has reigned over the musical theatre world for nearly five decades. The winner of numerous awards, including multiple Tonys and an Oscar, Lloyd Webber has enchanted millions worldwide with his music and numerous hit shows, including Jesus Christ Superstar, Evita, Cats, The Phantom of the Opera-Broadway's longest running show-and most recently, School of Rock. In Unmasked, written in his own inimitable, quirky voice, the revered, award-winning composer takes stock of his achievements, the twists of fate and circumstance which brought him both success and disappointment, and the passions that inspire and sustain him.

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### Book 61 - The master by Christopher Clarey

Christopher Clarey sits down with Federer and those closest to him to tell the story of the greatest player in men's tennis. Roger Federer has often made it look astonishingly easy through the decades: carving backhands, gliding to forehands, leaping for overheads and, in his most gravity-defying act, remaining high on a pedestal in a world of sports rightfully flooded with cynicism. But his path from temperamental, bleach-blond teenager with dubious style sense to one of the greatest, most self-possessed and elegant of competitors has been a long-running act of will, not destiny. He not only had a great gift. He had grit. Here, Clarey focuses on the pivotal people, places, and moments in Federer's long and rich career: reporting from South Africa, South America, the Middle East, four Grand Slam tournaments, and Federer's native Switzerland. It has been a journey like no other player's, rife with victories and a few crushing defeats, one that has redefined enduring excellence and made Federer a sentimental favorite worldwide. The Master tells the story of Federer's life and career on both an intimate and grand scale, in a way no one else could possibly do.

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### Book 62 - Yellow notebook by Helen Garner

Helen Garner has kept a diary for almost all her life. But until now, those exercise books filled with her thoughts, observations, frustrations and joys have been locked away, out of bounds, in a laundry cupboard. Finally, Garner has opened her diaries and invited listeners into the world behind her novels and works of non-fiction. Recorded with frankness, humour and steel-sharp wit, these accounts of her everyday life provide an intimate insight into the work of one of Australia's greatest living authors.

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### Book 63 - Jacinda Ardern by Madeleine Chapman

New Zealand's prime minister has been hailed as a leader for a new generation, tired of inaction in the face of issues such as climate change and far-right terrorism. Her grace and compassion following the Christchurch mosque shooting captured the world's attention. Oprah Winfrey invited us to 'channel our inner Jacindas' as praise for Ardern flooded headlines and social media. The ruler of this remote country even made the cover of Time. In this revealing biography, journalist Madeleine Chapman discovers the woman behind the headlines. Always politically engaged and passionate, Ardern is uncompromising and astute. She has encountered her fair share of sexism, but rather than let that harden her, she advocates 'rising above' disparagers. In her first press conference, she announced an election campaign of 'relentless positivity'. The tactic was a resounding success: donations poured in and Labour rebounded in the polls. But has Ardern lived up to her promise? What political concessions has she had to make? And beyond the hype, what does her new style of leadership look like in practice?

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### Book 64 - Jacinda Ardern leading with empathy by Supriya Vani

Jacinda Ardern: leading with empathy carefully explores the influences - personal, social, political and emotional - that have shaped Ardern. Peace activist and journalist Supriya Vani and writer Carl A. Harte build their narrative through Vani's exclusive interviews with Ardern, as well as the prime minister's public statements and speeches and the words of those who know her. We visit the places, meet the people and understand the events that propelled the daughter of a small-town Mormon policeman to become a committed social democrat, a passionate Labour Party politician and a modern leader admired for her empathy and courage.

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### Book 65 - Greenlights by Matthew McConaughey

I've been in this life for fifty years, been trying to work out its riddle for forty-two, and been keeping diaries of clues to that riddle for the last thirty-five. Notes about successes and failures, joys and sorrows, things that made me marvel, and things that made me laugh out loud. Recently, I worked up the courage to sit down with those diaries. I found stories I experienced, lessons I learned and forgot, poems, prayers, prescriptions, beliefs about what matters, some great photographs, and a whole bunch of bumper stickers. I found a reliable theme, an approach to living that gave me more satisfaction, at the time, and still: If you know how, and when, to deal with life's challenges, how to get relative with the inevitable, you can enjoy a state of success I call "catching greenlights." So I took a one-way ticket to the desert and wrote this book: an album, a record, a story of my life so far. This is fifty years of my sights and seens, felts and figured-outs, cools and shamefuls. Hopefully, it's medicine that tastes good, a couple of aspirin instead of the infirmary, a spaceship to Mars without needing your pilot's license, going to church without having to be born again, and laughing through the tears. It's a love letter. To life. It's also a guide to catching more greenlights and to realizing that the yellows and reds eventually turn green too. Good luck.

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### Book 66 - The keeper of miracles by Phillip Maisel

For more than 30 years, Phillip Maisel has worked selflessly to record the harrowing stories of Holocaust survivors. Volunteering at Melbourne's Jewish Holocaust Centre, Phillip has listened tirelessly to their stories, preserved their voices and proven, time and time again, just how healing storytelling can be. Each testimony of survival is a miracle in itself – earning Phillip the nickname 'The Keeper of Miracles'. But, for Phillip, confronting and overcoming trauma is also personal. A Holocaust survivor himself, he too has unthinkable stories of triumph and tragedy, cruelty and hope.

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### Book 67 - Spanian by Spanian, with Christopher Kevin

By the time he was twelve, Spanian knew he would follow his family's footsteps to become a career criminal. What followed was a decade-long string of brazen crimes and brutal violence: stabbings, ram-raids, drug runs and a notorious high school siege. Throughout the Sydney social housing enclaves of Redfern, Waterloo and Woolloomooloo, Spanian earned a reputation as one of the city's most flagrant crooks; armed with a boxcutter in one hand, and a syringe in the other.But it all came at a damning price: in the throes of heroin addiction and thirteen years wasted behind bars, Spanian became a longstanding resident of jails across New South Wales. There, he was embroiled in racial divisions, prison politics, and a vicious vortex of self-destruction, until music and books became an unlikely lifeline. Reading and rapping became new rituals, and a glistening light at the end of the tunnel. Released from Bathurst Correctional Centre in 2017 with newfound purpose, Spanian has since found viral fame and a sprawling, worldwide audience through hip-hop and his magnetic social media presence.This is the powerful, unflinching and high-octane memoir of how a young inner-city kid became Spanian. It gives unapologetic insight into the gritty socio-economic underbelly of Sydney city, the criminal justice system, and the correctional system. The story of Spanian provides hope that even the most stubborn cycles can be broken, and new dreams made.

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### Book 68 - No one listens to your dad's show by Christian O'Connell

As a radio DJ in London, Christian O'Connell appeared to have it all. He held the number one spot nationally, with a faithful audience of millions who'd listened to him for years. Celebrities flocked to come on his show and no other radio DJ had won more awards. But not everything was as it seemed. Minutes before going live one morning, something happened that changed everything and led to a decision of seismic proportions. He quit his job, moved to the other side of the world, where no one knew him, and took on the toughest radio market in the world - Australia. Why? is the question he's been asked every day since landing Down Under. Until now he's never shared the real reason. 'No One Listens to Your Dad's Show' is the story of Christian risking everything, uprooting his wife, two daughters and his dog to move to Australia.

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### Book 69 - My friend fox by Heidi Everett

The fox sits on the outer waiting for me to discover him because at the moment, I am on the outer too. He watches me. Can you see him? He's clever at hiding. Just like fox, Heidi has lived on the outer. The official record' of her life has been her mental health record: Primary diagnosis - Schizoaffective; Comorbidity - Major depression, juvenile autism, and not her own memories. This is the living, breathing version of Heidi's mental health file that psych wards, doctors, mental health staff or rehab workers know little about or worse, use as evidence of diagnoses. This is Heidi's account of what happened, shadowed by the story of a fox who knows he'll never belong.

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### Book 70 - The warrior and the prophet by Peter Cozzens

Shawnee chief Tecumseh was a man destined for greatness - the son of a prominent war leader, he was supposedly born under a lucky shooting star. Charismatic, intelligent, handsome, he was both a fierce warrior and a savvy politician. In the first biography of Tecumseh in more than twenty years, Peter Cozzens thoroughly revises our understanding of this great leader and his movement, arguing that his overlooked younger brother Tenskwatwa, the 'Shawnee Prophet', was a crucial partner in Tecumseh's success.

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### Book 71 - Dasher by Michael C Madden

Kevin 'Dasher' Wheatley VC is one of the most extraordinary characters in Australian history. Dasher was a husband, father, champion footballer and one of the finest soldiers this country has ever produced. The story of his sacrifice is used by the ADF as a perfect example of valour and mateship to this day. Although he is one of the most famous Victoria Cross recipients of all time, his story has never been fully told. Until now. This book was written with firsthand accounts from Dasher's family and the men who served and fought alongside him. It tells not only the story of an unlikely lad from the mean streets of Sydney, but that of a soldier whose death devastated the ranks of three armies and changed the way Australia dealt with the overseas loss of service people forever.

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### Book 72 - PROSTrATE CANCER by Graham Sharpe

Faced with a sudden and unexpected diagnosis of prostate cancer, Graham Sharpe set about trying to catalogue what he went through en route to acquiring the condition and how he dealt with the grinding process of his treatment, despite having no idea of the ultimate outcome. Along the way he met and befriended many others undergoing the physical and mental stresses of treatment, emotional turmoil comparable with watching their favourite football team lose every game they play. In this intimate memoir charting his own personal experience of coming to terms with prostate cancer, Graham brings humour and a light touch to a serious subject.

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### Book 73 - The performer's tale by Vanessa Morton

A portrait of the life of the actress Patience Collier - whose career spanned a golden age of performance from the 1930s to the 1980s - and a fascinating overview of some 50 years of changing styles and tastes in film, television and popular culture.

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### Book 74 - Limitless by Mimi Anderson

At the age of 55, record-breaking ultrarunner Mimi wanted to become the fastest woman in history to run across America. But after 2000 miles, she was forced to make a crushing decision. What happened next set her on a new, unexpected journey. A follow-up to Mimi's first memoir 'Beyond Impossible', this is the next instalment in her inspiring story.

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### Book 75 - Rosemary: the hidden Kennedy daughter by Kate Clifford Larson

Joe and Rose Kennedy's strikingly beautiful daughter Rosemary attended exclusive schools, was presented as a debutante to the queen of England, and traveled the world with her high-spirited sisters. And yet, Rosemary was intellectually disabled-a secret fiercely guarded by her powerful and glamorous family. Kate Larson reveals both the sensitive care Rose and Joe gave to Rosemary and then, as the family's standing reached an apex, the often desperate and duplicitous arrangements the Kennedys made to keep her away from home as she became increasingly intractable in her early twenties. Finally, Larson illuminates Joe's decision to have Rosemary lobotomized at age twenty-three and the family's complicity in keeping the secret. Rosemary's plight eventually inspired her siblings to direct attention to the plight of the disabled, transforming the lives of millions.

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### Book 76 - Found, wanting by Natasha Sholl

This is a book for anyone who has ever loved someone who has died. Or who has ever loved someone. Because grief is the language of love, after all. On Valentine's Day, after a night of red wine and pasta and planning for their future, Natasha Sholl and her partner Rob went to bed. A few hours later, at the age of 27, his heart stopped. 'Found, Wanting' tells the story of Natasha's attempt to rebuild her life in the wake of Rob's sudden death, stumbling through the grief landscape and colliding with the cultural assumptions about the 'right way' to grieve. It is a memoir about falling in love in the aftermath of loss, and what it means to build a life in the space that death leaves.

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### Book 77 - The Queen Mother by Lady Colin Campbell

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother has been called the 'most successful queen since Cleopatra'. Her personality was so captivating that even her arch-enemy Wallis Simpson wrote about 'her legendary charm'. Portrayed as a selfless partner to the King in the Oscar-winning movie The King's Speech, The Queen Mother is most often remembered from her later years as the smiling granny with the pastel hats. For the first time, Lady Colin Campbell shows us that the untold life of the Queen Mother is far more fascinating and moving than the official version that has been peddled ever since she became royal in 1923. With unparalleled sources - including members of the Royal Family, aristocrats, and friends and relatives of Elizabeth herself, this account takes us inside the real and sometimes astonishing world of the royal family.

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### Book 78 - Ten steps to Nanette by Hannah Gadsby

Gadsby's unique stand-up special Nanette was a viral success that left audiences captivated by her blistering honesty and her ability to create both tension and laughter in a single moment. But while her worldwide fame might have looked like an overnight sensation, her path from open mic to the global stage was hard-fought and anything but linear. Ten Steps to Nanette traces Gadsby's growth as a queer person from Tasmania - where homosexuality was illegal until 1997 - to her ever-evolving relationship with comedy, to her struggle with adult diagnoses of autism and ADHD, and finally to the backbone of Nanette - the renouncement of self-deprecation, the rejection of misogyny, and the moral significance of truth-telling.

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### Book 79 - Jet man: the making and breaking of Frank Whittle, genius of the jet revolution by Duncan Campbell-Smith

In 1985 Hans von Ohain, the scientist who pioneered Nazi Germany's efforts to build a jet plane, posed the question: 'Would World War II have occurred if the Luftwaffe knew it faced operational British jets instead of Spitfires?' He immediately answered, 'I, for one, think not.' Frank Whittle, working-class outsider and self-taught enthusiast, had worked out the blueprint of a completely new type of engine in 1929, only for his ideas to be blocked by bureaucratic opposition until the outbreak of war in 1939. The importance of his work was recognised too late by the government for his revolutionary engine to play a major part in World War II. After the war Whittle's dream of civilian jet-powered aircraft became a reality and Britain enjoyed a golden age of 1950's jet-powered flight. Drawing on Whittle's extensive private papers, Campbell-Smith tells the story of an overlooked British hero.

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### Book 80 - The moth and the mountain: a true story of love, war and Everest by Ed Caesar

In the 1930s, as official government expeditions set their sights on conquering Everest, a little-known World War I veteran named Maurice Wilson conceived his own crazy, beautiful plan: he would fly a Gipsy Moth aeroplane from England to Everest, crash land on its lower slopes, then become the first person to reach its summit - all utterly alone. Wilson didn't know how to climb. He barely knew how to fly. But he had pluck, daring and a vision - he wanted to be the first man to stand on top of the world. Traumatised by his wartime experiences and leaving behind a trail of broken hearts, Wilson believed that Everest could redeem him. This is the tale of an adventurer unlike any you have ever encountered: an unforgettable story about the power of the human spirit in the face of adversity.

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### Book 81 - Speaking volumes by Gordon Griffin

How did a fishmonger's son from Tyneside, growing up in the 1950s with a Geordie accent, become the person who recorded over 900 audiobooks and received an MBE from the queen in the Birthday Honours of 2017. This charming, entertaining and heart-warming memoir answers that question.

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### Book 82 - Men without country by Harrison Christian

A mission to collect breadfruit from Tahiti becomes the most famous mutiny in history when the crew rise up against Captain William Bligh, with accusations of food restrictions and unfair punishments. Bligh's remarkable journey back to safety is well documented, but the fates of the mutinous men remain shrouded in mystery. Some settled in Tahiti only to face capture and court martial, others sailed on to form a secret colony on Pitcairn Island, the most remote inhabited island on earth, avoiding detection for twenty years. When an American captain stumbled across the island in 1808, only one of the Bounty mutineers was left alive. Told by a direct descendant of Fletcher Christian, this book details the journey of the Bounty, and the lives of the men aboard.

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### Book 83 - Shanghai acrobat by Jingjing Xue

Jingjing Xue was born in China in the 1950s, during one of the worst times in the reign of communist leader Mao Zedong, or Chairman Mao. Mao's extreme five-year industrialisation plan - the Great Leap Forward - left much of the population starving, destitute and gripped with fear. Jingjing, abandoned to an orphanage as a young boy, was destined to a life of hardship before officials singled him out and enlisted him to train with the Shanghai Acrobatics School. This autobiography tells the moving story of his rise from poverty to become an admired performer in China and beyond - and of his extraordinary escape from Mao's repressive regime to secure his freedom. Set in China from the early years of the communist era, through the turbulent period of the Cultural Revolution, and to a new life in Australia, this is a story of hope and perseverance, of overcoming adversity and of finding a place to belong.

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### Book 84 - Power play by Julia Banks

Having won the 'unwinnable' seat that secured the Coalition Government majority in 2016, Julia Banks shocked Australia when she announced she would stand as an independent MP in 2018, having experienced a toxic workplace culture in the country's centre of power - designed by men for their dominance. Julia doesn't just know what power looks like in a political sense; she made it to the top of her game in the legal and corporate sectors before running for parliament. And at every level, she had to navigate through the bias, barriers and boys' clubs that aim to silence women or deter them from leadership roles. 'Power Play' reveals the unvarnished realities of any workplace where power disparities and gender politics collide: from the unequal opportunities, casual sexism and systemic misogyny, to pressures around looks, age and family responsibilities, and the consequences of speaking out.

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### Book 85 - Becoming Kim Jong Un by Jung H Pak

The mysterious, brutal, and calculating Kim Jong Un has risen to become the unchallenged dictator of a nuclear rogue state. He now possesses weaponry capable of threatening America and its allies, and his actions have already significantly changed global politics. It's believed that Kim Jong Un is in his thirties, only a few years into what will likely be decades of leadership. He is in the news almost every day, and yet we still know almost nothing about him and how he became the supreme leader of the hermit kingdom. Former CIA analyst and North Korea expert Jung H. Pak reveals the explosive story of Kim Jong Il's third son: the spoilt and impetuous child, the mediocre student, the ruthless murderer, the shrewd grand strategist.

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### Book 86 - Why did I buy that? by Kirstie Clements

Musings, style tips and thoughts on being a woman from Australia's leading fashion insider, bestselling author and former editor of 'Vogue,' Kirstie Clements - all delivered with a good dose of wit, common sense and chutzpah. As a true fashion insider, Kirstie Clements has seen trends come and go, from the sublime to the ridiculous, but she knows real style when she sees it - like a classic loafer that makes you feel comfortable in your own skin or a beautiful winter coat to take you through more than one season. In 'Why Did I Buy That?,' Kirstie shares personal stories, musings on fashion trends and thoughts on everything from how to successfully edit your wardrobe to how to spend your money more wisely. Oh, and how to kick ass in your career with a well-chosen blazer.

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## BUSINESS AND FINANCE

### Book 87 - Sort your money out by Glen James

Do you need some help to sort your money out? Whether you're short on motivation, financial knowledge, or find most finance content either overwhelming or too dull, straight and narrow, this book is here for you. Glen James, host of the popular 'My Millennial Money' podcast, brings his humour, practicality and tried and tested systems to help you take action to change your financial life for the better. 'Sort Your Money Out & Get Invested' covers the key relevant topics of concern to anyone starting out in securing their finances for a better future, no matter your age, situation or lifestyle. The most practical money book you'll ever listen to on getting out of debt, money mindset, investing and more.

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### Book 88 - Teach yourself about shares by Roger Kinsky

The bestselling, most comprehensive and trusted guide to share investing on the market - updated for the latest investment regulations and innovations - and now in audio for the very first time. If you want to learn more about the sharemarket but you're unsure where to begin, or if you are already a share investor but want to improve your profitability on the market, this is the audiobook for you. Respected author, instructor, and trader Roger Kinsky defuses the painful jargon and demystifies the complexities that hold many people back from getting into the market. Along the way, he shows you how to build up your investing expertise with practical examples and self-test problems with supplied solutions that help you consolidate your learning and move onto your next step with confidence. It will see you trading with confidence in no time.

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## EARTH SCIENCES

### Book 89 - Call of the Reed Warbler: a new agriculture, a new earth by Charles Massy

In 'Call of the Reed Warbler', Charles Massy explores regenerative agriculture & the vital connection between our soil & our health. It is the story of how a grassroots revolution a true underground insurgency can save the planet, help reduce & reverse climate change, & build healthy people & healthy communities, pivoting significantly on our relationship with growing & consuming food. Using his personal experience as a touchstone from an unknowing, chemical-using farmer with dead soils to a radical ecologist farmer carefully regenerating a 2000-hectare property to a state of natural health Massy tells the real story behind industrial agriculture & the global profit-obsessed corporations driving it. With evocative stories, he shows how other innovative & courageous farmers are finding a new way. At stake is not only a revolution in human health & in our communities, but the very survival of the planet.

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### Book 90 - A life on our planet by David Attenborough

See the world. Then make it better. I am ninety-three. I’ve had an extraordinary life. It’s only now that I appreciate how extraordinary. As a young man, I felt I was out there in the wild, experiencing the untouched natural world, but it was an illusion. The tragedy of our time has been happening all around us, barely noticeable from day to day—the loss of our planet’s wild places, its biodiversity. I have been witness to this decline. A Life on Our Planet is my witness statement and my vision for the future. It is the story of how we came to make this, our greatest mistake—and how, if we act now, we can yet put it right. We have one final chance to create the perfect home for ourselves and restore the wonderful world we inherited. All we need is the will do so.

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### Book 91 - Our biggest experiment by Alice Bell

'Our Biggest Experiment' tells the story of how the world became addicted to fossil fuels, how we discovered that electricity may be our saviour and how renewable energy is far from a 20th century discovery. Dr Alice Bell cuts through the jargon and the jumble of numbers to present a pacey and approachable telling of how we are getting to grips with what is now the defining issue of our time. She doesn't sugar-coat the situation - the potential consequences for us and for future generations are genuinely disturbing - but she also makes the very salient point that it is amazing that we noticed it in the first place. The message she gives is ultimately hopeful: harnessing the ingenuity and intelligence that has driven the history of climate change research can mean a more sustainable and bearable future for humanity.

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## GAY LESBIAN BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER

### Book 92 – It’s been a pleasure, Noni Blake by Claire Christian

Noni Blake knows she wants more: more adventures, more joy, more romance, more orgasms, more pleasure, more everything. Now she just has to figure out how to get it. Noni didn't expect to be starting over at the age of thirty-six. But eighteen months after the end of her long-term relationship, she decides it's time to start living her life again. While an encounter with a sexy firefighter is a welcome entry back into the dating world, Noni soon realises she's looking for more than just a series of brief, pleasurable encounters. She's looking for more pleasure in, well, everything. That's how she finds herself travelling to Europe to track down the one that got away: the alluring, elusive Molly. But Europe may have other surprises in store.

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### Book 93 – Carol by Patricia Highsmith

A chance encounter between two lonely women leads to a passionate romance in this lesbian cult classic. Therese, a struggling young sales clerk, and Carol, a homemaker in the midst of a bitter divorce, abandon their oppressive daily routines for the freedom of the open road, where their love can blossom. But their newly discovered bliss is shattered when Carol is forced to choose between her child and her lover.

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### Book 94 - Unapologetic: A black, queer and feminist mandate for radical movements by Charlene A. Carruthers

A manifesto from one of America's most influential activists which disrupts political, economic, and social norms by reimagining the Black Radical Tradition. Drawing on Black intellectual and grassroots organising traditions, including the Haitian Revolution, the US civil rights movement, and LGBTQ rights and feminist movements, Unapologetic challenges all of us engaged in the social justice struggle to make the movement for Black liberation more radical, more queer, and more feminist. This book provides a vision for how social justice movements can become sharper and more effective through principled struggle, healing justice, and leadership development. It also offers a flexible model of what deeply effective organising can be, anchored in the Chicago model of activism, which features long-term commitment, cultural sensitivity, creative strategising, and multiple cross-group alliances. And Unapologetic provides a clear framework for activists committed to building transformative power, encouraging young people to see themselves as visionaries and leaders.

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### Book 95 - Caught in the act by Shane Jenek AKA Courtney Act

Boy, girl, artist, advocate. Courtney is more than the sum of her parts. Meet Shane Jenek. Raised in the Brisbane suburbs by loving parents, Shane realises from a young age that he's not like all the other boys. At a performing arts agency he discovers his passion for song, dance and performance, and makes a promise to himself: to find a bigger stage. Meet Courtney Act. Born in Sydney around the turn of the millennium, Courtney makes her name in the gay bars of Oxford Street and then on Australian Idol. Over ten years later, she makes star turns on RuPaul's Drag Race and Celebrity Big Brother UK, bringing her unique take on drag and gender to the world. Behind this rise to national and global fame is a story of searching for and finding oneself. Told with Courtney’s trademark candour and wit, Caught in the Act is about our journey towards understanding gender, sexuality and identity. It’s an often hilarious and at times heartbreaking memoir from a beloved drag and entertainment icon. Most of all, it’s a bloody good time.

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### Book 96 - The greatest feeling in the world by Tim Sattler-Jones

Tim and Rod grew up a few suburbs from each other in Newcastle, New South Wales. They were gay but their worlds were not. Before they found each other, they were alone and miserable. Rod was shackled by a conservative Christian upbringing, while Tim felt unmanly and inferior beside his macho, sport-obsessed older brothers. After enduring their own private versions of hell, Tim and Rod crossed paths on a dating app. They swiped for Mr Right, and suddenly everything clicked. Since then, they have taken on the world, including winning The Amazing Race in 2019 as the first married same-sex couple on an Australian reality TV series. That brought its own heat, with the charismatic pair still copping homophobic hate for their public displays of affection. But, as their book shows, when you've been to hell and back, you don't let anything get in the way of 'the greatest feeling in the world'.

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### Book 97 - We play ourselves by Jen Silverman

In the pursuit of fame, how do you know when you've gone too far? Not too long ago, Cass was a promising young playwright in New York. But at the height of all this attention, she found herself at the centre of a searing public shaming, and fled to Los Angeles to escape - and reinvent herself. Once there, she meets her next-door neighbour Caroline, an enigmatic filmmaker, who is constantly flanked by the stars of her current project: a group of teenage girls. As Cass is drawn into the film's orbit, she is awed by Caroline's drive and confidence. But over time, she becomes troubled by how deeply Caroline is manipulating the teens in the name of art - especially as the consequences become increasingly disturbing. With her past proving hard to shake and her future one she's no longer sure she wants, Cass is forced to reckon with her own ambitions and confront the steep price of success.

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### Book 98 - The glamour boys by Chris Bryant

We like to think we know the story of how Britain went to war with Germany in 1939, but there is one part of the story that has never been told. It features a group of MPs who repeatedly spoke out against their party and their government's policy of appeasing Hitler and Mussolini. Remarkably, nearly all of them were gay or bisexual. Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain hated them. He had them followed, harassed, spied upon and derided in the press, and called them 'the glamour boys' in reference to their sexuality. They suffered abuse, innuendo and threats of de-selection, yet they spoke out repeatedly against Hitler's territorial ambitions and his treatment of political prisoners and the Jews. In doing so they risked everything, swimming against the overwhelming tide of public opinion at a time when even the suggestion of homosexuality could land you in prison.

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### Book 99 - Everyone in this room will someday be dead by Emily Austin

Meet Gilda. She cannot stop thinking about death. Desperate for relief from her anxious mind and alienated from her repressive family, she responds to a flyer for free therapy at a local church and finds herself abruptly hired to replace the deceased receptionist, Grace. It's not the most obvious job - she's queer and an atheist for starters - and so in between trying to learn mass, hiding her new maybe-girlfriend and conducting an amateur investigation into Grace's death, Gilda must avoid revealing the truth of her mortifying existence.

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### Book 100 - Scent by Isabel Costello

When Clementine and Edouard's last child leaves home, the cracks in their marriage become impossible to ignore. Clementine's work as an artisan perfumer is no longer rewarding and her sense of self is withering. Life tilts irreversibly when, decades after the disturbing end of a bisexual love triangle, her former lover Rachal resurfaces. But what does she want from Clementine, if not revenge? This is a captivating and intimate portrait of a woman navigating conflicting desires and a troubled past whilst dreaming of a fulfilling future.

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## HEALTH MIND AND BODY

### Book 101 - We need to talk about Mum & Dad by Jean Kittson

This warm and witty practical guide is a one-stop shop for information on how to support your ageing loved ones: how to protect their health and wellbeing, keep them safe and secure, and enable them to be self-determining and independent for as long as possible. Full of expert advice and first-hand experience, this is your go-to resource to help you: \*Navigate the bureaucratic maze while remaining sane, \*Understand what is needed for your elder's health and wellbeing and how to get it, especially in a medical emergency, \*Survive the avalanche of legal papers and official forms, \*Choose the best place for them to live - home, retirement village, residential aged care, or granny and grandpa flat - and help your elders relocate with love and respect. Compelled to discuss some of life's most confronting questions, Jean shares heartfelt stories and clear facts.

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### Book 102 - What really happened in Wuhan by Sharrie Markson

The origins of Covid-19 are shrouded in mystery. Scientists and government officials insisted, for a year and a half, that the virus had a natural origin, ridiculing anyone who dared contradict this view. Yet it is undeniable that a secretive facility in Wuhan was immersed in genetically manipulating bat-coronaviruses in perilous experiments. And as soon as the news of an outbreak in Wuhan leaked, the Chinese military took control and gagged all laboratory insiders. Part-thriller, part-exposé, What Really Happened in Wuhan is a ground-breaking investigation from leading journalist Sharri Markson into the origins of Covid-19, the cover-ups, the conspiracies and the classified research. It features never-before-seen primary documents exposing China’s concealment of the virus, fresh interviews with whistle-blower doctors in Wuhan and crucial eyewitness accounts that dismantle what we thought we knew about when the outbreak hit. Bravely reported and chillingly laid out, Markson brings to light the stories of the pandemic from the people on the ground who raised uncomfortable truths and were labelled conspiracy theorists. These brave individuals persisted through bruising battles and played a crucial role in investigating the origins of Covid-19 to finally, in this audiobook, bring us closer to the truth of what really happened in Wuhan.

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### Book 103 - The cost of labour by Natalie Kon-yu

Natalie Kon-yu was nine weeks pregnant when the trembling began. Two weeks later she checked herself into a mental health unit. Though she was in crisis, the GPs, nurses and psychiatrists couldn't see beyond Natalie's precious cargo. She was made to feel that her pregnancy outweighed her mental health. This loss of agency lingered long into her early years of motherhood. In that time, she discovered that she was far from alone. In fact, her experience typifies the harsh inequalities endured by child-bearing women, as well as the devaluation of what is still perceived as 'women's work'. With bracing clarity and verve, Kon-yu tackles the outdated institutions, expectations and ideologies that hold us hostage as parents, especially as mothers.

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### Book 104 - The psychic tests by Gary Nunn

Award-winning journalist Gary Nunn investigates psychics, mediums and astrologers to understand their uncanny power - and whether it's used for good or evil. Gary has always been a sceptic. His sister Taren, an avid believer, consults mediums to navigate a family trauma. When Gary reports a news story about a clairvoyant's link to the collapse of a huge stockbroking firm, personal questions become professional. Why do such large swathes of the population want their fortunes told? Why this need to believe? What is he missing? So begins a two-year investigation into the mysterious, unregulated world of psychics. Gary tries some out himself, sometimes with hilarious results. He hears about their involvement in the media, the corporate world, government, the criminal justice system and beyond. As we wade further into the post-truth era, Gary unearths the unprecedented power of psychics today.

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### Book 105 - The complete guide to the menopause by Dr Annice Mukherjee

Dr Annice Mukherjee is a top U.K. hormone specialist with nearly 30 years of experience. She went through the menopause at just 41 following a breast cancer diagnosis. In this book she combines her medical expertise and personal experience to develop an essential menopause toolkit offering balanced, practical and comprehensive advice designed for our modern world. The author has used her unique holistic system to help thousands of women look better, feel younger and enjoy an improved quality of life in the long term. This book includes her lifestyle toolkit as well as science based advice on treatment options when self-management is not enough.

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### Book 106 - What's wrong with you?: an insider's guide to your insides by Dr Sarah Holpin

Everybody has a body, and everybody gets sick. But unless you go to medical school, the mechanisms behind your medical symptoms remain a mystery. Why do you get diarrhoea when you're stressed? Why do both teenagers and bodybuilders get acne? Why do you feel like yawning when you're tired, nervous, or when you think about yawning (like now)? Why do many men go bald, but women don't? Over a billion health-related Google searches - more than one in every 15 Google enquiries - are made every day. Ask 'Dr Google' about your headache or fever and it will spew forth a bewildering, and often terrifying list of possible diagnoses, invariably topped by brain cancer or a parasitic infection. In this book Dr Sarah Holper takes you on an extensive tour through your body, explaining how its failings cause your medical symptoms.

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### Book 107 - Your guide to pregnancy and miscarriage and pregnancy loss by Kate White

Women experiencing a pregnancy loss often feel alone and full of questions about the process and the aftermath. Filled with accessible information, frequently asked questions and answers, and methods for coping with grief, the book empowers women undergoing pregnancy loss to take control over their experience. Written from the perspective of a medical professional who has cared for women having miscarriages for more than 20 years and who has experienced two miscarriages herself, this guide provides compassion and guidance, as well as hope for a woman's future pregnancy efforts.

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### Book 108 - The mind strength method (four steps to curb anxiety, conquer worry and build resilience) by Dr Jodie Lowinger

What if you could turn anxiety into your superpower? Dr Jodie Lowinger - clinical psychologist, executive coach and founder of the Anxiety Clinic - is at the forefront of mental health practice and has already helped thousands reframe their anxiety in this era of uncertainty. Through her groundbreaking Mind Strength methodology, and now in her first book, she offers a simple and practical toolkit of the best evidence-based techniques to: harness fear-driven thoughts and behaviours and turn them into empowered action; break free from being bossed around by worry and your inner critic; build a resilient, high-performance mindset. Woven through with relatable case studies and challenges to the stories you've been telling yourself, 'The Mind Strength Method' helps you move forward with your life in a way that is more aligned with your purpose and values.

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## HISTORY

### Book 109 – The hundred wells of Salaga by Ayesha Harruna Attah

Aminah lives an idyllic life until she is brutally separated from her home and forced on a journey that transforms her from a daydreamer into a resilient woman. Wurche, the willful daughter of a chief, is desperate to play an important role in her father's court. These two women's lives converge as infighting among Wurche's people threatens the region, during the height of the slave trade at the end of the nineteenth century.

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### Book 110 – Second best by Ben Pobjie

History is always written by the winners and about the winners. But what about the poor souls lurking in the shadows of history, the ones who were just as remarkable but perhaps didn't stick their chests out as they crossed the line? In this book, historian and comedian Ben Pobjie celebrates the nobility and altogether more fascinating stories of the silver-medal getters. What drove them on their incredible feats, why did they just miss out, and how did they cope with the oblivion of finishing second? From the Second Fleet, the second man on the moon and Australia's second prime minister whose name we consistently forget, 'Second Best' shines a light on those plucky men and women who, through no fault of their own - or at least only a little bit of fault of their own - didn't quite get there before everyone else, but did get there before almost everyone else.

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### Book 111 – The White Ship by Charles Spencer

King Henry I was sailing for England in triumph after four years of fighting the French. By 1120, Henry was perhaps the most formidable ruler in Europe. Everything he had worked so hard for was finally achieved, and he was ready to hand it on to his son and heir, William. Henry I and his retinue set out first. The White Ship would follow, carrying the young prince. Spoilt and arrogant, William had plied his comrades and crew with drink. It was the middle of the night when the drunken helmsman rammed the ship into rocks. There would be only one survivor from the gilded roll call of passengers... Written to commemorate the 900th anniversary of the shipwreck, Charles Spencer evokes the harsh and brutal story of the Normans from Conquest to Anarchy.

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### Book 112 - The reluctant heiress by Dilly Court

East-End London, 1858. In London's twisting streets, it's hard to tell friend from foe. And for Katherine Martin, arriving back in London after years away, the city is far crueller than she remembers. Her eyes opened to the plight of London's poor, Kate is determined to do what she can to help - even if it means defying her parents. In secret, she opens a soup kitchen. But there is a world of criminals within London's poorest alleys. Catching the notice of Harry Trader and his gang, Kate is out of her depth. Until she begins to discover that her true enemies might not be who she thought.

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### Book 113 - The cartographer's secret by Tea Cooper

1880. The Hunter Valley. Evie Ludgrove loves to map the landscape around her home - hardly surprising since she grew up in the shadow of her father's obsession with the great Australian explorer Dr Ludwig Leichhardt. So when an advertisement appears in The Bulletin magazine offering a one thousand pound reward for proof of where Leichhardt met his fate, Evie is determined to figure it out - after all, there are clues in her father's papers and in the archives of The Royal Geographical Society. But when Evie sets out to prove her theory she vanishes without a trace, leaving behind a mystery that taints everyone's lives for 30 years. 1911. When Letitia Rawlings arrives at the family estate in her Model T Ford, her purpose is to inform her Great Aunt Olivia of a bereavement. But Letitia is also escaping her own problems - her brother's sudden death, her mother's scheming and her own dissatisfaction with the life planned out for her. So when Letitia discovers a beautifully illustrated map that might hold a clue to the fate of her missing aunt, Evie Ludgrove, her curiosity is aroused and she sets out to discover the truth of Evie's disappearance. But all is not as it seems at Yellow Rock estate and as events unfold, Letitia begins to realise that solving the mystery of her family's past could offer as much peril as redemption.

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### Book 114 - The fossil hunter by Tea Cooper

The Hunter Valley 1847 The last thing Mellie Vale remembers before the fever takes her is running through the bush as a monster chases her – but no one believes her story. In a bid to curb Mellie’s overactive imagination, her benefactors send her to visit a family friend, Anthea Winstanley. Anthea is an amateur palaeontologist with a dream. She is convinced she will one day find proof the ichthyosaur and the plesiosaur swam in the vast inland sea that millions of years ago covered her property at Bow Wow Gorge. 1919. When Penelope Jane Martindale arrives home from the battlefields of World War I to make peace with her father and commemorate the death of her two younger brothers in the trenches, her reception is not as she had hoped. Looking for distraction, she finds a connection between a fossil at London’s Natural History Museum and her brothers which leads her to Bow Wow Gorge. But the gorge has a sinister reputation. When PJ uncovers some unexpected remains, the past reaches into the present and she becomes determined to discover what really happened all that time ago.

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### Book 115 - Cathedral by Ben Hopkins

A sweeping story about obsession, mysticism, art, earthly desire, and the construction of a Cathedral in medieval Germany. At the center of this story is the Cathedral. Its design and construction in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries in the Rhineland town of Hagenburg unites a vast array of unforgettable characters whose fortunes are inseparable from the shifting political factions and economic interests vying for supremacy. From the bishop to his treasurer to local merchants and lowly stonecutters, everyone, even the town’s Jewish denizens, is implicated and affected by the slow rise of Hagenburg’s Cathedral, which in no way enforces morality or charity. Around this narrative center, Ben Hopkins has constructed his own monumental edifice, a novel that is rich with the vicissitudes of mercantilism, politics, religion, and human enterprise.

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### Book 116 - The burning road by Harry Sidebottom

AD265 - In the shadow of Mount Etna, slaves are rising up. As the rebel leader declares Sicily the new land of the free, men and women are slaughtered, and cities across the island are sacked and burned. When a ship is wrecked off the island's west coast, all but two survivors are cut down in the surf by the rebel slaves. Ballista, an experienced Roman soldier, has always found a way to survive against the odds - but his son Marcus is still just a boy. With the burning road stretching out ahead of them, father and son must cross the war-ravaged island in a race against time to save the rest of his family, and somehow find a way to extinguish the brutal rebellion, before it all goes up in flames.

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### Book 117 - The Swift and the Harrier by Minette Walters

Dorset, 1642. When bloody civil war breaks out between the King and Parliament, families and communities across England are riven by different allegiances. A rare few choose neutrality. One such is Jayne Swift, a Dorset physician from a Royalist family, who offers her services to both sides in the conflict. Through her dedication to treating the sick and wounded, regardless of belief, Jayne becomes a witness to the brutality of war and the devastation it wreaks. Yet her recurring companion at every event is a man she should despise because he embraces civil war as the means to an end. She knows him as William Harrier, but is ignorant about every other aspect of his life. His past is a mystery and his future uncertain.

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### Book 118 - Viking slave by Griff Hosker

A young Saxon boy and his mother are captured in a Viking raid. Fate transforms his destiny and, thanks to an ageing one-armed warrior, he wins his freedom and becomes one with the Vikings. Clan rivalries force Dragonheart and his new Jarl to sail the seas searching for a new home. Landing on the Isle of Man they must fight for their very survival with enemies old and new seeking their destruction.

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### Book 119 - Viking warrior by Griff Hosker

The Vikings on the Island of Man are set on revenge. Their families have been kidnapped and taken to Ireland. They have to find them and rescue them. They find themselves fighting not only Hibernian warriors but renegade Vikings too. The perpetrator of the act, Tadgh, escapes and a chase ensues. The story moves quickly to the land of the Angles as Dragon Heart seeks the treasure of Rheged.

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### Book 120 - A winter war by Tim Leach

AD173. The Danube lies frozen. On its banks gather the clans of Sarmatia, their riders winter starved by sickly herds and blighted crops. Petty feuds cast aside and their disparate numbers united in the face of a great enemy. For across the frozen waters stands the mighty Roman Empire, and its Legion marches ever closer. But the Sarmatians are proud, and they are cast from the ice itself. They were trained from young to ride and fight and kill on its slippery surface. They cannot lose. They charge. Alone on a bloodied battlefield awakens Kai. Surrounded by the bodies of his people, fallen to the Legion, to have survived is a disgrace. In the aftermath of such defeat, he must navigate a course between honour and shame, his people and the Empire. It is a journey that will take him far to the West, beyond everything he has ever known.

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### Book 121 - The Hitler years: triumph 1933-1939 by Frank McDonough

On 30th January 1933, Adolf Hitler was appointed the German Chancellor of a coalition government by President Hindenburg. In a few months he installed a dictatorship, jailing and killing his leftwing opponents, terrorising the rest of the population and driving Jews out of public life. He embarked on a crash programme of militaristic Keynesianism, reviving the economy and achieving full employment through massive public works, vast armaments spending and the cancellation of foreign debts. After the grim years of the Great Depression, Germany seemed to have been reborn as a brutal and determined European power intent on avenging the mythical 'stab in the back' that had led to defeat in 1918. As Frank McDonough shows in this masterly popular history of the years from 1933 to 1939, Hitler won over most of the population to his vision of a renewed Reich.

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### Book 122 - The Hitler years: disaster 1940-1945 by Frank McDonough

At the beginning of 1940 Germany was at the pinnacle of its power. By May 1945 Hitler was dead and Germany had suffered a disastrous defeat. Hitler had failed to achieve his aim of making Germany a super power and had left her people to cope with the endless shame of the Holocaust. In this book, Professor Frank McDonough charts the dramatic change of fortune for the Third Reich, and challenges long-held accounts of the Holocaust and Germany's ultimate defeat.

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### Book 123 - Anne Frank betrayed by Gerard Kremer

Gerard Kremer Jr. and his wife Toon learned from the many conversations with his father and other witnesses that Ans van Dijk, a Jewish woman who was executed after the Second World War for collaborating with the Nazis, was the only suspect in the betrayal of the Frank family. After 75 years, Gerard Jr. has now revealed his father's and other witnesses' true story that has led to the unravelling of the betrayal.

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### Book 124 - The natural history of love by Caroline Petit

Australia, 1902. When lawyer Nathan Smithson takes on the case of mad, wealthy Edward Fonceca's inheritance trial against his ruthless brother Charles, he must unearth long buried family secrets to have any chance of winning. Brazil, 1852. Carolina Fonceca is 16 years old and longing to leave the confines of her family's remote Brazilian sugar plantation. Francois, the Count de Castelnau and French Consul to Bahia has fallen dangerously ill with a fever on a naturalist expedition and been delivered by Tupi Indians to the Fonceca household. With a head full of Balzac and dreams of Parisian life, Carolina is instantly beguiled by the middle-aged Frenchman. But what Francois has failed to tell Carolina is that he has a wife and son back in France. Desperate for a new life, Caroline makes a decision which will haunt her forever.

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### Book 125 - Sealand: the true story of the world's most stubborn micronation by Dylan Taylor-Lehman

In 1967, retired army major and self-made millionaire Paddy Roy Bates inaugurated himself ruler of the Principality of Sealand on a World War II Maunsell Sea Fort near Felixstowe - and began the peculiar story of the world's most stubborn micronation. Having fought off attacks from UK government officials and armed mercenaries for half a century - and thwarted an attempted coup that saw the Prince Regent taken hostage - the self-proclaimed independent nation still stands. It has its own constitution, national flag and anthem, currency, and passports. Incorporating original interviews with surviving members of the principality's royal family, Dylan Taylor-Lehman recounts the outrageous attempt to build a sovereign kingdom by a family of rogue, larger-than-life adventurers on an isolated platform in the freezing waters of the North Sea.

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### Book 126 - The wolf den by Elodie Harper

Sold by her mother. Enslaved in Pompeii's brothel. Determined to survive. Her name is Amara. Welcome to the Wolf Den. Amara was once a beloved daughter, until her father's death plunged her family into penury. Now she is a slave in Pompeii's infamous brothel, owned by a man she despises. Sharp, clever and resourceful, Amara is forced to hide her talents. For as a she-wolf, her only value lies in the desire she can stir in others. But Amara's spirit is far from broken. By day, she walks the streets with her fellow she-wolves, finding comfort in the laughter and dreams they share. For the streets of Pompeii are alive with opportunity. Out here, even the lowest slave can secure a reversal in fortune. Amara has learnt that everything in this city has its price. But how much is her freedom going to cost her?

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### Book 127 - Crecy: the age of the archer by Griff Hosker

In 1335 the Black Death was just thirteen years away from England but there were other threats and dangers. Young John Hawkwood is forced to leave his home and seek a life in London. There he learns how to survive and, more importantly, how to fight. Leaving his life as an apprentice tailor he follows the army and King Edward to fight the Scots. He has a skill; he can not only use a bow, but he can use a sword and his mind. This is just the start for John Hawkwood who will become, in the fullness of time, one of the greatest condottiere the world has ever seen, a man who, at the Battle of Castagnaro in 1387, shows the world that he was a great leader, too.

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### Book 128 - The hellion by Harriet Young

Whalley, 1537: On a day like any other, a devastating fire changes the lives of two young girls. What happens next triggers a series of events leading inexplicably to the cells of Lancaster Gaol. Lancashire, 1612: The most notorious witchcraft trials in England are taking place. Among the accused, three generations of the same family. A family rooted in Pendle, tied to the infamous Malkin Towers and always followed by a whisper of evil. A family destroyed by the evidence given by a nine year old girl.

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### Book 129 - A short history of coffee by Gordon Kerr

Following the growth in popularity through to the 21st century explosion of coffee shop culture, this book lifts the Styrofoam lid on both the business of coffee, as well as the pleasures that it brings its drinkers. Gordon Kerr masterfully balances an exploration of the history of this iconic beverage, whilst also delving into the frothy brew of business, politics, and money that accompanies it.

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### Book 130 - The fort by Adrian Goldsworthy

AD 105: Dacia. The Dacian kingdom and Rome are at peace, but no one thinks that it will last. Sent to command an isolated fort beyond the Danube, centurion Flavius Ferox can sense that war is coming, but also knows that enemies may be closer to home. Many of the Brigantes under his command are former rebels and convicts, as likely to kill him as obey an order. And then there is Hadrian, the emperor's cousin, and a man with plans of his own.

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### Book 131 - The sultan’s wife by Jane Johnson

The year is 1677. Behind the magnificent walls and towering arches of the Palace of Meknes, captive chieftain's son and now a lowly scribe, Nus Nus is framed for murder. As he attempts to evade punishment for the bloody crime, Nus Nus finds himself trapped in a vicious plot, caught between the three most powerful figures in the court: the cruel and arbitrary Sultan Moulay Ismail, one of the most tyrannical rulers in history; his monstrous wife Zidana, famed for her use of poison and black magic; and the conniving Grand Vizier. Meanwhile, a young Englishwoman named Alys Swann has been taken prisoner by Barbary corsairs and brought to the court. She faces a simple choice: renounce her faith and join the Sultan's harem; or die. As they battle for survival, Alys and Nus Nus find themselves thrust into an unlikely alliance - an alliance that will become a deep and moving relationship in which these two outsiders will find sustenance and courage in the most perilous of circumstances.

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### Book 132 - Wings over water by Jonathan Glancey

Announced in 1912, the Schneider Trophy stole the imaginations of pioneering aircraft manufacturers in America, France, Britain and Italy, as they competed in a series of air races that attracted a hugely popular following. Perhaps inevitably, the dynamism of rival engineering led to the most potent military fighters of World War Two and Reginald Mitchell's record-breaking supermarine seaplanes morphed into the Spitfire. 'Wings Over Water' tells the story of the Schneider air races afresh and also examines the wider politics and society of the early twentieth-century that framed the event.

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### Book 133 - The sorrow stone by Kari Gislason

After committing an audacious act of revenge for her brother's murder, Disa flees with her son Sindri through the fjords of Iceland. She has already endured the death of her loved ones. Now she must run to save her son, and her honour. In a society where betrayals and revenge killings are rife, all Disa has is her pride and her courage. Will it be enough for her and her son to escape retribution?

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### Book 134 - Great furphies of Australian history by Jim Haynes

With all the skills of the master storyteller that he is, Jim Haynes exposes some of the great myths of Australian history. Did you know that Portuguese and Spanish explorers probably found the east coast of Australia before Captain Cook, and that the Rum Rebellion was not caused by rum? And what about Banjo Patterson having written Waltzing Matilda? As for Ned Kelly being a brave rebel fighting for the underdog, in truth he was a thief, a thug and a murderer. The Ashes have nothing to do with cricket, the Ghan is not named after Afghan cameleers and Hargraves lied about discovering gold in NSW. Surprising, confounding, revealing and fun, Jim Haynes takes us on another great journey through Australian history and folklore.

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### Book 135 - The Arab conquests by Justin Marozzi

This is the story of the Muslim conquests of the 7th and 8th centuries AD, when armies inspired by the new religion of Islam burst out of Arabia to subjugate the Levant, southwest Asia, North Africa and the Iberian peninsula, destroying two great empires in the process.

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## HORROR

### Book 136 - The house of a hundred whispers by Graham Masterton

All Hallows Hall, a rambling Tudor mansion on the edge of the bleak, misty moor is not a place many would choose to live. Yet the former Governer of Dartmoor Prison did just that. Now he's dead, and his estranged family are set to inherit his estate. But when the dead man's family come to stay, the atmosphere of the moors seems to drift into every room. Floorboards creak, secret passageways echo, and wind whistles in the house's famous priest hole. And then, on the morning the family decide to leave All Hallows Hall once and for all, their young son Timmy goes missing – from inside the house. Does evil linger in the walls? Or is evil only ever found inside the minds of men?

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### Book 137 - The children God forgot by Graham Masterton

A young woman is rushed to the hospital with stabbing pains. The chief surgeon performs a C-section and delivers a catastrophically malformed foetus that is somehow alive. Sewage engineer Gemma is plunged into a ghostly darkness in the tunnel where she works. She escapes, but her boss goes missing in the chaos. He is later found alive but his legs have been severed and his eyes pulled out. DC Jerry Pardoe and DS Jamila Patel of the supernatural squad must team up once more to solve the mystery and save the city. But, if they are to succeed, first they must delve into the dark arts of witchcraft.

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### Book 138 - The boatman's daughter by Andy Davidson

Ever since her father was killed when she was just a child, Miranda Crabtree has kept her head down and her eyes up, ferrying contraband for a mad preacher and his declining band of followers to make ends meet and to protect an old witch and a secret child from harm. But dark forces are at work in the bayou, both human and supernatural, conspiring to disrupt the rhythms of Miranda’s peculiar and precarious life. And when the preacher makes an unthinkable demand, it sets Miranda on a desperate, dangerous path, forcing her to consider what she is willing to sacrifice to keep her loved ones safe.

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### Book 139 - Famine by Graham Masterton

What happens when the richest nation on God's Earth is driven to the outer limits of starvation? When the grain crop failed in Kansas it seemed like an isolated incident and no one took much notice. Except Ed Hardesty. Then the blight spread to California's fruit harvest, and from there, like wildfire, throughout the nation. Suddenly America woke up to the fact that her food supplies were almost wiped out. Her grain reserves lethally polluted. And Botulism was multiplying at a horrifying rate.

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### Book 140 - Plague by Graham Masterton

At first the rules were simple: quarantine the city, and let the plague die. So men and women closed their doors, and lived in lockdown, fighting for survival against a disease as contagious and destructive as the Black Death. A disease for which there was no known cure. But the plague did not die. And so, at lunchtime on a Friday afternoon, the President announces the new rules. Every American should take up arms to protect the disease-free zones. Anyone attempting to leave the plague-zone MUST be shot.

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### Book 141 - Witch by Iain Rob Wright

On December 21, 2012, according to the Mayan Calendar, the world was supposed to end. It didn't. But on that day, 113 mysterious manuscripts were discovered around the world, each one written in blood by an unknown author. After several dozen unexplained deaths befell the finders of said manuscripts, a decision was made to lock them up for good in a secret vault beneath the Vatican. It is said that anyone who reads the stories will die, and as such they are now referred to as 'The Cursed Manuscripts.' In December 2020, new manuscripts started turning up around the world. 'Witch' was one of them. Summer is here and school's out, but boredom quickly sets in for the penniless kids of the Redsow housing estate. If only they had something to do... In an effort to escape a pack of local bullies, best friends, Ashley and Jude, decide to brave Devil's Ditch, a place deep in the woods that everyone says is haunted by something ancient and evil. At first, everything seems fine, but then they discover an old farmhouse covered in weeds. Inside is a naked woman in chains. Her name is Rose, and there's something not quite right about her...

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### Book 142 - Such pretty things by Lisa Heathfield

Clara and her younger brother Stephen are taken by their father to stay with their aunt and uncle in a remote house in the hills as their mother recovers from an accident. At first, they see it as a summer to explore. There's the train set in the basement, the walled garden with its secret graves and beyond it all the silent loch, steady and waiting. Auntie has wanted them for so long - real children with hair to brush and arms to slip into the clothes made just for them. All those hours washing, polishing, preparing beds and pickling fruit and now Clara and Stephen are here, like a miracle, on her doorstep. But the reality of two children - their noise, their mess, their casual cruelties - begins to overwhelm Auntie. The children begin to uncover things Auntie had thought left buried, and Clara can feel her brother slipping away from her.

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## HUMOUR

### Book 143 - Lady sidekick: 20 tired tropes for women by Anneka Harry

With special guest appearances from comedian Rosie Jones, actor and poet Jade Anouka and journalist and author Alya Mooro, comedy performer and writer Anneka Harry has gathered up all the tired tropes for women so you don't have to! From the English Rose to the Creepy Little Girl, the Tomboy to the Manic Pixie Dream Girl, Anneka calls them out and, most importantly, RECLAIMS them. For too long women have been pigeonholed into a handful of tired and basic characters, their personality and behaviour criticised if they don't fit the role society thinks they should be playing. Anneka Harry analyses twenty of the most antiquated, cookie-cutter cliches and tokens that twenty-first-century women are SO over. Through hilarious tongue-in-cheek-fuelled study, Anneka examines each trope, sprinkling them with sarcasm, seasoning them with feminism, infusing them with activism, before serving them up ready for the modern masses to enjoy. It's time to shove a stick of dynamite up the arse of the out-of-date - and Lady Sidekick is ready to light the wick.

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### Book 144 - How to teach philosophy to your dog by Anthony McGowan

Monty was just like any other dog. A scruffy and irascible Maltese terrier, he enjoyed barking at pugs and sniffing at trees. But after yet another dramatic confrontation with the local Rottweiler, Anthony McGowan realises it's high time he and Monty had a chat about what makes him a good or a bad dog. Taking his lead from Monty's canine antics, McGowan takes us on a hilarious and enlightening jaunt through the major debates of philosophy. Will Kant convince Monty to stop stealing cheesecake? How long will they put up with Socrates poking holes in every argument? In this uniquely entertaining take on morality and ethics, the dutiful duo set out to uncover who - if anyone - has the right end of the ethical stick and can tell us how best to live one's life.

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### Book 145 - Why mummy's sloshed by Gill Sims

It's almost Mummy's 50th birthday. The hot flushes have just started, and nowadays she barely recognises herself. She's been a wife and mother for so long that she can't remember what life was like pre-moppets. Speaking of, Jane is constantly partying and more interested in passing her driving test than her A-Levels. In fact, trying to get the kids through their exams at all is almost as excruciating as waiting for their results. Or sitting by their bedside when one of them has a stupid accident. And then there's Simon and his truly irritating girlfriend, constantly poking her nose in. Not that Mummy's new man is fairing much better. Coupled with the ongoing battle with the horrible HR woman, an impending partially empty nest and the stress of elderly parents, it's all getting a bit much. Can Mummy keep up the facade while keeping her family afloat as everyone starts drifting off in different directions?

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### Book 146 - Love in the time of Bertie by Alexander McCall Smith

Life for Bertie seems to be moving at a pace that is rather out of his control. Upstairs, at 44 Scotland Street, his father Stuart is powerless to stop over-bearing Irene and her determination that Bertie will travel to deepest, coldest Aberdeen on a three-month sojourn. Can his friend Ranald Braveheart Macpherson save the day? And can the boys execute a great escape? Meanwhile, further up in the New Town, Bruce Anderson’s property development plans are thwarted by a sudden crisis of conscience that leads to a shocking revelation. And, in Big Lou’s cafe, it seems that love might blossom at last.

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### Book 147 - 488 rules for life by Kitty Flanagan

488 Rules for Life is Kitty Flanagan's way of making the world a more pleasant place to live. Providing you with the antidote to every annoying little thing, these rules are not made to be broken. 488 Rules for Life is not a self-help book, because it's not you who needs help, it's other people. Whether they're walking and texting, asphyxiating you on public transport with their noxious perfume cloud, or leaving one useless square of toilet paper on the roll, a lot of people just don't know the rules. But thanks to Kitty Flanagan's comprehensive guide to modern behaviour, our world will soon be a much better place. A place where people don't ruin the fruit salad by putting banana in it … where your co-workers respect your olfactory system and don't reheat their fish curry in the office microwave ... where middle aged men don't have ponytails … What started as a joke on Kitty Flanagan's popular segment on ABC TV's The Weekly, is now a quintessential reference book with the power to change society. (Or, at least, make it a bit less irritating.)

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### Book 148 - Woman of a certain rage by Georgie Hall

Eliza is angry. Very angry, and very, very hot. Late for work and dodging traffic, Eliza's still reeling from the latest row with her husband Paddy. Twenty-something years ago their eyes met over the class divide in oh-so-cool Britpop London, but these days their eyes only meet to bicker over the three-seat sofa. Paddy seems content filling his downtime with canal boats and cricket, but Eliza craves the freedom and excitement of her youth. Being fifty feels far too close to pensionable, their three teenage children are growing up fast, and even the dog has upped and died. Something is going to have to change - menopause be damned!

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### Book 149 - Are we having fun yet? by Lucy Mangan

Meet Liz: all she wants is some peace and quiet so she can read a book with her cat Henry, love of her life, by her side. But trampling all over this dream is a group of wild things also known as Liz's family. Namely: Richard - a man, a husband, no serious rival to Henry. Thomas - their sensitive seven year old son, for whom life is a bed of pain already. Evie - five year old acrobat, gangster, anarchist, daughter. And as if her family's demands (Where are the door keys? Are we made of plastic? Do 'ghost poos' really count?) weren't enough, Liz must also contend with the madness of parents, friends, bosses, and at least one hovering nemesis. 'Are We Having Fun Yet?' is a year with one woman as she faces all the storms of modern life (babysitters, death, threadworms) on her epic quest for that holy grail: a moment to herself.

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## LANGUAGE ARTS

### Book 150 – The never-ending brief encounter by Brian McFarlane

This is a book for all those who have been absorbed and moved by Brief Encounter in the seventy or so years since its first appearance. It explores the central relationship of the film, where two people who fall unexpectedly in love come to realise that there is more to life than self-gratification. Mores have undoubtedly changed, for better or worse, but that essential moral choice has never lost its power. While acknowledging this, the book goes further in an effort to account for the way the film has passed into the wider culture. People born decades after its first appearance are now adept at picking up references to it, whether a black-and-white scene in a much later film or a passing joke about a bald man in a barber’s shop.

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### Book 151 - The memoir book by Patti Miller

We all have a story to tell - whether it is a story of a migrant childhood, a difficult past, adopting a child, riding a bike across India, or simply a contemplative year in a garden. With these stories we make sense of ourselves and the world around us. Memoir - writing about an aspect of a life rather than a whole life - expresses and shapes these stories within us so that the writing becomes more than a record, it becomes a creative journey. Drawing on Patti's extensive teaching and writing experience, and using examples and exercises, The Memoir Book provides invaluable insight on how to find your topic, develop narrative voice, find a balance between factual truth and vivid story-telling, explore creative ways of structuring memories, and helps identify the best form for your writing - whether it be literary memoir, narrative non-fiction, sojourn and travel writing, or even the personal essay.

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### Book 152 - Had I known by Barbara Ehrenreich

A self-proclaimed 'myth buster by trade', over her long-ranging career as a journalist and political activist, Barbara Ehrenreich has delved with devastating wit and insight into the social and political fabric of America. 'Had I Known' gathers together Ehrenreich's most significant articles and excerpts from the last four decades - some of which became the starting point for her bestselling books - from her award-winning article 'Welcome to Cancerland', published shortly after she was diagnosed with breast cancer, to her groundbreaking investigative journalism in 'Nickel and Dimed', which explored living in America on the minimum wage. Issues she identified as far back as the 80s and 90s such as work poverty, rising inequality, the gender divide and medicalised health care, are top of the social and political agenda today.

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### Book 153 - Ten thing about writing by Joanne Harris

Based on Joanne Harris's series of tweets of the same name, this expanded collection of Ten Things lists provides genuine insight and practical help on the process of writing and finding readers. From Workspaces and Habits to Plot and Dialogue, these are motivating, problem-solving lists of wisdom from an experienced and widely respected writer.

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## LAW LEGAL ISSUES AND ETHICS

### Book 154 - Alternative law handbook

The alternative Law Handbook was first published in 1978 to provide alternative student views on the Law School, the courses offered within it, and the place of the law and legal education in the community. This handbook is to give voice to student complaints about the course, to give collective expression to individual criticism and to call for change and reform.

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## LITERATURE AND FICTION

### Book 155 - Ruthless women by Melanie Blake

Falcon Bay was the world's most popular soap opera, filmed on location on a tiny, idyllic island off Jersey. But with ratings falling, a new network owner, the beautiful and malevolent Madeline Kane, arrives on the private island determined to do whatever it takes to get the show back to number one. Director Farrah, star Catherine and producer Amanda are the driven, ambitious women who keep the show on the road. But Farrah is losing episodes to the network's lead male writer, Catherine is terrified of the public falling out of love with her and Amanda's evil husband Jake, vice president of the network, is plotting to get his wife kicked off the show. In a true battle of the sexes, these women will do anything to stay on top. But can they team up to bring down their rivals? Or will jealousy and revenge tear their friendship apart?

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### Book 156 - The dig street festival by Chris Walsh

2006. The UK's pub smoking ban is about to happen, and 38-and-a-half year old John Torrington, a mopper and trolley collector at his local DIY store, is secretly in love with the stylish, beautiful, and middle class barmaid Lois. John and his hapless, strange and down-on-their-luck friends, Gabby Longfeather and Glyn Hopkins, live in Clements Markham House - a semi-derelict Edwardian villa divided into unsanitary bedsits, and (mis)managed by the shrewd, Dickensian business man, Mr Kapoor. When Mr Kapoor, in a bizarre and criminal fluke, makes him fabulously credit-worthy, John surprises his friends and colleagues alike by announcing he will organise an amazing 'urban love revolution', aka the Dig Street Festival. But when he discovers dark secrets at the DIY store, and Mr Kapoor's ruthless gentrification scheme for Clements Markham House, John's plans take several unexpected and worrisome turns.

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### Book 157 - Where the edge is by Grainne Murphy

As a sleepy town in rural Ireland starts to wake, a road subsides, trapping an early-morning bus and five passengers inside. Rescue teams struggle and as two are eventually saved, the bus falls deeper into the hole. Under the watchful eyes of the media, the lives of three people are teetering on the edge. And for those on the outside, from Nina, the reporter covering the story, to rescue liaison, Tim, and Richie, the driver pulled from the wreckage, each are made to look at themselves under the glare of the spotlight. When their world crumbles beneath their feet, they are forced to choose between what they cling to and what they must let go of.

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### Book 158 - Pew by Catherine Lacey

Fleeing a past they can no longer remember, Pew wakes on a church bench, surrounded by curious strangers. Pew doesn't have a name, they've forgotten it. Pew doesn't know if they're a girl or a boy, a child or an almost-adult. Is Pew an orphan, or something worse? And what terrible trouble are they running from? Pew won't speak, but the men and women of this small, god-fearing town are full of questions. As the days pass, their insistent clamour will build from a murmur to a roar, as both the innocent and the guilty come undone in the face of Pew's silence.

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### Book 159 - Make yourself at home by Ciara Geraghty

Marianne left home when she was fifteen following a traumatic and tragic incident. She never planned to return, and now she has to face the fact that some plans don't work out the way you wanted them to. But she might just discover that, sometimes, you have to come to terms with the story of your past before you can work out the shape of the future.

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### Book 160 - Here the dark by David Bergen

From the streets of Danang, Vietnam, where a boy falls in with a young American missionary, to fishermen lost off the islands of Honduras, to the Canadian prairies, where a teenage boy's infatuation reveals his naivete and an aging rancher finds himself smitten, the short stories in Here the Dark explore the spaces between doubt and belief, evil and good, obscurity and light. Following men and boys bewildered by their circumstances and swayed by desire, surprised by love and by their capacity for both tenderness and violence, and featuring a novella about a young woman who rejects the laws of her cloistered Mennonite community, Scotiabank Giller Prizewinner David Bergen's latest deftly renders complex moral ambiguities and asks what it means to be lost and how we might be found.

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### Book 161 - Diamond mafia by Genesis Woods

For as long as Bobbi, Lucci, Diamond, and Kay Kay have been in each other's lives, they have always had one another's back. Whether they were fighting other squads during homeroom or boosting outfits for college frat parties, neither girl has ever questioned the when, what, where, or why of their actions. For them riding for each other was automatic. When Bobbi presents her girls with a plan that would eliminate their financial burdens and have them set for life, one by one they jump on board. Never in a million years would they have imagined that this perfectly planned heist would be the very thing that put their lifelong friendships to the test. In the beginning, everything seems to be going smoothly for the self-proclaimed Diamond Mafia but when lies are exposed, disloyalty is discovered, and trust goes out the window these four women are faced with the task of forgiving one another and moving on or allowing one act of betrayal to destroy their cliques bond forever.

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### Book 162 - A vintage friendship by Cathy Hopkins

The class of '72, Sara, Ally, Jo and Mitch were as close as sisters, then life intervened and the four friends lost touch. Now in her 60s, Sara has realised - late in the day - that those women were the best friends she'd ever had and is determined to get the gang back together. Ally is facing a huge turning point in her life and Jo, after years of being chief cook and bottle washer, needs to put herself first after a wake-up call. None of them know what happened to Mitch. The coolest and most enigmatic of the foursome doesn't want to be found and it seems that even after all these years, the women are still keeping a few secrets from each other.

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### Book 163 - A sky full of stars by Dani Atkins

Alex, Lisa and their young son Connor made a happy little universe. But then Lisa dies in a train crash, and their universe is destroyed. Alex is shattered by loss and overwhelmed by the difficulties of being a single father to a six-year-old boy. How can he and Connor carry on without Lisa lighting up their lives? Then Alex meets four strangers. Two men and two women, who never met Lisa, but whose lives changed profoundly because she died. As Alex hears their stories, he begins to realise the world may not be as cruel and senseless as it seems. Perhaps, after all, the future is written in the stars.

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### Book 164 - The last night by Cesca Major

In a quiet coastal village, Irina spends her days restoring furniture, hiding away from the world. A family secret, long held and never discussed, casts a dark shadow and Irina chooses to withdraw into her work. When an antique bureau is sent to her workshop, the owner anonymous, Irina senses a history to the object that makes her uneasy. As Irina begins to investigate the origins of the piece, she unearths the terrible secret it holds within. Decades earlier, another young woman kept secrets. Her name was Abigail. Over the course of one sun-filled summer she fell in love and dreamed of the future. But she could not know that a catastrophe loomed, and this event would change the course of many lives for years to come...

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### Book 165 – Just my luck by Adele Parks

It's the stuff dreams are made of - a lottery win so big, it changes everything. For fifteen years, Lexi and Jake have played the same six numbers with their friends, the Pearsons and the Heathcotes. Over dinner parties, fish & chip suppers and summer barbecues, they've discussed the important stuff - the kids, marriages, jobs, and houses - and they've laughed off their disappointment when they failed to win anything more than a tenner. But then, one Saturday night, the unthinkable happens. There's a rift in the group. Someone doesn't tell the truth. And soon after, six numbers come up which change everything forever.

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### Book 166 – The pretenders by Agatha Zaza

Jasper is ready to surprise his brother; Holly is ready to celebrate their engagement. Anne tags along for fear of missing out, and John might just be going for another drink. But Edmund and Ovidia had other plans for their Saturday. Over the course of one day, these couples must own up to the secrets they've been hiding from one another and the lies they've been telling themselves. And face the devastating consequences.

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### Book 167 – The butterfly lampshade by Aimee Bender

On the night her mother is taken to a mental hospital after a psychotic episode, eight year-old Francie is staying with her babysitter. Next to the couch on which she's sleeping, there is a lamp that catches her eye, its shade adorned with butterflies. When she wakes, Francie sees a dead butterfly floating in a glass of water. She drinks it before the babysitter can see. Twenty years later, Francie is compelled to make sense of that moment, and two other incidents - her discovery of a desiccated beetle from a school paper, and a bouquet of dried roses from some curtains. Her recall is exact: she is sure these things were real. But despite her certainty, she wrestles with the hold these memories have over her, and with what they say about her place in the world.

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### Book 168 – The death of Vivek Oji by Akwaeke Emezi

They burned down the market on the day Vivek Oji died... One afternoon, a mother opens her front door to find the length of her son's body stretched out on the veranda, swaddled in akwete material, his head on her welcome mat. The Death of Vivek Oji transports us to the day of Vivek's birth, the day his grandmother Ahunna died. It is the story of an over protective mother and a distant father, and the heart-wrenching tale of one family's struggle to understand their child, just as Vivek learns to recognize himself. Teeming with unforgettable characters whose lives have been shaped by Vivek's gentle and enigmatic spirit, it shares with us a Nigerian childhood that challenges expectations. This novel, and its celebration of the innocence and optimism of youth will touch all those who embrace it.

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### Book 169 – The orphan collector by Ellen Marie Wiseman

In the fall of 1918, 13-year-old German immigrant Pia Lange longs to be far from Philadelphia's overcrowded streets and slums, and from the anti-German sentiment that compelled her father to enlist in the US Army, hoping to prove his loyalty. But an even more urgent threat has arrived. Spanish influenza is spreading through the city. Soon, dead and dying are everywhere. With no food at home, Pia must venture out in search of supplies, leaving her infant twin brothers alone... Since her baby died days ago, Bernice Groves has been lost in grief and bitterness. If doctors hadn't been so busy tending to hordes of immigrants, perhaps they could have saved her son. When Bernice sees Pia leaving her tenement across the way, she is buoyed by a shocking, life-altering decision that leads her on a sinister mission: to transform the city's orphans and immigrant children into what she feels are 'true Americans'.

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### Book 170 - The book of hidden things by Francesco Dimitri

Four old school friends have a pact: to meet up every year in the small town in Puglia they grew up in. Art, the charismatic leader of the group and creator of the pact, insists that the agreement must remain unshakable and enduring. But this year, he never shows up. A visit to his house increases the friends' worry; Art is farming marijuana. In Southern Italy doing that kind of thing can be very dangerous. They can't go to the Carabinieri so must make enquiries of their own. This is how they come across the rumours about Art; bizarre and unbelievable rumours that he miraculously cured the local mafia boss's daughter of terminal leukaemia. And among the chaos of his house, they find a document written by Art, 'The Book of Hidden Things', that promises to reveal dark secrets and wonders beyond anything previously known.

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### Book 171 - Girl A by Abigail Dean

Lex Gracie doesn't want to think about her family. She doesn't want to think about growing up in her parents' House of Horrors. And she doesn't want to think about her identity as Girl A: the girl who escaped. When her mother dies in prison and leaves Lex and her siblings the family home, she can't run from her past any longer. Together with her sister, Evie, Lex intends to turn the House of Horrors into a force for good. But first she must come to terms with her six siblings - and with the childhood they shared.

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### Book 172 – The last goodbye by Fiona Lucas

Spencer was the love of Anna's life: her husband, her best friend, her rock. She thought their love would last forever. But three years ago, Spencer was tragically killed in an accident and Anna's world was shattered. How can she ever move on, when she's lost her soulmate? On New Year's Eve Anna phones Spencer's number, just to hear his old voicemail greeting. But to her shock, someone answers. Brody has inherited Spencer's old number, and is the first person who understands what Anna's going through. As she becomes more reliant on their calls, Anna finds herself opening up to Brody - and slowly she rediscovers how to smile again, how to laugh, even how to hope. But Brody hasn't been entirely honest with Anna. Will his secret threaten everything, just as it seems she might find the courage to love again?

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### Book 173 – The voice in my ear by Frances Leviston

Ten women, all called Claire, are tangled up in complex power dynamics with their families, friends and lovers. Though all are different ages, and leading different lives, each is haunted by the difficulty of living on her own terms, and by her capacity to harm and be harmed. Claire is a teenaged babysitter left alone with a strange little girl and her imaginary friend. She is a woman trying to escape her elderly mother by employing an android carer. Claire is a young TV journalist wrecking her first big interview. Claire's boyfriend discovers more than he bargains for when he begins to read her diary. And no matter her age or background, Claire is living in the shadow of a monstrous mother.

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### Book 174 – The vanishing half by Brit Bennett

The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern black community and running away at age sixteen, it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Many years later, one sister lives with her black daughter in the same southern town she once tried to escape. The other secretly passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Still, even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation, when their own daughters' storylines intersect?

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### Book 175 - No more meadows by Monica Dickens

"Times are changed with him who marries; there are no more bypath meadows where you may innocently linger, but the road lies long and straight and dusty to the grave." So wrote Robert Louis Stevenson. Christine felt bound to agree. "My wife can do anything," Vinson said. Even if anything meant getting used to the size and pace of his country, America. Wearing a sycophantic smile for the wife of Admiral Hamer (who wore patent-leather shoes like bananas) because Vin hoped to be promoted. Having a cold Turkey and a cold ham at every party. Smiling through the inevitable silences of marriage. Was Vinson what she really wanted? Even on the cold, bleak days when nothing went right, the crazy neighbour called while Captain Decker was having cocktails, Vin's mother had an appendectomy during a thunderstorm, she lost out on the TV quiz and she and Vin quarrelled bitterly? In No More Meadows, Monica Dickens unravels the threads of a very real marriage, with her inimitable warmth and sense of idiosyncratic character.

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### Book 176 - The lincoln highway by Amor Towles

In June 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the working farm where he has just served a year for involuntary manslaughter. His mother is long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett intends to pick up his eight-year-old brother and head west where they can start their lives anew. But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the working farm have hidden in the trunk of the warden's car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett's future

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### Book 177 - All of you every single one by Beatrice Hitchman

When Julia flees her unhappy marriage for the handsome tailor Eve Perret, she expects her life from now on will be a challenge, not least because the year is 1911. They leave everything behind to settle in Vienna, but their happiness is increasingly diminished by Julia's longing for a child. Ada Bauer's wealthy industrialist family have sent her to Dr Freud in the hope that he can fix her mutism and do so without a scandal. But help will soon come for Ada from an unexpected quarter and change many lives irrevocably.

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### Book 178 - A ghost in the throat by Doireann Ní Ghríofa

In the 1700s, an Irish noblewoman, on discovering her husband has been murdered, drinks handfuls of his blood and composes an extraordinary poem. In the present day, a young mother narrowly avoids tragedy. On encountering the poem, she becomes obsessed with its parallels with her own life, and sets out to track down the rest of the story. A devastating and timeless tale about one woman freeing her voice by reaching into the past and finding another's.

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### Book 179 - Wish you were here by Jodi Picoult

Diana O'Toole is perfectly on track. She will be married by thirty, done having kids by thirty-five, and move out to the New York City suburbs, all while climbing the professional ladder in the cutthroat art auction world. She's an associate specialist at Sotheby's now, but her boss has hinted at a promotion if she can close a deal with a high-profile client. She's not engaged just yet, but she knows her boyfriend, Finn, a surgical resident, is about to propose on their romantic getaway to the Galapagos--days before her thirtieth birthday. Right on time. But then a virus that felt worlds away has appeared in the city, and on the eve of their departure, Finn breaks the news: It's all hands on deck at the hospital. He has to stay behind. You should still go, he assures her, since it would be a shame for all of their nonrefundable trip to go to waste. And so, reluctantly, she goes. Almost immediately, Diana's dream vacation goes awry. Her luggage is lost, the Wi-Fi is nearly nonexistent, and the hotel they'd booked is shut down due to the pandemic. In fact, the whole island is now under quarantine, and she is stranded until the borders reopen. Completely isolated, she must venture beyond her comfort zone. Slowly, she carves out a connection with a local family when a teenager with a secret opens up to Diana, despite her father's suspicion of outsiders. In the Galapagos Islands, where Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection was formed, Diana finds herself examining her relationships, her choices, and herself--and wondering if when she goes home, she too will have evolved into someone completely different.

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### Book 180 - The world doesn't require you by Rion Amilcar Scott

Established by the leaders of the country's only successful slave revolt in the mid-nineteenth century, Cross River still evokes the fierce rhythms of its founding. In lyrical prose and singular dialect, a saga beats forward that echoes the fables carried down for generations - like the screecher birds who swoop down for their periodic sacrifice, and the water women who lure men to wet deaths. Among its residents - wildly spanning decades, perspectives, and species - are David Sherman, a struggling musician who just happens to be God's last son; Tyrone, a ruthless PhD candidate, whose dissertation about a childhood game ignites mayhem in the neighboring, once-segregated town of Port Yooga; and Jim, an all-too-obedient robot who serves his Master. As the book builds to its finish with Special Topics in Loneliness Studies, a fully-realized novella, two unhinged professors grapple with hugely different ambitions, and the reader comes to appreciate the intricacy of the world Scott has created - one where fantasy and reality are eternally at war.

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### Book 181 - Mrs Narwhal's diary by S.J. Norbury

Mrs Narwhal is overwhelmed. Her husband, Hugh, is unkind and unhappy - working every hour at a job he hates to save the ancestral home he never wanted. Then there's Hugh's sister, Rose, who's spurned her one true love, and ricochets from crisis to crisis; not to mention two small boys to bring up safely in a house that could crumble around their ears at any moment. When Hugh's pride receives a fatal blow, and he walks out, Mrs Narwhal is plunged into a crisis of both heart and home. With help from Rose she sets out to save the house her husband couldn't. But now that Hugh's gone, the question must be faced: does Mrs Narwhal really want him back?

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### Book 182 - Heaven by Mieko Kawakami

Told through the eyes of a 14-year-old boy subjected to relentless bullying, this is a haunting novel of the threat of violence that can stalk our teenage years. Instead of putting up resistance, the boy suffers in complete resignation. His sole ally is a girl classmate similarly outcast and similarly preyed upon by the bullies of the school. They meet in secret in the hopes of avoiding any further attention and take solace in each other's company, completely unaware that their relationship has not gone unnoticed by their tormentors.

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### Book 183 - We can only save ourselves by Alison Wisdom

Alice Lange's neighbours are proud to know her - a high-achieving student, cheerleader, and all-around good citizen, she's a perfect emblem of their sunny neighbourhood. The night before she's expected to be crowned Homecoming Queen, though, she commits an act of vandalism, then disappears, following a magnetic stranger named Wesley to a bungalow in another part of the state. There, he promises, Alice can be her true self, shedding the shackles of conformity. At the bungalow, however, she learns that four other young women seeking enlightenment and adventure have already followed him there. Her new lifestyle is intoxicating at first, but as Wesley's demands on all of them increase, the house becomes a pressure cooker - until one day they reach the point of no return.

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### Book 184 - She is haunted by Paige Clark

In stories charged by the complexities of mother-daughter relationships, grief, exes, and the profundities of friendship, She Is Haunted features injured ballerinas, cloned dogs, and competitive call centers in settings as far ranging as future and present Australia, New York City’s Chinatown, and suburban California. A mother cuts her daughter’s hair because her own hair begins falling out; a woman attempts to physically transform into her dead husband so that she does not have to grieve; a woman undergoes brain surgery in order to live more comfortably in extreme temperatures. Braiding the real and the surreal, both playfully witty and deeply insightful, these stories show us characters striving to make sense of the grand themes of family, love, death, and our changing world.

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### Book 185 - Nick by Michael F. Smith

Michael Farris Smith pulls Nick Carraway out of the shadows and into the spotlight in this exhilarating imagination of his life before The Great Gatsby. Before Nick Carraway moved to West Egg and into Gatsby's world, he was at the centre of a very different story - one taking place along the trenches and deep within the tunnels of World War I. Floundering in the wake of the destruction he witnessed first-hand, Nick delays his return home, hoping to escape the questions he cannot answer about the horrors of war. Instead, he embarks on a transcontinental redemptive journey that takes him from a whirlwind Paris romance - doomed from the very beginning - to the dizzying frenzy of New Orleans, rife with its own flavour of debauchery and violence. An epic portrait of a truly singular era and a sweeping, romantic story of self-discovery, this rich and imaginative novel breathes new life into a character that many know only from the periphery.

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### Book 186 - Man v nature by Diane Cook

Told with perfect rhythm and unyielding brutality, these stories expose unsuspecting men and women to the realities of nature, the primal instincts of man, and the dark humor and heartbreak of our struggle to not only thrive, but survive. In "Girl on Girl," a high school freshman goes to disturbing lengths to help an old friend. An insatiable temptress pursues the one man she can't have in "Meteorologist Dave Santana." And in the title story, a long fraught friendship comes undone when three buddies get impossibly lost on a lake it is impossible to get lost on. Other stories explore situations pulled directly from the wild, imposing on human lives the danger, tension, and precariousness of the natural world: a pack of not-needed boys take refuge in a murky forest and compete against each other for their next meal; an alpha male is pursued through city streets by murderous rivals and desirous women; helpless newborns are snatched by a man who stalks them from their suburban yards. Through these characters Cook asks: What is at the root of our most heartless, selfish impulses? Why are people drawn together in such messy, complicated, needful ways? When the unexpected intrudes upon the routine, what do we discover about ourselves?

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### Book 187 - The swallowed man by Edward Carey

'I am writing this account, in another man's book, by candlelight, inside the belly of a fish. I have been eaten. I have been eaten, yet I am living still.' From the acclaimed author of 'Little' comes this beautiful and haunting imagining of the years Geppetto spends within the belly of a sea beast. Drawing upon the Pinocchio story while creating something entirely his own, Carey tells an unforgettable tale of fatherly love and loss, pride and regret, and of the sustaining power of art and imagination.

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### Book 188 - The exile and the mapmaker by Emma Musty

Theo, an aging Parisian cartographer, is desperately searching for the woman he once loved before Alzheimer's takes his memories of her. Elise, his estranged daughter, moves in to take care of him. She still blames him for the tragic loss of her mother and is struggling with this new forced intimacy. Nebay, an Eritrean refugee, becomes Theo's carer and friend. Unbeknownst to Elise, Nebay does not have a visa for France and is working illegally in order to support his sister. Each is living a life of secrets, questions and uncertainty in a world where Nebay's very presence in France would be invisible on Theo's maps.

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### Book 189 - Light perpetual by Francis Spufford

Lunchtime on a Saturday, 1944: the Woolworths on Bexford High Street in South London receives a delivery of aluminum saucepans. A crowd gathers to see the first new metal in ages—after all, everything’s been melted down for the war effort. An instant later, the crowd is gone; incinerated. Among the shoppers were five young children. Who were they? What futures did they lose? This brilliantly constructed novel, inspired by real events, lets an alternative reel of time run, imagining the lives of these five souls as they live through the extraordinary, unimaginable changes of the bustling immensity of twentieth-century London. Their intimate everyday dramas, as sons and daughters, spouses, parents, grandparents; as the separated, the remarried, the bereaved. Through decades of social, sexual, and technological transformation, as bus conductors and landlords, as swindlers and teachers, patients and inmates. Days of personal triumphs and disasters; of second chances and redemption.

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### Book 190 - Castles from cobwebs by J A Mensah

'I'd always known that I was Brown. Black was different though; it came announced. Black came with expectations, of rhythm and other things that might trip me up'. Imani is a foundling. Rescued as a baby and raised by nuns on a remote Northumbrian island, she grows up with an ever-increasing feeling of displacement. Full of questions, Imani turns to her shadow, Amarie, and her friend, Harold. When Harold can't find the answers, she puts it down to what the nuns call her 'greater purpose'. At 19, Imani answers a phone call that will change her life: she is being called to Accra after the sudden death of her biological mother. Past, present, faith and reality are spun together in this enthralling debut. Following her transition from innocence to understanding, Imani's experience illuminates the stories we all tell to make ourselves whole.

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### Book 191 - Cowboys and Indians by Joseph O’Connor

All alone, with only his electric guitar and his overactive ego for company, Eddie Virago, proud owner of the last mohican haircut in Dublin, leaves his home town to find fame in the wild world of the London rock scene. Things don't quite go as planned, however, and he finds himself living in a ramshackle hotel with a neurotic girl he met on the ferry over while a bewildering array of acid-house ravers, saloon-bar revolutionaries, music biz wideboys and media primadonnas all seem oh-so-anxious to help Eddie on his way.

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### Book 192 - Inishowen by Joseph O’Connor

'Inishowen' is a story of love found late, of hidden connections and a journey that changes three lives forever. There's Inspector Martin Aitken whose life is a mess. Divorced, his career's in chaos. There are terrible things growing inside his house and the last thing he needs is a collapsed woman in the street on Christmas Eve. There's Ellen Donelly, a woman on a mission, coming to Ireland to find her mother, and escape her husband. Milton Amery is her husband, an unfaithful New York plastic surgeon. All three of their roads lead to Inishowen - a mysterious place that holds secrets that can unlock the heart.

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### Book 193 - An island by Karen Jennings

A refugee washes up on the beach of an island inhabited only by Samuel, an old lighthouse keeper. Samuel is soon swept up in memories of his country suffering under colonisers, then fight for independence, only to fall under a dictator's rule. Now he wonders, to what lengths will a person go to ensure what is theirs will not be taken from them?

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### Book 194 - A bookshop in Algiers by Kaouther Adimi

In 1936, a young dreamer named Edmond Charlot opened a modest bookshop in Algiers. Fast-forward to 2017 and young Ryad arrives at Charlot's beloved bookshop. Once the heart of Algerian cultural life, where Camus launched his first book and the Free French printed propaganda during the war, it has been closed for decades, living on as a government lending library. Now it is to be shuttered forever. But as Ryad empties it of its books, he begins to understand that a bookshop can be much more than just a shop that sells books.

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## MEDICINE

### Book 195 - The inevitable: dispatches on the right to die by Katie Engelhart

Meet Adam. He's twenty-seven years old, articulate and attractive. He also wants to die. Should he be helped? In 'The Inevitable', award-winning journalist Katie Engelhart explores one of our most abiding taboos: that of assisted suicide. From Avril, the 80-year-old British woman illegally importing pentobarbital to the Australian doctor dispensing suicide manuals online, Engelhart travels the world to hear the stories behind one of today's most hotly debated ethical dilemmas. At once intensely troubling and profoundly moving, 'The Inevitable' interrogates our most uncomfortable moral questions.

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### Book 196 - The great secret: the classified World War II disaster that launched the war on cancer by Jennet Conant

On the night of December 2, 1943, the Luftwaffe bombed a critical Allied port in Bari, Italy, sinking seventeen ships and killing over a thousand servicemen and hundreds of civilians. Caught in the surprise air raid was the John Harvey, an American Liberty ship carrying a top-secret cargo of 2,000 mustard bombs to be used in retaliation if the Germans resorted to gas warfare. After young sailors began suddenly dying with mysterious symptoms, Lieutenant Colonel Stewart Alexander, a doctor and chemical weapons expert, was dispatched to investigate. He quickly diagnosed mustard gas exposure, which both Churchill and Eisenhower denied. But Alexander's breakthrough observations about the toxic effects of mustard on white blood cell were instrumental in ushering in a new era of cancer research.

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## MILITARY

### Book 197 – Of living valour: the story of the soldiers of Waterloo by Barney White-Spunner

The Battle of Waterloo was one of the most significant ever fought by a British army, but it was also one of the most bloody with about 50,000 men losing their lives over three days. What was it like for those who fought and for their families waiting at home? This is their story. Told by the soldiers on the ground, this is the story of the against-the-odds triumph of the Battle of Waterloo, through real-life accounts of the regimental officers and soldiers whose bravery and resolution achieved victory.

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### Book 198 - Last flight to Stalingrad by Graham Hurley

Berlin, 1942. For four years, the men in field grey have helped themselves to country after country across Western Europe. For Werner Nehmann, a journalist at the Promi - the Ministry of Propaganda - this dizzying series of victories has felt like a party without end. But now the Reich's attention has turned towards the East, and as winter sets in, the mood is turning. Werner's boss, Joseph Goebbels, can sense it. A small man with a powerful voice and coal-black eyes, Goebbels has a deep understanding of the dark arts of manipulation. His words, his newsreels, have shaken Germany awake, propelling it towards its greater destiny and he won't let morale falter now. But the Minister of Propaganda is uneasy and in his discomfort has pulled Werner into his close confidence. And here, amid the power struggle between the Nazi Chieftains, Werner will make his mistake and begin his descent into the hell of Stalingrad.

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### Book 199 - The dressmakers of Auschwitz by Lucy Adlington

At the height of the Holocaust twenty-five young inmates of the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp—mainly Jewish women and girls—were selected to design, cut, and sew beautiful fashions for elite Nazi women in a dedicated salon. It was work that they hoped would spare them from the gas chambers. This fashion workshop—called the Upper Tailoring Studio—was established by Hedwig Höss, the camp commandant’s wife, and patronized by the wives of SS guards and officers. Here, the dressmakers produced high-quality garments for SS social functions in Auschwitz, and for ladies from Nazi Berlin’s upper crust. Drawing on diverse sources—including interviews with the last surviving seamstress—The Dressmakers of Auschwitz follows the fates of these brave women. Their bonds of family and friendship not only helped them endure persecution, but also to play their part in camp resistance. Weaving the dressmakers’ remarkable experiences within the context of Nazi policies for plunder and exploitation, historian Lucy Adlington exposes the greed, cruelty, and hypocrisy of the Third Reich and offers a fresh look at a little-known chapter of World War II and the Holocaust.

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### Book 200 - The Hurricats by Ralph Barker

With the Battle of Britain won, Winston Churchill and his military chiefs faced an even more fearsome challenge in the Battle of the Atlantic. Thwarted in his plans to invade, Hitler decided he would starve Britain into submission instead. Operating in conjunction with U-Boats, long-range Condor aircraft manned by elite German airmen attacked Allied ships far beyond the range of any land-based RAF fighters, with devastating results. To counter the Luftwaffe threat, men from the RAF and Fleet Air Arm were asked to volunteer to be catapulted from the foredecks of merchant ships in specially modified Hawker Hurricanes. But with nowhere to land afterwards, it was a one-way mission. If the British fighter pilots survived combat, they would have no option but to bail out into the North Atlantic and hope they were picked up by the one of the convoy escorts. Survival was anything but certain.

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### Book 201 - The infiltrators by Norman Ohler

On a lake near Berlin, a young man is out sailing when he glimpses a woman reclining in a passing boat. Their eyes meet - and one of history's greatest conspiracies is born. Harro Schulze-Boysen had already shed blood in the fight against Nazism by the time he and Libertas Haas-Heye began their whirlwind romance. She joined the cause, and soon the lovers were leading a network of antifascists that stretched across Berlin's bohemian underworld. Harro himself infiltrated German intelligence and began funnelling Nazi battle plans to the Allies, including details of Hitler's surprise attack on the Soviet Union. But nothing could prepare Harro and Libertas for the betrayals they'd suffer in this war of secrets - a struggle in which friend could be indistinguishable from foe. Drawing on unpublished diaries, letters and Gestapo files, Ohler tells an unforgettable tale of love, heroism, and sacrifice.

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### Book 202 - Tip and run: the untold tragedy of the First World War in Africa by Edward Paice

A small army of Germans and Africans fought a large British and Imperial force to a standstill, mainly due to their 'tip and run' tactics. The soldiers faced wide savannahs, deep jungles, all manner of diseases, as well as crocodiles, killer bees and raging heat. Their story has never been told - until now.

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### Book 203 - Kyiv by Graham Hurley

On Sunday 22nd June, 1941, at 03.05, three and a half million Axis troops burst into the Soviet Union along a 1800 mile front to launch Operation Barbarossa. The southern thrust of the attack was aimed at the Caucasus and the oil fields beyond. Kyiv was the biggest city to stand in their way. Within six weeks, the city was under siege. Surrounded by Panzers, bombed and shelled day and night, Soviet Commissar Nikita Khrushchev was amongst the senior Soviet officials co-ordinating the defence. Amid his cadre of trusted personnel is British defector Bella Menzies, once with MI5, now with the NKVD. With the fall of the city inevitable, the Soviets plan a bloody war of terror that will extort a higher toll on the city's inhabitants than the invaders. As the noose tightens, Bella finds herself trapped, hunted by both the Russians and the Germans.

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### Book 204 - Wuhan by John Fletcher

Everyone's heard of Wuhan in connection with COVID-19. But, 80 years ago, it was equally famous as the first place on earth to decisively defeat fascism. In 1937 Japan invaded China, slaughtering 20 million Chinese - mainly civilians. As vast swathes of the country fell to the invaders, Wuhan was appointed wartime capital and symbol of Chinese resistance. China, a medieval society, began a desperately needed reorganisation - transforming itself militarily, educationally, medically and culturally. Their heroic efforts in Wuhan halted the Japanese. Weaving together a multitude of narratives, 'Wuhan' is a historical fiction epic set against a backdrop of war and violence.

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### Book 205 - The last squadron by Dan Jayson

Just 15 years from now, the world has become polarized along ethnic and religious lines. Regional low-intensity wars have now been raging for 35 years. In the midst of the conflict, an Allied forces team from the 9th Mountain Squadron, being airlifted from the Northern Front for a long-awaited period of R&R, are shot down over the Nordic wilderness. With no way of communicating with the outside world, the aircraft's captain, Natasha Kavolsky, and the commander, Major Alexander Burton, lead the squadron out of the wilderness only to discover that a genetically engineered plague virus has been unleashed leaving just one person in a thousand alive and that the Allies have responded with nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. Remnants of enemy forces are now roaming at will across Europe.

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## MYSTERY AND THRILLERS

### Book 206 - The long shadow by Anne Buist

Psychologist Isabel Harris has come to the outback town of Riley because her husband Dean is assessing the hospital - the hub of the community - with a view to closing it down. Isabel, mostly occupied with her toddler, will run a mother-baby therapy group. But on the first day she gets an anonymous note from one of the mothers - the baby killer is going to strike again. Soon. Then a series of small harassments begins. Is it an attempt to warn Dean off? Or could the threat be serious? A child was murdered in Riley once before. As Isabel discovers more about the mothers in her group, she begins to believe the 25-year-old mystery of a baby's death may be the key to preventing another tragedy.

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### Book 207 - Friend or foe by Imani Black

When former drug kingpin Keith Big K Turner is released from prison after serving sixteen years, things aren't as they once were. Not only has the neighborhood he once reigned over changed; his entire family has changed as well. When his wife, Desiree, is found murdered, all fingers point to Big K's enemies in the streets. But that may be just the way the killer wants it to seem. When Detective Brice Simpson, the newly dubbed hood detective takes the case, he sets out to find the killer just like with any other case. But Detective Simpson soon finds himself up against some of the hoods most dangerous people, some of whom he grew up with. With his loyalties being tested, Detective Simpson soon realizes that no matter how street smart he is, no one in the hood can be eliminated as a suspect in Desiree's murder. Detective Simpson must navigate the seedy underworld to find the killer before more bodies start piling up. But first, he must fight off the demons of his past and decide where his loyalties lie - with the NYPD, or with the hood he grew up in. With a list of suspects that include a husband, a daughter, a son, and some of the most dangerous street enemies, Detective Simpson will have his work cut out for him. Will he survive, or will someone try to eliminate him before he gets too close to the truth?

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### Book 208 - The butcher of Berner Street by Alex Reeve

The headlines scream warnings about the 'Butcher of Berner Street!' and the journalist behind them - Leo Stanhope - is secretly thrilled to see the effect his words are having. Leo's previous work has largely been concentrated on more mundane issues but when an anonymous letter summons him to a club in East London, only for the owner of the club to be found murdered shortly afterwards, Leo sees a story worth pursuing. Not to mention an opportunity to make a name for himself. Yet the more Leo digs, the stranger the story becomes, taking him from the club to a nearby convent, and into the past of a very unusual woman. But he is not the only one hunting for a killer. And it seems Leo's newspaper reports may have put someone else in grave danger.

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### Book 209 - The three locks by Bonnie McBride

In the West End, a renowned Italian escape artist dies spectacularly on stage during a performance - immolated in a gleaming copper cauldron of his wife's design. In Cambridge, the runaway daughter of a famous don is found drowned, her long blonde hair tangled in the Jesus Lock on the River Cam. And in Baker Street, a mysterious locksmith exacts an unusual price to open a small silver box sent to Watson. From the glow of London's theatre district to the buzzing Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge where physicists explore the edges of the new science of electricity, Holmes and Watson race between the two cities to solve the murders, encountering prevaricating prestidigitators, philandering physicists and murderous mentalists, all the while unlocking secrets which may be best left undisclosed. And one, in particular, is very close to home.

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### Book - 210 The last guests by J.P. Pomare

Lina and Cain are doing their best to stay afloat. Money has been tight since Cain returned from active duty, and starting a family is proving harder than they thought. Putting Lina's inherited lake house up for rent at weekends seems like the solution to at least one of their problems. The secluded house is more of a burden than a retreat, anyway, and fixing up the old place makes Cain feel useful for once. But letting strangers stay in their house might not be the best idea. Someone is watching - their most mundane tasks, their most intimate moments - and all the things Lina and Cain want to keep hidden will be exposed.

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### Book 211 - I shot the devil by Ruth McIver

Erin Sloane was sixteen when high school senior Andre Villiers was murdered by his friends. They were her friends, too, led by the intense, charismatic Ricky Hell. Five people went into West Cypress Road Woods the night Andre was murdered. Only three came out. Ativan, alcohol and distance had dimmed Erin's memories of that time. But nearly twenty years later, an ageing father will bring her home. Now a journalist, she is asked to write a story about the Southport Three and the thrill-kill murder that mesmerised the country. Erin's investigation propels her closer and closer to a terrifying truth. And closer and closer to danger.

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### Book 212 - Churchill’s secret messenger by Alan Hlad

London, 1941. In a cramped bunker in Winston Churchill's Cabinet War Rooms, civilian women huddle at desks, typing up confidential documents and reports. Since her parents were killed in a bombing raid, Rose Teasdale has spent more hours than usual in Room 60, working double shifts. Winning the war is the only thing that matters, and she will gladly do her part. And when Rose's fluency in French comes to the attention of Churchill himself, it brings a rare yet dangerous opportunity. Rose is recruited for the Special Operations Executive, a secret British organisation that conducts espionage in Nazi-occupied Europe. After weeks of gruelling training, Rose parachutes into France with a new codename: Dragonfly. Posing as a cosmetics saleswoman in Paris, she ferries messages to and from the Resistance, knowing that the slightest misstep means capture or death.

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### Book 213 - The girl in the walls by A.J. Gnuse

Elise knows every inch of the house. She knows which boards will creak. She knows where the gaps are in the walls. She knows which parts can take her in, hide her away. It's home, after all. The home her parents made for her. And home is where you stay, no matter what. Eddie calls the same house his home. Eddie is almost a teenager now. He must no longer believe in the girl he sometimes sees from the corner of his eye. He needs her to disappear. But when his older brother senses her, too, they are faced with a question: how do they get rid of someone they aren't sure even exists? And, if they cast her out, what other threats might they invite in?

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### Book 214 - The double by Ann Gosslin

Following a violent outburst at an awards ceremony, Vidor Kiraly, a prize-winning neuroscientist and Cambridge don, is sent to an isolated psychiatric clinic in the Swiss Alps. When the clinic's director, Anton Gessen, tries in vain to unearth the missing pieces of Vidor's life, he suspects his reluctant patient is not who he appears to be. After one of the patients at the clinic goes missing, Gessen has reason to doubt Vidor's self-proclaimed innocence. But what is he hiding, and who might be next?

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### Book 215 - Best friends forever by Dawn Goodwin

Have you ever wanted to kill your best friend? Anna was the perfect wife. Perfect mother. Perfect woman. And now she's dead. Leaving behind her husband, David, and two young children their lives will never be the same. But Vicky will make sure life goes on. These two women have been best friends forever, a lifetime of secrets lies between them and now Vicky is ready to step up into Anna's perfect shoes. But not everything is as it seems and as David begins to question Vicky's motives for walking into his life things might just get a little murderous. The question on everyone's lips is, who killed Anna? And what actually happened on the night she died?

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### Book 216 - Hanging fire by Eric Red

In all his days as a bounty hunter, Joe Noose never met an outlaw like Bonny Kate Valence. The notorious female gunslinger has the kind of beauty that drives men wild-and a criminal record longer than the Snake River. She also has a date with the gallows. But before anyone can put a rope around that pretty neck, Joe Noose has to bring her in alive. On the way, he'll have to protect his prisoner from a vile ex-lover and a vengeance-seeking posse. Which puts Noose's neck on the line, too. Especially when this female of the species is deadlier than the male.

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### Book 217 - Deep water by Sarah Epstein

Henry Weaver is missing: Three months ago, thirteen-year-old Henry disappeared from The Shallows during a violent storm, leaving behind his muddy mountain bike at the train station. Mason Weaver is trapped: While Mason doesn't know who he is or what he's capable of, he knows the one thing binding him to this suffocating small town is his younger brother, Henry. Chloe Baxter wants answers: Why would Henry run away without telling her? One of Chloe's friends knows something and she's determined to find out the truth. As Chloe wades into dangerous waters and Mason's past emerges, a chilling question ripples to the surface: how far would you go to keep a secret?

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### Book 218 - Prince of spies by Alex Gerlis

1942: A German spy comes ashore on a desolate stretch of Lincolnshire beach. But he is hunted down by a young detective, Richard Prince. The secret services have need of a man like him. In occupied Europe, Denmark is a hotbed of problems for British intelligence. Rumours of a war-ending weapon being developed by the Germans are rife. Sent to Copenhagen, Prince is soon caught in a deadly game of cat and mouse. Dodging Gestapo agents, SS muscle and the danger of betrayal, his survival - and the war effort - hangs in the balance.

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### Book 219 - What lies beneath by Adam Croft

A peaceful Sunday morning in Rutland is shattered when a dead body is discovered on the rocks at Normanton Church. The victim has been laid out in a crucifixion pose, facing the altar. DI Caroline Hills is certain there's a religious connection - one which threatens the tranquillity of life in the area. The killer has gone to extraordinary lengths to make the symbolism clear. And the deaths will continue until Caroline and DS Dexter Antoine uncover the truth behind the dark secret - and what lies beneath.

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### Book 220 - On borrowed time by Adam Croft

Each morning, the first train of the day leaves Oakham station and thunders through a tunnel under the village of Manton. But today the driver sees something that changes his life: A dead body hangs in the tunnel's exit. DI Caroline Hills knows this isn't a suicide. It's murder. And when a second apparent suicide appears in Rutland, Caroline uncovers a shocking link: the victims knew each other. As Rutland Police fight to catch the killer, a group of friends is left with an even more shocking realisation. One of them is the murderer. And one of them will be the next to die.

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### Book 221 - Observatory mansions by Edward Carey

Observatory Mansions was once the Orme family's ancestral home. Now it is a crumbing apartment block, stranded on a traffic island and peopled with eccentrics. Alice Orme never stirs from her bed, her husband lives in his old armchair, and Francis, their son, practises his own art of stillness as a human statue. He lives by his Law of White Gloves, never touching anything without their protection, and collects items for his secret exhibition - items stolen, not because of any monetary worth, but because they are treasured by the owners. This careful routine is shaken by the arrival of a new resident, Anna Tap, half blind and vulnerable, but with a strange gift for inspiring trust. As the other residents gradually open their hearts to her, Francis realises he must act before she forces him to confront his own past, and before she finds out about the mysterious final object in his exhibition.

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### Book 222 - City of ghosts by Ben Creed

Leningrad, 1951. The shadow of war lingers. Revol Rossel - once a virtuoso violinist with a glittering future - is now a humble state militia cop, forced to investigate desperate crimes in this desperate era. But when five frozen corpses are found neatly arranged between railway lines, Rossel is faced with the most puzzling - and most dangerous - case of his career. His hunt for the truth leads him to the dark heart of Leningrad's musical establishment, and ultimately to the highest levels of the Kremlin itself. It's a world he knows intimately. A world where his dreams were shattered. A place where a killer may now be hiding.

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### Book 223 - Gamble by Anita Waller

Carla Andrews and Lorraine West are work colleagues and best friends. They socialise together, they work in the same bookmakers and they support each other as only best friends can. Then they are murdered together. When DI Tom Fowler is handed the case, he discovers a journal that Carla has left and must unpick the secrets Lorraine has kept hidden. Soon Carla's and Lorraine's husbands become the main suspects. It's usually the spouse who is responsible, isn't it? The investigation progresses until Isaac West, Lorraine's 16-year-old son, disappears. Will the truth ever emerge? Will Isaac ever be found? And is knowing the truth always worth the sacrifice?

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### Book 224 - The Paris collaborator by A.W. Hammond

August, 1944. In German-occupied Paris, former schoolteacher Auguste Duchene has stumbled upon an unusual way to survive: he finds missing people. When he's approached by members of the French Resistance to locate a missing priest - and a cache of stolen weapons - Duchene initially refuses. But the Resistance offer him no choice. Within hours, he's also blackmailed by a powerful Nazi into searching for a German soldier who's suspected of deserting. To fail at either task will have deadly consequences for Duchene - and for his daughter Marienne. So begins a frantic race against time. As forces close in on Paris, Duchene has only 48 hours to locate the missing priest and soldier, or lose the only person he loves.

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### Book 225 - The missing American by Kwei Quartey

Gordon Tilson is a lonely American widower who befriends a young Ghanaian widow online. When her sister is in a car accident, he sends her thousands of dollars to cover the hospital bill - to the horror of his son, Derek. And soon Gordon runs off to Ghana to surprise his new love but disappears without a trace. Frustrated by the inadequacies of the local police, Derek turns to a PI agency for assistance where there is a new detective on the scene determined to prove her worth.

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### Book 226 - The therapist by B.A. Paris

When Alice and Theo move into a newly renovated house in The Circle, a gated community of twelve exclusive houses, their new home is everything they've dreamed of. But appearances can be deceptive. Just as Alice is settling in and getting to know her new neighbours, she discovers a devastating, grisly secret. Her new house is infamous; the notorious site of a murder just eighteen months before, when the previous owner was found dead in her bath. Murder victim Nina was a therapist and Alice begins to feel a strong connection with the dead woman, having suffered a tragedy of her own. Alice becomes obsessed with the death of Nina and tries to find out what happened in her house, but no one wants to talk. Her neighbours are keeping secrets and things are not as perfect as they seem in The Circle.

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### Book 227 - Deadly dividend by David Pearson

A night out turns into a nightmare for a young man who is killed in Dublin's city centre. Once a street brawl or mugging is ruled out, it begins to look like he was targeted. But why? DI Aidan Burke struggles to get anything useful out of the man's friends and family, so the investigation leads to his workplace. It is here that they establish he was in a relationship with a co-worker. And when his girlfriend is attacked in her home and narrowly escapes with her life, detectives become certain the death was not random. The inquiry meets a brick wall of financial secrecy. To no avail, DI Burke tries unconventional methods to break it. Could the softer touch of his sergeant, the unassuming DS Fiona Moore, provide the key?

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### Book 228 - The winter agent by Gareth Rubin

February, 1944. A bitter winter grips occupied France, where Marc Reece leads an SOE circuit facing deadly risks, operating in secret to sabotage the German war effort. But Marc has a second mission, secret from even his fellow agents - including Charlotte, the woman with whom he has ill-advisedly fallen in love. Everyone knows that D-Day is coming, and that the hours following the Allied landings will decide the war - and every last scrap of information he can provide might make all the difference to the fate of the Western world. But when the circuit is ambushed - with deadly consequences - Marc realises there may be a spy in their ranks, putting at risk everything they've been fighting for. Then Charlotte goes missing.

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### Book 229 - Dead head by C. J. Skuse

Since confessing to her bloody murder spree Rhiannon Lewis, the now-notorious Sweetpea killer, has been feeling out-of-sorts. Having fled the UK on a cruise ship to start her new life, Rhiannon should be feeling happy. But it's hard to turn over a new leaf when she's stuck in an oversized floating tin can with the Gammonati and screaming kids. Especially when they remind her of Ivy - the baby she gave up for a life carrying on killing. Rhiannon is all at sea. She's lost her taste for blood but is it really gone for good? Maybe Rhiannon is realising that there's more to life than death.

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### Book 230 - People of abandoned character by Clare Whitfield

London, 1888: Susannah rushes into marriage to a young and wealthy surgeon. After a passionate honeymoon, she returns home with her new husband wrapped around her little finger. But then everything changes. Thomas's behaviour becomes increasingly volatile and violent. He stays out all night, returning home bloodied and full of secrets. The gentle caresses she enjoyed on her wedding night are now just a honeyed memory. When the first woman is murdered in Whitechapel, Susannah's interest is piqued. But as she follows the reports of the ongoing hunt for the killer, her mind takes her down the darkest path imaginable. Every time Thomas stays out late, another victim is found dead. Is it coincidence? Or is her husband the man they call Jack the Ripper?

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### Book 231 - The Stasi game by David Young

A man's body is found buried in concrete at a building site in the new town district. When People's Police homicide captain Karin Muller arrives at the scene, she discovers that all of the body's identifiable features have been removed - including its fingertips. The deeper Muller digs, the more the Stasi begin to hamper her investigations. She soon realises that this crime is just one part of a clandestine battle between two secret services - the Stasi of East Germany and Britain's MI6 - to control the truth behind one of the deadliest events of World War II.

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### Book 232 – All of us by A.F. Carter

Meet the Grands: Martha, Victoria, Serena, Kirk, Eleni and Tina. They'd get along fine, if they didn't share a body. Carolyn Grand's traumatic childhood led to her developing six distinct personalities. The man responsible was convicted of child abuse and sentenced to thirty years in jail. The man responsible was her father, Hank Grand. 28 years later, when Hank Grand is released early from prison, Martha, Victoria, Serena, Kirk, Eleni and Tina must confront the man who made them. But now Hank Grand is dead, murdered and Caroline is the police's primary suspect. Or suspects. Who really did it? Martha, Victoria, Serena, Kirk, Eleni and Tina don't even know themselves.

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### Book 233 – Midwinter murder

There's a chill in the air and the days are growing shorter. Curl up in front of a crackling fireplace with this winter-themed collection from legendary mystery writer Agatha Christie. But beware of deadly snowdrifts and dangerous gifts, poisoned meals and mysterious guests.

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### Book 234 – Murder in paradise by Agatha Christie

Escape from isolation and broaden your horizons with this audio collection of murder mysteries by Agatha Christie, read by David Suchet, television's iconic Poirot for more than two decades. Train journeys through rolling countryside and cruises across the open ocean might sound exotic, but when murder strikes mid-journey, they're anything but. Even on holiday, tensions can bubble beneath the surface, and when the end of the line leads to murder, everyone's a suspect.

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### Book 235 – Playdate by Alex Dahl

Lucia went home from school with her new friend Josie for a playdate. Later that evening, Lucia's mother Elisa dropped her overnight things round and kissed her little girl goodnight. That was the last time she saw her daughter. The next morning, when Lucia's dad arrived to pick her up, the house was empty. No furniture, no family, no Lucia. Have you seen Lucia?

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### Book 236 – The choice by Alex Lake

Matt Westbrook only turned his back for a moment. But when he looks around, his car - with his three young children inside - has vanished. Panicked, Matt assumes a car thief has got more than he bargained for, but then he starts to receive text messages: This is a kidnap. If you want to see your children again, you will exchange them for your wife. Matt and his wife Annabelle are horrified. They can't involve the police, or their children will be killed. Which means they have to choose: Annabelle, or their children. Either option is unthinkable. But one is inevitable. And they have only hours to make their decision.

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### Book 237 – The storm by Amanda Jennings

Hannah and Nathan appear to have the perfect marriage - a beautiful Cornish house, a son, a dog. Every evening, Hannah welcomes Nathan home with his favourite meals, soothing conversation and sex. But not everything is as idyllic as it appears. Nathan counts Hannah's change when she goes shopping, checks her receipts, keeps her passport locked away, and Hannah seems happy to let him. Ever since that night, years ago, when blood spilled on the rain-drenched dock, Hannah has been paying the price. Keeping Nathan happy. Keeping her secret. But the past is going to catch up with them both.

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### Book 238 – Close up by Amanda Quick

Vivian Brazier never thought life as an art photographer would include nightly wake-up calls to snap photos of grisly crime scenes or headshots for aspiring male actors. Although she is set on a career of transforming photography into a new art form, she knows her current work is what's paying the bills. After shooting crime scene photos of a famous actress, the latest victim of the murderer the press has dubbed the 'Dagger Killer', Vivian notices eerie similarities to the crime scenes of previous victims - details that only another photographer would have noticed - details that put Vivian at the top of the killer's target list. Nick Sundridge has always been able to 'see' things that others don't, coping with disturbing dreams and visions. His talent, or as he puts it - his curse - along with his dark past makes him a recluse, but a brilliant investigator.

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### Book 239 – Low action by Andrew Cartmel

Semi-retired god of rock guitar and local poseur Erik Make Loud has got himself a new girlfriend. Helene Hilditch - formerly known as Howlin' Hellbitch - of all-girl punk outfit Blue Tits is a mean guitarist, someone is trying to kill her. With a rare pressing of the Blue Tits' first album to find, the Vinyl Detective and Nevada are called in to help. But this time the question is who isn't a suspect. With a long list of enemies, the people who could want Helene dead includes her ex-bandmates, their former producer turned record label mogul, the TV presenter that Helene got fired - even their old roadie could be in on it. As the killer's attempts on Helene's life get more and more ambitious the Vinyl Detective and Nevada are in a race against time to find the killer, before it's too late.

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### Book 240 – The shadow bird by Ann Gosslin

Three months into her new role as a psychiatrist at a clinic in New York, Erin Cartwright is asked to evaluate the case of a man who murdered his mother and sisters at the age of seventeen. Found not guilty by reason of insanity and held in a maximum-security psychiatric facility for twenty-seven years, Timothy Stern is now eligible for release. Upon learning the crime occurred in the same village she once visited as a child, Erin is on the verge of refusing to take the case, when a startling discovery triggers memories she'd rather keep hidden, and a suspicion the wrong man is behind bars.

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### Book 241 – Knit to kill by Anne Canadeo

Maggie has changed the name of her shop to The Black Sheep and Co and the group is preparing for Lucy's wedding, but first there's a murder for them to solve on their girls only getaway to Maine! A relaxing girls' getaway turns deadly for the Black Sheep Knitters when a pushy killer is on the prowl. As their beloved Black Sheep member Lucy Binger prepares to tie the knot, the closely knit group decide they need a weekend to unwind before the big day. Suzanne Cavanaugh has just the spot-her friend Amy lives in a luxury New England community on Osprey Island, renowned for its famous cliff walk and spectacular ocean views, and she would be happy to host the knitters. Shortly after their arrival, however, the idyllic setting turns into a crime scene. The body of a prominent resident of Osprey Shores is discovered on the rocky coastline below the cliffs and evidence suggests his fatal misstep was no accident. The well-known victim was not so well liked, it turns out, with many enemies eager to send him into an early-and permanent-retirement. When the investigation focuses on Amy's husband, the knitters step in to untangle the clues. But with this crafty killer on the edge, the Black Sheep must walk a fine line-and look before they leap to any deadly conclusions.

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### Book 242 – Purls and poison by Anne Canadeo

Suzanne Cavanaugh has just about had it with her office rival at Prestige Properties. It's bad enough that Liza Devereaux is constantly needling her at work, but when she shows up at one of Suzanne's open houses to poach potential buyers, it's the last straw. No one in the office fails to hear the two snarling at each other. When Liza is later found dead in her office cubicle-poisoned by a diet shake-Suzanne becomes the prime suspect. It's soon discovered, though, that Liza had double-crossed so many around town and stashed their dark secrets in her designer handbags that anyone could be the culprit. The Black Sheep Knitters have no doubt their friend has been framed-but they need to prove it. Stirred to action, they get together to catch a sneaky killer who's trying to pull the wool over everyone's eyes.

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### Book 243 – Hounds of the basket stitch by Anne Canadeo

Maggie Messina knows that knitting is not only enjoyable, it also calms both the mind and soul. She's happy to visit two sisters, Holly and Rose Piper, and teach them some simple stitches, while the rest of the Black Sheep knitters tag along. Dana Haeger has known the young women since they were children and is the closest thing to family the Pipers now have. Dana is especially concerned about Rose, who has been easily overwhelmed ever since a car accident many years ago. She is at her best managing the houseful of hounds that she rescues and shelters, while Holly runs the family nursery and remains devoted to Rose's care. The lesson goes well, but the knitters are troubled about the sisters living alone in such a remote corner of Plum Harbor. Their worst fears are realized when Holly is attacked in her greenhouse and the building set ablaze. Rose is found unconscious nearby, her dogs running wild. When she wakes, her memory is blank. Holly is hospitalized and unable to offer even a clue. The Black Sheep suspect a mysterious drifter who had talked his way into a few days of wages, and just as quickly, disappeared. Or was it their estranged stepbrother, Toby, full of family grievances and eager to make a claim on the estate? Or, heaven forbid . . . was it Rose? Hovering over all these questions like an ominous shadow is a dark secret from the sisters' past. While it seems everything is unraveling, the knitters will need to keep their wits as sharp as their needles to prove Rose's innocence and stop a killer from striking again.

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### Book 244 – Petite mort by Beatrice Hitchman

A silent film, destroyed in a fire in 1914, before it was seen by its director. A lowly seamstress who believes her talent - and the secret she keeps - will soon get her a dressing room of her own. A beautiful house in Paris, with a curving staircase, a lake and locked rooms. A famous creator of cinematic illusions, husband to a beautiful actress, the most adored icon of the Parisian studios. All fit together, like scenes in a movie. One with a twist that will leave you breathless....

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### Book 245 – The hearts we burn by Briana Cole

Kimera Davis thought she was finally free from marrying-for-money and living way too many lies. Until her obsessed ex-husband ignited the ultimate dark hoax, a spectacularly malicious deception that's left her family, and her best friend, Adria, reeling. Now Kimera and her young son are prisoners at a remote estate, under the thumb of her ex's powerful father. And she has only one slender chance of escape. Suddenly Kimera is getting dangerously close to an unlikely ally, but even she can't be sure if she's playing him, if what they have is real - or if he's mastering her game. And there's no guarantee that her calculations and wild-card moves will earn her and her sons freedom - or cost more than her survival is worth.

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### Book 246 – Murder in Galway by Carlene O'Connor

New Yorker Tara Meehan's first trip to Galway may be her last. Tara never imagined her introduction to Ireland like this - carrying her mam's ashes to honour her final request: 'Tell Johnny I'm sorry. Take me home'. She's never met her mam's estranged brother, Johnny Meehan, who owns an architectural salvage business in Galway. Although Tara is immediately charmed by the medieval city, the locals seem wary of strangers and a gypsy warns her that death is all around. When Tara arrives at her uncle's stone cottage, the prophesy seems true. A dead man lies sprawled over the threshold in a pool of blood. The victim turns out to be Johnny's wealthiest client, and her missing uncle is the garda's number-one suspect. In trying to find Johnny and solve the crime, Tara uncovers her mam and uncle's troubled past.

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### Book 247 – Scenes of a graphic nature by Caroline O'Donoghue

Charlie Regan is going back to her roots. Her career as a filmmaker is on standby, she hasn't had a girlfriend in forever, her best friend is sickeningly successful and her dad is dying of cancer. So the invitation from Cork Film Festival comes like a sign - a chance to explore her Irish homeland. But this isn't just any search for long-lost ancestry: Charlie's father is the sole survivor of a tragic accident that killed every other child on the island where he grew up, and Charlie's one achievement is the film she made about it. But when she arrives there she fears his story may have been a lie. The site of the tragedy yields suspicious clues. The locals turn hostile. And what felt like her home starts to become a trap.

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### Book 248 – Box 88 by Charles Cumming

1989: The fall of the Berlin Wall is imminent and the Cold War will soon be over. But for Box 88, a top secret spying agency known only to an inner circle of MI6 and CIA operatives, the espionage game is heating up. Lachlan Kite, recruited straight from an elite boarding school, is sent to France - the frontline of a new secret war. Kite is tasked with gathering intelligence on a mysterious Iranian businessman implicated in the tragic Lockerbie bombing. But what he uncovers is even more deadly. 2020: MI5 hear rumours of Box 88's existence and go after Kite - only for Iranian intelligence to get to him first. Taken captive and subjected to torture, Kite is presented with a simple choice: reveal the truth about what happened in France thirty years earlier - or watch his family die.

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### Book 249 – Kindness goes unpunished by Craig Johnson

Longmire's third outing takes him from Wyoming to Philadelphia to investigate a brutal assault on his daughter Cady. Walt believes her ex-boyfriend is behind the crime, and searches him out. But when he turns up dead, Walt is back to square one.

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### Book 250 – Junkyard dogs by Craig Johnson

Walt has his hands full as greedy land developers employ shady, violent methods to reverse their fortunes in recession-racked Wyoming.

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### Book 251 – The spirit of steamboat by Craig Johnson

Sheriff Walt Longmire is reading A Christmas Carol in his office on December 24th when he's interrupted by the ghost of Christmas past: a young woman with a hairline scar across her forehead and more than a few questions about Walt's predecessor, Lucian Connally. Walt doesn't recognize the mystery woman, but she seems to know him and claims to have something she must return to Connally. With his daughter, Cady, and his undersheriff Vic Moretti in Philadelphia for the holidays, Walt is at loose ends, and despite the woman' s reticence to reveal her identity, he agrees to help her. At the Durant Home for Assisted Living Lucian Connally is several tumblers into his Pappy Van Winkle's and swears he's never clapped eyes on the woman before. Disappointed, she whispers 'Steamboat' and begins a story that takes them all back to Christmas Eve 1988, when three people died in a terrible crash and a young girl had the slimmest chance of survival...

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### Book 252 – Any other name by Craig Johnson

Walt is sinking into high-plains winter discontent when his former boss, Lucian Conally, asks him to take on a mercy case in an adjacent county. Detective Gerald Holman is dead and Lucian wants to know what drove his old friend to take his own life. With the clock ticking on the birth of his first grandchild, Walt learns that the by-the-book detective might have suppressed evidence concerning three missing women. Digging deeper, Walt uncovers an incriminating secret so dark that it threatens to claim other lives even before the sheriff can serve justice - Wyoming style.

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### Book 253 – Wait for signs by Craig Johnson

Short story collection with glimpses of Walt's past from the incident in 'Ministerial Aide,' when the sheriff is mistaken for a deity, to the hilarious 'Messenger,' where the majority of the action takes place in a Port-A-Potty, and including one new story, 'Petunia, Bandit Queen of the Bighorns'.

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### Book 254 – The highwayman by Craig Johnson

When Wyoming highway patrolman Rosey Wayman is transferred to the beautiful and imposing landscape of the Wind River Canyon, an area the troopers refer to as no-man's-land because of the lack of radio communication, she starts receiving 'officer needs assistance' calls. The problem? They're coming from Bobby Womack, a legendary Arapaho patrolman who met a fiery death in the canyon almost a half-century ago. With an investigation that spans this world and the next, Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear take on a case that pits them against a legend: The Highwayman.

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### Book 255 – An obvious fact by Craig Johnson

Walt, Henry, and Vic discover much more than they bargained for when they are called in to investigate a hit-and-run accident near Devils Tower involving a young motorcyclist In the midst of the largest motorcycle rally in the world, a young biker is run off the road and ends up in critical condition. When Sheriff Walt Longmire and his good friend Henry Standing Bear are called to Hulett, Wyoming-the nearest town to America's first national monument, Devils Tower-to investigate, things start getting complicated...

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### Book 256 – The western star by Craig Johnson

Sheriff Walt Longmire is enjoying a celebratory beer after a weapons certification at the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy when a younger sheriff confronts him with a photograph of twenty-five armed men standing in front of a Challenger steam locomotive. It takes him back to when, fresh from the battlefields of Vietnam, then-deputy Walt accompanied his mentor Lucian to the annual Wyoming Sheriff's Association junket held on the excursion train known as the Western Star, which ran the length of Wyoming from Cheyenne to Evanston and back. Armed with his trusty Colt .45 and a paperback of Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express, the young Walt was ill-prepared for the machinations of twenty-four veteran sheriffs, let alone the cavalcade of curious characters that accompanied them. The photograph-along with an upcoming parole hearing for one of the most dangerous men Walt has encountered in a lifetime of law enforcement-hurtles the sheriff into a head-on collision of past and present, placing him and everyone he cares about squarely on the tracks of runaway revenge.

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### Book 257 – Land of wolves by Craig Johnson

Wyoming Sheriff Walt Longmire is neck deep in the investigation of what could or could not be the suicidal hanging of a shepherd. With unsettling connections to a Basque family with a reputation for removing the legs of Absaroka County sheriffs, matters become even more complicated with the appearance of an oversize wolf in the Big Horn Mountains to which Walt finds himself feeling more and more empathetic.

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### Book 258 – A sprinkling of murder by Daryl Wood Gerber

Since childhood, Courtney has loved fairies. After her mother died when Courtney was ten, she lost touch with that feeling of magic. A year ago, at age twenty-nine, she rediscovered it when she left her father's landscaping business to spread her wings and start a fairy garden business and teashop in beautiful Carmel, California. At Open Your Imagination, she teaches garden design and sells everything from fairy figurines to tinkling wind chimes. Now she's starting a book club tea. But the light of the magical world she's created inside her shop is darkened one night when she discovers neighboring dog-grooming business owner Mick Watkins dead beside her patio fountain. To make matters worse, the police suspect Courtney of the crime. To clear her name and find the real killer, Courtney will have to wing it. But she's about to get a little help from an unexpected source . . .

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### Book 259 – Stasi winter by David Young

In the depths of the Republic's catastrophic winter, Major Karin Muller is called upon to stop a group of 'escapers' from crossing the frozen Ostee. Ahead, her partner, Hauptmann Werner Tilsner has caught up with the group but is he arresting them, or assisting them. When a flash of red hair against the expanse of white stops Muller in her tracks, she's in shock. A familiar young girl is on the Ostee. Codename - Wildcat. As tensions grow with her deputy, Tilsner, and a woman's murder to solve, Muller must work to uncover the secrets of the state under the difficulties of the worst winter in history.

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### Book 260 – A fragment too far by Dudley Lynch

Nine physicists are dead. The medical examiner has determined that the victims died from drinking coffee laced with rat poison. The owner of the house, Professor Thaddeus Huntgardner, isn't suspected, but his claim that a piece of the debris from Roswell's 1947 UFO crash was hidden in Flagler might be true. Enter Luther "Luke" Stephens McWhorter, a Yale Divinity School-educated West Texas sheriff with all the right questions. Is the fragment real? If so, who is trying to locate it? And what has fueled the byzantine activities of Abbot County's two secret societies for the past 70 years? Working with FBI agent and girlfriend, Angie Steele, Sheriff Luke begins to put together all the pieces and come to understand the connection between seemingly unrelated phenomena.

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### Book 261 – Funny bunny hunts the horn bug by Frank Hickey

The Upper East Side of Manhattan is one of the richest neighborhoods in the world. But Max Royster, a maverick, outspoken and erudite NYPD foot cop, who grew up working-class in this tony area, calls it 'the Playpen.' Money protects the bluebloods in this area like the bars on an infant's playpen. Late one night, patrolling wealthy brownstones, he sees a burglar attacking a rich actress. Max chases him. They fight but the burglar escapes. The burglar is a sexual predator, known in cop-speak as a 'Horn Bug'. For losing the suspect, Max's captain deems Max 'a Funny Bunny,' too unstable for police work. He strips Max of his gun and badge, then orders Max into Bellevue Hospital for observation and maybe for the rest of his life. Without any tools or support, Max has ten days to stop this Horn Bug.

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### Book 262 – No matter our wreckage by Gemma Carey

When Gemma Carey was 12 years old, a man twice her age would sneak into her bedroom on a weekly basis and sexually assault her. When Gemma was 17, she took the perpetrator to court without anyone else knowing and had him placed on the child sex offenders register. When she was 33, her mother died of cancer. For 20 years, her mother had known about this man. But why had she not acted to protect her daughter? Could the genesis of this betrayal be found in her own family history? This book presents the story of past and present colliding. It seeks to capture the complexity of forces which lead to abuse; to understand the intertwined narratives of mothers and daughters and how trauma becomes encoded in our DNA through generations. It explores grooming and the intricacies of consent, and how as a society we have not yet figured out how to deal with these types of crimes or the people who commit them.

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### Book 263 – The gray chamber by Grace Hitchcock

On Blackwell Island, New York, a hospital was built to keep its patients from ever leaving. With her late father's fortune under her uncle's care until her twenty-fifth birthday in the year 1887, Edyth Foster does not feel pressured to marry or to bow to society's demands. She freely indulges in eccentric hobbies like fencing and riding her velocipede in her cycling costume about the city for all to see. Finding a loophole in the will, though, her uncle whisks Edyth off to the women's lunatic asylum just weeks before her birthday. Do any of Edyth's friends care that she disappeared? At the asylum she meets another inmate, who upon discovering Edyth's plight, confesses that she is Nellie Bly, an undercover journalist for The World. Will either woman find a way to leave the terrifying island and reclaim her true self?

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### Book 264 – Bedlam by L J Ross

Fresh from a high-profile case in the Paris fashion world, elite forensic psychologist and criminal profiler Dr Alexander Gregory receives a call from the FBI. The wife of a notorious criminal has been admitted to a private psychiatric hospital and can no longer testify in his upcoming trial. Without her, their case will collapse but, amidst reports that the staff are as unpredictable as their patients, who can the police trust? In desperation, they turn to an outsider and now Gregory must find the courage to step inside the fortified walls of Buchanan Hospital to uncover the truth. The question is, will he ever be the same again?

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### Book 265 – Doom creek by Alan Carter

Sergeant Nick Chester has dodged the Geordie gangsters he once feared, is out of hiding and looking forward to a quiet life. But gold fever is creating ill-feeling between prospectors, and a new threat lurks in the form of trigger-happy Americans preparing for Doomsday by building a bolthole at the top of the South Island. As tensions simmer in the Wakamarina valley, Nick finds himself working on a cold-case murder and investigating a scandal-plagued religious sect. When local and international events reach fever pitch, Chester finds himself up against an evil that knows no borders.

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### Book 266 – Death leaves the station by Alexander Thorpe

A nameless friar turns up at Halfwell Station at the same time that Ana, the adopted daughter of the station owners, discovers a body in the desert during her midnight walk. But when Ana returns to look for it, the body is gone. This story brings the cosy country-house intrigue of crime fiction's golden age to the Australian wheatbelt, and was written for fans of classic mystery and crime fiction.

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### Book 267 – A sinister service by Alyssa Maxwell

To celebrate their grandparents' wedding anniversary, Lady Phoebe Renshaw and her siblings travel to Staffordshire to commission a china service bearing the Wroxly coat of arms from the venerated Crown Lily Potteries, a favourite of Queen Mary. The two leading designers at the illustrious china manufacturer offer competing patterns. But when one of them is found dead - his body crushed in a grinding pan and his design pattern book missing - his rival is suspected. The police are also suspicious of the dead designer's resentful young son, a schoolmate of Phoebe's 15-year-old brother Fox. When Fox gets involved to help his friend, Phoebe begins to investigate the rival artist. At the same time, Eva is enlisted to go undercover at the works so she can gain the confidence of the female employees, who are only allowed to paint, not design, which may have led to a grudge against the victim.

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### Book 268 – A good liar by Amanda Brooke

When a fire destroys the Empress Theatre, a devastating tragedy unfolds. Amelia's mother lost her piece of mind forever when she left her daughter alone for a few life-changing moments. The dance school lost their beloved teacher, Hilary, who died saving the lives of her young pupils. Karin lost her memory, and the answers she desperately craves. Claudia lost the one thing that would have made her perfect life complete. As local reporter Leanne picks over the embers of that night, what seemed like a straightforward case of negligence becomes something else entirely: somebody is lying - each person has lost something, but one of them has sold their soul.

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### Book 269 – Pretty deceit by Anna Lee Huber

Peacetime has brought little respite for Verity Kent. Intrigue still abounds, even within her own family. As a favour to her father, Verity agrees to visit his sister in Wiltshire. Her once prosperous aunt has fallen on difficult times and is considering selling their estate. But there are strange goings-on at the manor, including missing servants, possible heirloom forgeries, and suspicious rumours - all leading to the discovery of a dead body on the grounds. While Verity and her husband, Sidney, investigate this new mystery, they are also on the trail of an old adversary - the shadowy and lethal Lord Ardmore. At every turn, the suspected traitor seems to be one step ahead of them. And even when their dear friend Max, the Earl of Ryde, stumbles upon a code hidden among his late father's effects that may reveal the truth about Ardmore, Verity wonders if they are really the hunters - or the hunted.

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### Book 270 – The reach by B. Michael Radburn

In secluded Devlins Reach, on the shores of the Hawkesbury River, three bodies are unearthed in an excavation site. When a wilderness expert, Park Ranger Taylor Bridges, is called in to assist local police, he soon discovers the town has an unsettling history - one to match Taylor's own haunted past. But the quiet location and picturesque beauty of The Reach are hiding something darker than Taylor could have anticipated. Within the town's tight-knit community of loggers, store owners and tight-lipped locals, someone is targeting the residents one by one. As a torrential storm surges ever closer, and the river swells at the levee walls, The Reach goes into lockdown. With no way in or out, Taylor finds himself in a race against the power of nature to find a desperate killer before the whole town goes under.

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### Book 271 – A time to die by Barbara Nadel

Ever since it was built in 1912, Woolwich Foot Tunnel has been the subject of rumour and speculation. Running underneath the Thames it connects north and south, and in the hot summer of 1976, when young John Saunders apparently entered the Tunnel and completely disappeared on his way to his sister's house, it was a grim and frightening place. John was never seen again until he re-emerged forty-two years later, complete with an American accent. Happy to submit to the DNA testing his sister Brenda demands, this man is definitely John Saunders, but when nothing that he tells Brenda rings true, she decides to enlist the services of Hakim and Arnold to try and uncover the truth. He is who he says he is, but his story about what happened between 1976 and 2018 makes no sense. Why has he come back now? What does he want?

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### Book 272 – The devils you know by Ben Sanders

Vincent needs a change. He's spent the last 15 years in covert operations for the US government, but after a botched and fatal mission, he decides he's done with pulling triggers for shadowy officialdom. Vincent accepts a job in Santa Barbara, California, as head of security for supermarket mogul Eugene Lamar. He's intrigued by Lamar's daughter - the journalist Karen Jones - on tour in California to promote a book about the benefits of war. Vincent's seen his share of conflict and is sure he can change her mind - and he'd really like to make his case over drinks. There's only one problem: if Lamar's business is confined to supermarkets, why does he need a panic room full of assault rifles, and a .357 revolver in his car? It turns out Lamar owes a debt to bad people - but that's the very least of the trouble. He's ensnared in a criminal enterprise which soon brings costs in lives as well as money.

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### Book 273 – Robert Ludlum’s The Bourne evolution by Brian Freeman

After the death of his wife in a mass shooting, secret agent Jason Bourne is convinced that there is more to her murder than it seems. Worse, he believes that the agency that trained him and made him who he is - Treadstone - is behind the killing. Bourne goes rogue, leaving Treadstone behind and taking on a new mission to infiltrate and expose an anarchist group, Medusa. But when a congresswoman is assassinated in New York, Bourne is framed for the crime, and he finds himself alone and on the run, hunted by both Treadstone and the tech cabal who had hired him. In his quest to stay one step ahead of his enemies, Bourne teams up with a journalist, Abbey Laurent, to figure out who was behind the frame-up, and to learn as much as he can about the ever-growing threat of the mysterious Medusa group.

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### Book 274 – Idle hands by Cassondra Windwalker

You can call me Ella. You generally assign me a whole host of other preposterous monikers. I think the least imaginative name I've heard is 'the devil', but I'll answer to it if I must. After making the courageous decision to leave her abusive husband, Perdie and her three young children start over and finally find the safety and love they deserve. But years later, when tragedy strikes, Perdie is left wondering if the choice she made to leave has led them to this moment. If she were given the opportunity to take it all back and stay, would she? In a frantic bid to protect her family, Perdie makes a deal with the devil to do just that. But in a world where the devil pulls the strings, can Perdie really change the past?

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### Book 275 – Rewind by Catherine Ryan Howard

Andrew, the manager of Shanamore Holiday Cottages, watches his only guest via a hidden camera in her room. One night the unthinkable happens: a shadowy figure emerges onscreen, kills her and destroys the camera. But who is the murderer? How did they know about the camera? And how will Andrew live with himself? Natalie wishes she'd stayed at home as soon as she arrives in the wintry isolation of Shanamore. There's something creepy about the manager. She wants to leave, but she can't - not until she's found what she's looking for.

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### Book 276 – The secrets of strangers by Charity Norman

A regular weekday morning veers drastically off-course for five strangers whose paths cross in a London cafe - their lives never to be the same again when an apparently crazed gunman holds them hostage. But there is more to the situation than first meets the eye and as the captives grapple with their own inner demons, the line between right and wrong starts to blur. Will the secrets they keep stop them from escaping with their lives?

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### Book 277 – Oranges and lemons by Christopher Fowler

One Sunday morning, the outspoken Speaker of the House of Commons steps out of his front door only to be crushed under a mountain of citrus fruit. Bizarre accident or something more sinister? The government needs to know because here's a man whose knowledge of parliament's biggest secret could put the future of the government at stake? It should be the perfect case for Bryant & May and the Peculiar Crimes Unit, but unfortunately one detective is in hospital, the other is missing and the staff have all been dismissed. It seems the PCU is no more. But events escalate: a series of brutal crimes seemingly linked to an old English folk-song threatens the very foundation of London society and suddenly the PCU is offered a reprieve and are back in (temporary) business!

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### Book 278 – Ask no questions by Claire Allan

25 years ago, on Halloween night, 8-year-old Kelly Doherty went missing while out trick or treating with friends. Her body was found 3 days later, floating face down, on the banks of the Creggan Reservoir by 2 of her young classmates. It was a crime that rocked Derry to the core. Journalist Ingrid Devlin is investigating - but someone doesn't want her to know the truth. As she digs further, Ingrid starts to realise that the Doherty family are not as they seem. But will she expose what really happened that night before it's too late?

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### Book 279 – Next to last stand by Craig Johnson

One of the most viewed paintings in American history, Custer's Last Fight, copied and distributed by Anheuser-Busch at a rate of over two million copies a year, was destroyed in a fire at the 7th Cavalry Headquarters in Fort Bliss, Texas, in 1946. Or was it? When Charley Lee Stillwater dies of an apparent heart attack at the Wyoming Home for Soldiers & Sailors, Walt Longmire is called in to try and make sense of a piece of a painting and a Florsheim shoebox containing a million dollars, sending the good sheriff on the trail of a dangerous art heist.

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### Book 280 – Widow's welcome by D.K. Fields

Dead bodies aren't unusual in the alleyways of Fenest. Muggings, brawls gone bad, debts collected - Detective Cora Gorderheim has seen it all. Until she finds a Wayward man with his mouth sewn shut. As Cora pieces together the dead man's story, she's drawn into the most dangerous story in the Union of Realms: the election. All she wants is to catch the killer, but nothing is that simple in an election year. Dark forces conspire against the Union and soon she finds herself at the rotten core of it all. Cora will find the killer, but at what cost?

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### Book 281 – The stitcher and the mute by D.K. Fields

Detective Cora Gorderheim has found the man who strangled the Wayward storyteller. But he was just a small part of a much bigger tale. Someone powerful ordered a murder on Cora's patch. That someone still lurks in the shadows. But as she continues her investigations, Cora is warned not to pry into the great and the good of Fenest. Too stubborn to know better, Cora keeps digging and begins to piece together a conspiracy that reaches from the gutter dwellers of the Union of Realms right to the top: the Chambers. As the Audience hear the Torn and Perlish tales, Cora realises she must return to her own story, to its very beginning, if she's going to have any say in its end.

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### Book 282 – The heist by Daniel Silva

Legendary spy and art restorer Gabriel Allon is in Venice repairing an altarpiece when he receives an urgent summons from the Italian police. the art dealer Julian Isherwood has stumbled upon a murder scene in Lake Como, and is being held as a suspect. to save his friend, Gabriel must perform one simple task: find the most famous missing painting in the world. The dead man is a fallen spy with a secret: he's been trafficking in stolen artworks and selling them to a mysterious collector. Among those paintings is the world's most iconic missing work of art: Caravaggio's Nativity with St. Francis and St. Lawrence. Gabriel embarks on a daring gambit to recover the Caravaggio that will take him on an exhilarating hunt-from Marseilles and Corsica, to Paris and Geneva, and, finally, to a small private bank in Austria, where a dangerous man stands guard over the ill-gotten wealth of one of the world's most brutal dictators...

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### Book 283 – The lizard by Dugald Bruce-Lockhart

Obsessed with his ex-girlfriend, Alistair Haston heads off to Greece, where she is on holiday. Mugged on the harbourside in Paros, he is robbed of everything. So when Ricky a charming Aussie, shows up and offers Alistair a job recruiting tourists to pose for his wealthy boss, Heinrich, a charismatic, German artist, Alistair accepts. He soon realises that it is more than just painting that Heinrich has in mind. Swept away on a tide of wild parties, wild sex, fine food and drugs Haston sheds his reserve and throws himself headlong into the pursuit of pleasure. Until, the body of a missing tourist is found and the finger of blame points to Haston. His world collapses. Arrested but allowed to escape, the body count piles up and Halston finds himself on the run by land and sea on a journey more breathtaking and more frightening than his wildest dreams.

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### Book 284 – The nemesis manifesto by Eric Van Lustbader

Evan Ryder is a lone wolf, a field agent for a black-ops arm of the DOD, who has survived unspeakable tragedy and dedicated her life to protecting her country. When her fellow agents begin to be systematically eliminated, Evan must unravel the thread that ties them all together - and before her name comes up on the kill list. The list belongs to a mysterious cabal known only as Nemesis, a hostile entity hell-bent on tearing the United States apart. As Evan tracks them from Washington D.C. to the Caucasus Mountains, from Austria to a fortress in Germany where her own demons reside, she unearths a network of conspirators far more complex than anyone could have imagined. Can Evan uproot them before Nemesis forces bring democracy to its knees?

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### Book 285 – The cairo brief by Fiona Veitch Smith

Intrepid reporter sleuth Poppy Denby is invited to attend the auction of the Death Mask of Nefertiti. The auction is to be held on the country estate of Sir James Maddox, a famous explorer and Egyptologist. Representatives of the world's leading museums will be bidding on the mask which was found, in Egypt, under murderous circumstances. Poppy and her colleagues from The Daily Globe, who are trying to stay one step ahead of their rivals from The London Courier, dismiss rumours of an ancient curse. But when one of the auction party is murdered, and someone starts stalking Poppy, the race is on to find the killer before 'the curse' can strike again.

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### Book 286 – Something to hide by Fleur McDonald

With the sickening realisation that his cover has been blown, Detective Dave Burrows knows his family is in serious danger from the vicious stock thieves and murderers, Bulldust and his brother Scotty. Bent on revenge, Bulldust and Scotty are hiding out close to Dave and Mel's old home town of Barrabine. When devastating news brings Dave back there, he has to question his determination to stay in the police force. How could he face himself if anything happened to Mel and the kids? Mel, understandably frightened, must decide who she'll listen to. Can she live with this threat hanging over her family, or is her father right to argue that she should leave Dave immediately?

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### Book 287 – Shearer's wife by Fleur McDonald

1980: Rose and Ian Kelly arrive in the small South Australian town of Barker for supplies, before driving a further couple of hundred kilometres to begin shearing at Jacksonville Station. Rose, heavily pregnant with their first babies, worries that despite Ian's impending fatherhood he remains a drifter who dreams of the open road. 2020: When the Australian Federal Police swoop unheralded into Barker and make a shocking arrest for possession of narcotics, Detective Dave Burrows is certain there is more to the story than meets the eye. After many months of grief over her brother's illness and death, journalist Zara Ellison is finally ready to begin a new chapter of her life and make a commitment to her boyfriend, Senior Constable Jack Higgins. But when she's assigned to investigate the Barker arrest, Jack begins to believe that Zara is working against him.

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### Book 288 – The finality problem by G.S. Denning

Warlock Holmes is dealing with a jerk, who just so happens to be a stockbroker. There may be a link. He's also trying to hunt down some tokens to control something magical (it's all rather complicated), and Moriarty just won't stop taking over people's bodies. And of course Dr John Watson is by his side (mostly), but not quite as useful as he once was...

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### Book 289 – Consolation by Garry Disher

Winter in Tiverton. Constable Paul Hirschhausen has a snowdropper on his patch. Someone is stealing women's underwear, and Hirsch knows enough about that kind of crime - how it can escalate - not to take it lightly. But the more immediate concerns are a call from the high school, a teacher worried about a student who may be in danger at home. Another call, a different school: a man enraged about the principal's treatment of his daughter. A little girl in harm's way and an elderly woman in danger. An absent father who isn't where he's supposed to be; another who flees to the back country armed with a rifle. Families under pressure. And the cold, seeping feeling that something is very, very wrong.

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### Book 290 – The crocodile hunter by Gerald Seymour

In the office at MI5, they call Jonas Merrick 'the eternal flame'. It isn't a compliment. It's because he never goes out. He never goes undercover, does surveillance, or goes with the teams that kick down the doors or seize the suspects off the street. He commutes into work, sits at his desk and then he goes home. But Jonas has qualities the others fail to notice: a steely concentration, a ruthless ability to focus and find the enemy hiding in plain sight. Hearing of a British Jihadi returning from Syria with murderous plans, Jonas sends out for a telling photograph: a crocodile, almost submerged, just its eyes above water as it waits for unsuspecting prey to drink at the riverbank. Coming ashore near Dover, Cameron Jilkes is from a broken home and a failed education, trained in the harshest theatre of war, driven to rage by loss and pain. 'The eternal flame' must go out - to hunt the crocodile himself.

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### Book 291 – Fate by Ian Hamilton

Hong Kong, 1969. The Dragon Head of the Fanling Triad has died and there is a struggle to replace him among senior members of the gang. Normally, the Deputy Mountain Master is next in line, but this one is weak and ineffectual and has only survived because of the protection of the Dragon Head. Up to this point, the Fanling Triad has operated in relative isolation from neighbouring gangs, but the Dragon Head's death has drawn attention to the area - and to its wealth. Other gangs start to make threatening moves and it's obvious to the senior members of the Fanling Triad that they need a leader who can fend off the threats, unite the membership, and maintain their prosperity. There are several candidates. The least conspicuous is the White Paper Fan, their young administrator. His name is Chow Tung, but many of those who work with him already refer to him as 'Uncle'.

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### Book 292 – The Frenchman by Jack Beaumont

Alec de Payns is an operative in the secretive Y Division of the DGSE, France's famed foreign intelligence service. He's the agent at the sharp end of clandestine intelligence missions, responsible for thwarting terror plots and disrupting illegal nuclear and biological weapons programs. The element the missions have in common is danger - to de Payns, his team and to those who stand in his way. But increasingly it's not just the enemies of France that are being damaged by de Payns' actions. His own marriage is under strain, and at the back of his mind lurks the fear that haunts every operative with a family - what if they come after my children? When a routine mission in Palermo to disrupt a terrorist organisation goes fatally wrong, Alec is forced to confront that they may have been betrayed by a fellow operative.

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### Book 293 – A spark of light by Jodi Picoult

The warm fall day starts like any other at the Center—a women’s reproductive health services clinic—its staff offering care to anyone who passes through its doors. Then, in late morning, a desperate and distraught gunman bursts in and opens fire, taking all inside hostage. After rushing to the scene, Hugh McElroy, a police hostage negotiator, sets up a perimeter and begins making a plan to communicate with the gunman. As his phone vibrates with incoming text messages he glances at it and, to his horror, finds out that his fifteen-year-old daughter, Wren, is inside the clinic. But Wren is not alone. She will share the next and tensest few hours of her young life with a cast of unforgettable characters: A nurse who calms her own panic in order save the life of a wounded woman. A doctor who does his work not in spite of his faith but because of it, and who will find that faith tested as never before. A pro-life protester disguised as a patient, who now stands in the cross hairs of the same rage she herself has felt. A young woman who has come to terminate her pregnancy. And the disturbed individual himself, vowing to be heard.

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### Book 294 – Play the red queen by Juris Jurjevics

Vietnam, 1963. A female Viet Cong assassin is trawling the boulevards of Saigon, catching US Army officers off-guard with a single pistol shot, then riding off on the back of a scooter. Although the US military is not officially in combat, sixteen thousand American servicemen are stationed in Vietnam 'advising' the military and government. Among them are Ellsworth Miser and Clovis Robeson, two army investigators who have been tasked with tracking down the daring killer.

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### Book 295 – The schoolgirl strangler by Katherine Kovacic

November, 1930. One sunny Saturday afternoon, 12-year-old Mena Griffiths was playing in the park when she was lured away by an unknown man. Hours later, her strangled body was found, mouth gagged and hands crossed over her chest, in an abandoned house. Only months later, another girl was murdered; the similarities between the cases undeniable. Crime in Melbourne had taken a shocking new turn: this was the work of a serial killer, a homicidal maniac. Despite their best efforts, police had no experience dealing with this kind of criminal. What followed was years of bungled investigations, falsely accused men - and the tragic deaths of two more girls - before the murderer was finally caught and brought to justice. Katherine Kovacic recounts this extraordinary, chilling true story - of failed police enquiries, a killer with a Jekyll and Hyde personality, and the families shattered when four innocent lives were taken.

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### Book 296 – The darkness around her by Neil White

When Lizzie Barnsley is murdered along a canal after escaping the clutches of her abusive boyfriend, Dan Grant is called in to represent her alleged killer. Peter Box has confessed to Lizzie's murder, but did he actually do it, or is there some other, darker, force at play? When Dan and his investigator, Jayne Brett, begin to look into the case, they discover a number of canalside murders and disappearances, including the brutal killing of fourteen-year-old Rosie Smith ten years earlier. Rosie's stepfather Sean had been accused, but they discover that somebody else tried to confess - Peter Box. With a client who has a habit of confessing to murder, Dan and Jayne have their work cut out for them, but when it becomes clear that Peter Box can't have been involved with every murder and disappearance along the canal, the two realise that they may have stumbled on to something far more sinister.

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### Book 297 – Hello, shadowlands by Patrick Winn

'Hello, Shadowlands' is the story of Southeast Asia's anarchic enclaves and their hidden connections to the West. There is no better place to observe the clash between old codes and the pressures of the 21st century than on the darker parts of the map, beyond the tourist trail, where armed clans rule. Spanning Thailand's insurgency zone to the swamplands of Vietnam, investigative journalist Patrick Winn spent two years travelling amongst the lives of those bound by hard truths. These are places where, in the absence of law, ordinary people must summon brilliant ingenuity to survive. The book penetrates the worlds of dog thief syndicates, North Korean restaurateurs and others chasing fortunes in the shadows. These characters aren't just tormented by local tyrants. Their lives are also complicated by greater forces - especially Western conglomerates or old U.S. foreign policy misdeeds.

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### Book 298 – The coldest warrior by Paul Vidich

1953. A government scientist, Hank Wilson, dies after falling from the ninth floor of a Washington hotel. 1975. The release of the Rockefeller Commission report on illegal CIA activities suddenly brings the Wilson case back into the headlines; did he fall or was he pushed? Wilson's family are demanding answers, but the White House will do anything to make sure the truth doesn't get out. Jake Newman, soon to retire from the CIA agency, is tasked with uncovering the truth behind Wilson's death, an investigation which rapidly. The closer Newman gets to discovering what really happened that night, the more he risks the lives of those he loves. How many lives is the truth worth?

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### Book 299 – The rhino conspiracy by Peter Hain

In the last decade over 6000 rhinos have been killed in South Africa. Relentless poaching for their horns has led to a catastrophic fall in black rhino numbers. Meanwhile a corrupt South African government turns a blind eye to the international trade in rhino horn. This is the background to Peter Hain's brilliantly pacey and timely thriller. Battling to defend the dwindling rhino population, a veteran freedom fighter is forced to break his lifetime loyalty to the ANC as he confronts corruption at the very highest level. Hell-bent on catching the poachers and exposing their trade, the veteran and his young 'born free' colleague hatch a plan to install a GPS tracking device inside a replica horn in an attempt to locate its destination. The stakes are high. Can the country's ancient rhino herd be saved from extinction by state-sponsored poaching?

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### Book 300 – Stillhouse Lake by Rachel Caine

Gina Royal is the definition of average, a shy Midwestern housewife with a happy marriage and two adorable children. But when a car accident reveals her husband's secret life as a serial killer, she must remake herself as Gwen Proctor, the ultimate warrior mom. With her ex now in prison, Gwen has finally found refuge in a new home on remote Stillhouse Lake. Though still the target of stalkers and Internet trolls who think she had something to do with her husband's crimes, Gwen dares to think her kids can finally grow up in peace. But just when she's starting to feel at ease in her new identity, a body turns up in the lake, and threatening letters start arriving from an all-too-familiar address. Gwen Proctor must keep friends close and enemies at bay to avoid being exposed, or watch her kids fall victim to a killer who takes pleasure in tormenting her. One thing is certain: she's learned how to fight evil. And she'll never stop.

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### Book 301 – Killman Creek by Rachel Caine

Gwen Proctor won the battle to save her kids from her ex-husband, serial killer Melvin Royal, and his league of psychotic accomplices. But the war isn't over. Not since Melvin broke out of prison. Not since she received a chilling text. You're not safe anywhere now. Her refuge at Stillhouse Lake has become a trap. Gwen leaves her children in the protective custody of a fortified, well-armed neighbor. Now, with the help of Sam Cade, brother of one of Melvin's victims, Gwen is going hunting. She's learned how from one of the sickest killers alive. But what she's up against is beyond anything she feared, a sophisticated and savage mind game calculated to destroy her. As trust beyond her small circle of friends begins to vanish, Gwen has only fury and vengeance to believe in as she closes in on her prey. And sure as the night, one of them will die.

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| Book 302 – Bitter Falls by Rachel CaineIn spite of a harrowing past still haunting her, Gwen Proctor is trying to move forward. Until a new assignment gives her purpose: the cold-case disappearance of a young man in Tennessee. Three years missing, no clues. Just Ruth Landry, a tortured mother in limbo. Gwen understands what it’s like to worry about your children. Gwen’s investigation unearths new suspects … and victims. As she follows each sinister lead, the implications of the mystery grow more disturbing. Because the closer Gwen gets, the closer she is to a threat that looms back home. In a town that’s closed its ranks against Gwen; her partner, Sam; and her kids, there’s no bolder enemy than the Belldene family – paramilitary, criminal, powerful, and vengeful. As personal vendettas collide with Gwen’s investigation, she’s prepared to fight both battles. But is she prepared for the toll it could take on everyone she loves?[**https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4667473?format=DAISY\_2\_AUDIO&previous-title=Search**](https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4667473?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search) |

### Book 303 – Finessed a dope boy's heart by Racquel Williams

With a controlling, two-timing husband, Mika buries herself into her career. She soon crosses paths with Jakeel, an ex-con fresh out of prison. The jovial jailbird piques her interest, and Mika soon forgets that there are certain lines you just don't cross. Playing a risky game, she finds herself in a very dangerous situation, playing with two men on opposite sides of the law. Can Mika walk away, or will she make a move that could lead to murder and mayhem in her once quiet life?

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### Book 304 – Monstrous souls by Rebecca Kelly

Over a decade ago, Heidi was the victim of a brutal attack that left her hospitalised, her younger sister missing, and her best friend dead. But Heidi doesn't remember any of that. She's lived her life since then with little memory of her friends and family and no recollection of the crime. Now, it's all starting to come back. As Heidi begins retracing the events that lead to the assault, she is forced to confront the pain and guilt she's long kept buried. But Heidi isn't the only one digging up the past, and the closer she gets to remembering the truth, the more danger she's in. When the truth is worse than fiction, is the past worth reliving?

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### Book 305 – The imitator by Rebecca Starford

Out of place at boarding school, scholarship girl Evelyn Varley realises that the only way for her to fit in is to be like everyone else. She hides her true self and what she really thinks behind the manners and attitudes of those around her. By the time she graduates from Oxford University in 1939, ambitious and brilliant Evelyn has perfected her performance. War is looming. Evelyn soon finds herself recruited to MI5, and the elite counter-intelligence department of Bennett White, the enigmatic spy-runner. Recognising Evelyn's mercurial potential, White schools her in observation and subterfuge and assigns her the dangerous task of infiltrating an underground group of Nazi sympathisers working to form an alliance with Germany. But befriending people to betray them isn't easy, no matter how dark their intent.

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### Book 306 – The virus by Stanley Johnson

When a young woman in New York City dies mysteriously after a trip to Brussels, top epidemiologist Lowell Kaplan identifies the cause of death as the Marburg Virus - a fatal strain that has surfaced only once before in history. Determined to trace the source of the disease, Kaplan follows a trail of intrigue from the labs of Germany to the jungles of Central Africa. With danger nipping at his heels, and the secrets of the virus's origin kept deliberately under wraps, Kaplan must go to unimaginable lengths to stop a deadly scheme.

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### Book 307 – The woman in the library by Sulari Gentill

Four strangers. A quiet library. The perfect place for murder. 'And then there is a scream. Ragged and terrified. A beat of silence even after it stops, until we all seem to realise that the Reading Room Rules no longer apply.' Hannah Tigone, bestselling Australian crime author, is crafting a new novel that begins in the Boston Public Library: four strangers; Winifred, Cain, Marigold and Whit are sitting at the same table when a bloodcurdling scream breaks the silence. A woman has been murdered. They are all suspects, and, as it turns out, each character has their own secrets and motivations - and one of them is a murderer. While crafting this new thriller, Hannah shares each chapter with her biggest fan and aspirational novelist, Leo. But Leo seems to know a lot about violence, motive, and how exactly to kill someone.

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### Book 308 – The hunt for Atlantis by Andy McDermott

Archaeologist Nina Wilde believes she has found the location of the lost city of Atlantis and now she wants the opportunity to prove her theory. With the help of ex-SAS bodyguard Eddie Chase and beautiful heiress Kari Frost, Nina faces a breakneck race against time around the world, pursued at every step by agents of the mysterious and murderous Brotherhood of Selasphoros. From the jungles of Brazil to the mountains of Tibet, from the streets of Manhattan to the depths of the Atlantic Ocean, the hunt for Atlantis leads to a secret hidden for 11,000 years which in the wrong hands could destroy civilization as we know it?...

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### Book 309 – The tomb of Hercules by Andy McDermott

For archaeologist Nina Wilde it's the opportunity of a lifetime. Her studies of an ancient text have convinced her that a tomb containing the remains of legendary warrior Hercules may actually exist. If she can locate it, it will be the most important historical find ever to be unearthed. As Nina and Eddie Chase, her ex-SAS bodyguard, begin their search it's clear that others want to find the tomb. Then Chase's attention is diverted by the reappearance of a face from his past... Nina and Chase are soon following a violent trail of corruption and conspiracy around the globe. From Switzerland to Shanghai, Botswana to London, it's a race against time to find the Tomb of Hercules?

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### Book 310 – A Christmas journey by Anne Perry

It's Christmas and the Berkshire countryside lies wrapped in winter chill. But the well-born guests who have gathered at Applecross for a delicious weekend of innocent intrigue and passionate romance are warmed by roaring fires and candlelight, holly and mistletoe, good wine and gorgeously wrapped gifts. It's scarcely the setting for misfortune, and no one-not even that clever young aristocrat and budding sleuth Vespasia Cumming-Gould-anticipates the tragedy that is to darken this light-hearted holiday house party. But soon one young woman lies dead, a suicide, and another is ostracized, held partly responsible for the shocking turn of events. To expiate her guilt, Gwendolen Kilmuir sets out for the Scottish Highlands, hoping to explain to the dead girl's mother the circumstances surrounding the sorrowful act-and to bring her back to England for the funeral. Gwendolen's sole companion on this nightmarish journey is Vespasia. As Vespasia learns more about the victim and the ugly forces that shaped her desperate deed, she understands the heartbreaking truth of the tragedy.

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### Book 311 – A Christmas guest by Anne Perry

For Grandmama Ellison, Christmas is no reason to celebrate. And when her daughter and son-in-law plan a Christmas vacation to Paris sans hers truly, the cantankerous Grandmama is forced to stay elsewhere-and travels to the chilly, windswept Romney Marshes to spend the holiday with Charlotte Pitt's parents, Caroline and Joshua Fielding. Grandmama is immediately miserable. For starters, Christmas with the Fieldings is nothing like the cultured life to which she's accustomed, and the Romney Marshes are unbearably provincial. When Joshua's cousin Maude Barrington arrives, Grandmama is at her wit's end. Although Maude is well traveled and friendly, Grandmama thinks she's improper and strange. But when Maude is found lifeless in bed, Grandmama senses foul play and takes it upon herself to assume the role of amateur detective-uncovering not only the truth about Maude Barrington but some startling truths about herself as well.

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### Book 312 – A Christmas odyssey by Anne Perry

Henry Rathbone is called by an old friend whose son has gone missing just before the Christmas holiday. Now in his early twenties, Lucien has known trouble for some time and has often fallen victim to the vices of drugs, alcohol, and women. His father now fears the worst. Their old friend, Squeaky Robinson, volunteers to help as well. Henry agrees and, joined by Crow, a young doctor at the clinic, the pair trawls the pubs, brothels, and opium dens of the West End in search of clues.

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### Book 313 – A Christmas homecoming by Anne Perry

Charlotte Pitt's mother, Caroline - travels with her young husband, Joshua Fielding, and his theatrical troupe to Whitby, the Yorkshire fishing village where Dracula the vampire first touched English soil in the sensational novel named after him. Joshua has arranged to produce a stage adaptation of Dracula by the daughter of Whitby millionaire Charles Netheridge during the Christmas holiday, but after the disastrous first read-through of her amateurish script, only the fact that the company is depending on Netheridge's financial backing for their spring tour keeps them at work. As tempers flare and wind and snow swirl around Netheridge's lonely hilltop mansion, a black-cloaked stranger emerges from the storm - an eerily opportune arrival, for this enigmatic figure, one Anton Ballin, turns out to be a theatrical genius. At the same time, a brooding evil makes itself felt. Instead of the theatrical triumph that Netheridge desired for his daughter, there is murder - shocking and terrifying.

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### Book 314 – The borrowed by Chan Ho-Kei

A deductive powerhouse, detective Kwan Chun-dok becomes a legend in the Hong Kong Police Force, nicknamed “the Eye of Heaven” by his awe-struck colleagues. Divided into six sections told in reverse chronological order—each of which covers an important case in Kwan’s career and takes place at a pivotal moment in Hong Kong history—The Borrowed follows Kwan from his experiences during the Leftist riot in 1967, when a bombing plot threatens many lives; the conflict between the Hong Kong police and Independent Commission against Corruption in 1977; and the Tiananmen Square Massacre in 1989 to the Handover in 1997 and the present day of 2013, when Kwan is called on to solve his final case, the murder of a local billionaire. Along the way we meet Communist rioters, ultraviolent gangsters, stallholders at the city’s many covered markets, pop singers enmeshed in the high-stakes machinery of star-making, and a people always caught in the shifting balance of political power, whether in London or Beijing—all coalescing into a dynamic portrait of this fascinating city.

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### Book 315 – Lucifer falls by Colin Falconer

When a priest is found crucified in a derelict North London chapel, it makes a dramatic change for DI Charlie George and his squad at Essex Road. The brutal murder could not be further from their routine of domestic violence and stabbings on the estates. And that's only the beginning... On Christmas Eve, a police officer goes missing, and his colleagues can't help but anticipate the worst. It turns out they're right to, when eventually the body is found and they discover he's been stoned to death. As tensions rise, it's up to Charlie and his team to venture into the city's cold underbelly to try and find an answer to the madness... before anyone else dies a martyr's death.

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### Book 316 – Innocence dies by Colin Falconer

When a schoolgirl is found dead in a North London park, DI Charlie George is not short of suspects. Is it her stepfather? Is it a sex crime? Is it race-related? Charlie finally thinks he has it sorted, with his killer bang to rights; all he has to do is prove it. But when the prime suspect's lawyer gets him free on a technicality, the line of investigation soon becomes murky as the more Charlie finds, the deeper he is drawn into a web of deadly secrets. And that's just the start of his troubles. Soon Charlie finds himself in an interrogation room, staring across the desk at true evil and wondering where it comes from. He's been a cop all his life; he thought he'd seen everything. But Charlie soon realises he hasn't seen anything yet..

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### Book 317 – Angels weep by Colin Falconer

Two women are snatched off the streets of London in one weekend. DI Charlie George and his team get to work. The lives of these young women - one of them a mother - are on the line, and the clock is ticking. When they catch a lucky break from a CCTV camera, Charlie is sure they have their man. And that's when he gets his first surprise. Because nothing about this case is simple and not everyone is quite what they seem. Charlie's job is to find the missing women and get to the truth. But some people would rather the truth stays hidden - even when the bodies start to pile up.

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### Book 318 – Cry justice by Colin Falconer

There's the law. Or there's justice. Most acts of violence are pretty random. But murdering someone and impaling their head on the railing outside the Royal Courts of Justice... that takes planning. And when the pathologist finds a page from a book rammed down the dead man's throat, DI Charlie George thinks it's safe to assume that someone, somewhere, wants to send a message. But people who have the resources to plan a murder like that also have the smarts not to get caught. Whoever the killer is, Charlie doesn't think they've finished handing out their version of justice just yet. He only wishes he could summon the enthusiasm to stop them. Because sometimes people really do get what's coming to them.And Charlie and his team are left wondering: which side of the law is justice REALLY on?

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### Book 319 – Mercy by David Baldacci

For her entire life, FBI agent Atlee Pine has been searching for her twin sister, Mercy, who was abducted at the age of six and never seen again. Mercy’s disappearance left behind a damaged family that later shattered beyond repair when Atlee’s parents inexplicably abandoned her. Now, after a perilous investigation that nearly proved fatal, Atlee has finally discovered not only the reason behind her parents’ abandonment and Mercy’s kidnapping, but also the most promising breakthrough yet: proof that Mercy survived her abduction and then escaped her captors many years ago. Though Atlee is tantalizingly close to her family at last, the final leg of her long road to Mercy will be the most treacherous yet. Mercy left at least one dead body behind before fleeing her captors years before. Atlee has no idea if her sister is still alive, and if so, how she has been surviving all this time. When the truth is finally revealed, Atlee Pine will face the greatest danger yet, and it may well cost her everything.

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### Book 320 – Bye bye baby by Fiona McIntosh

A spate of seemingly unconnected murders in southern England prompt a high-profile taskforce to be formed and led by DCI Jack Hawksworth, one of the Force's new rising stars who combines modern methods with old-school instincts. The victims appear as disparate as their style of death; the only link that Hawk and his team can pull together is that the murdered are all men of an identical age. The taskforce has nothing but cold cases of decades past to comb through in the hope that they might find a clue to who is behind the savagery.

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| Book 321 – Beautiful death by Fiona McIntoshA gruesome case just got personal. DCI Jack Hawksworth is back, working on a high-profile case breaking in London. A calculating serial killer is on the loose, committing the most gruesome of murders as he 'trophies' the faces of his victims. With each new atrocity, the public and police force are getting more desperate for results. Hawk pulls together a strong and experienced taskforce, who soon find themselves caught up in a murky world of illegal immigrants and human organ trading. As he struggles to find any sort of link between the victims, Jack identifies something unique about the most recent corpse, and things suddenly get very personal.[**https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4727118?format=DAISY\_2\_AUDIO&previous-title=Search**](https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4727118?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search) |

### Book 322 – Mirror man by Fiona McIntosh

On the streets of England, a hunter is on the loose. 'There is a connection, Jack. Find it, or you'll never find him.' Police are baffled by several deaths, each unique and bizarre in their own way, and shockingly brutal. Scotland Yard sends in its crack DCI, the enigmatic Jack Hawksworth, who wastes no time in setting up Operation Mirror. His chief wants him to dismiss any plausibility of a serial killer before the media gets on the trail. With his best investigative team around him, Jack resorts to some unconventional methods to disprove or find a link to the gruesome deaths. One involves a notorious serial killer from his past, and the other, a smart and seductive young journalist who'll do anything to catch her big break. Discovering he's following the footsteps of a vigilante and in a race against time, Jack will do everything it takes to stop another killing, but at what personal cost for those he holds nearest and dearest?

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### Book 323 – Deadly cross by James Patterson

Kay Willingham led a life as glamorous as it was public — she was a gorgeous Georgetown socialite, philanthropist, and the ex-wife of the vice-president. So why was she parked in a Bentley convertible idling behind a DC private school, in the middle of the night, with the man who was the head of that school? Who shot them both, point blank, and why? The shocking double homicide is blazed across the internet, TV, newspapers — and across Alex Cross’ mind. Kay had been his patient once. And maybe more. Alex Cross and FBI Special Agent Ned Mahoney travel to Alabama to investigate Kay’s early years. There they find a world of trouble, corruption, and secrets, all of them closed to outsiders like Cross and Mahoney. Kay had many enemies, but all of them seemed to need her alive. The harder the investigators push, the more resistance they find when they leave behind the polite law offices and doctors’ quarters of the state capital. Alex Cross will need to use all his skills as a doctor, a detective, and a family man to prevent that resistance from turning lethal…again.

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### Book 324 – Fear no evil by James Patterson

Dr. Alex Cross and Detective John Sampson venture into the rugged Montana wilderness—where they will be the prey. They’re not on the job, but on a personal mission. Until they’re attacked by two rival teams of assassins, controlled by the same mastermind who has stalked Alex and his family for years. Darkness falls. The river churns into rapids. Shots ring out through the forest. No backup. No way out. Fear no evil.

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### Book 325 – The inn by James Patterson and Candice Fox

The Inn at Gloucester stands alone on the rocky shoreline. Its seclusion suits former Boston police detective Bill Robinson, novice owner and innkeeper. As long as the dozen residents pay their rent, Robinson doesn't ask any questions. Neither does Sheriff Clayton Spears, who lives on the second floor. Then Mitchell Cline arrives, with a deadly new way of doing business. His crew of local killers break laws, deal drugs, and bring violence to the doors of the Inn. That's when Robinson realizes, with the help of journalist Susan Solie, that leaving the city is no escape from the reality of evil or the responsibility for action. Teaming up with Sheriff Spears and two fearless residents Army veteran Nick Jones and groundskeeper Effie Johnson Robinson begins a risky defense. The solitary inhabitants of the Inn will have to learn, before time runs out, that their only choice is between standing together or dying alone.

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### Book 326 – The nameless ones by John Connolly

In Amsterdam, four people are butchered in a canal house, their remains arranged around the crucified form of their patriarch, De Jaager: fixer, go-between, and confidante of the assassin named Louis. The men responsible for the murders are Serbian war criminals. They believe they can escape retribution by retreating to their homeland. They are wrong. For Louis has come to Europe to hunt them down: five killers to be found and punished before they can vanish into the east. There is only one problem. The sixth.

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### Book 327 – The silent listener by Lyn Yeowart

In the cold, wet summer of 1960, 11-year-old Joy Henderson lives in constant fear of her father. She tries to make him happy but, as he keeps reminding her, she is nothing but a filthy sinner destined for Hell ... Yet, decades later, she returns to the family’s farm to nurse him on his death bed. To her surprise, her ‘perfect’ sister Ruth is also there, whispering dark words, urging revenge. Then the day after their father finally confesses to a despicable crime, Joy finds him dead – with a belt pulled tight around his neck ... For Senior Constable Alex Shepherd, investigating George’s murder revives memories of an unsolved case still haunting him since that strange summer of 1960: the disappearance of nine-year-old Wendy Boscombe. As seemingly impossible facts surface about the Hendersons – from the past and the present – Shepherd suspects that Joy is pulling him into an intricate web of lies and that Wendy’s disappearance is the key to the bizarre truth.

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### Book 328 – Cutter’s end by Margaret Hickey

New Year’s Eve, 1989. Eighteen-year-old Ingrid Mathers is hitchhiking her way to Alice Springs. Bored, hungover and separated from her friend Joanne, she accepts a lift to the remote town of Cutters End. July 2021. Detective Sergeant Mark Ariti is seconded to a recently reopened case, one in which he has a personal connection. Three decades ago, a burnt and broken body was discovered in scrub off the Stuart Highway, 300km south of Cutters End. Though ultimately ruled an accidental death, many people – including a high-profile celebrity – are convinced it was murder. When Mark’s interviews with the witnesses in the old case files go nowhere, he has no choice but to make the long journey up the highway to Cutters End. And with the help of local Senior Constable Jagdeep Kaur, he soon learns that this death isn’t the only unsolved case that hangs over the town.

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### Book 329 – Nancy business by R.W.R. McDonald

It's been four months since Tippy, Uncle Pike and Devon were together for Christmas. Now back for the first anniversary of Tippy's father's death, the Nancys are reformed when Riverstone is rocked by an early morning explosion that kills three people and destroys the town hall. A new case is born, and once again, it is up to the Nancys to go against the flow and ignore police orders to get to the truth. It's great to be back in Nancy business, but this time it's all different. Uncle Pike and Devon can't agree on anything, and Tippy is learning hard truths about the world and the people she loves the most. Can the Nancys stay together to do their best work and save the town?

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### Book 330 – Free fall by Robert Crais

Elvis Cole is just a detective who can't say no, especially to a girl in a terrible fix. And Jennifer Sheridan qualifies. Her fiance, Mark Thurman, is a decorated LA cop with an elite plainclothes unit, but Jennifer is sure he's in trouble the kind of serious trouble that only Cole can get him out of. Five minutes after his new client leaves the office, Cole and his partner, the enigmatic Joe Pike, are hip deep in a deadly situation as they plummet into a world of South Central gangs, corrupt cops and conspiracies of silence. And before long, every cop in the LAPD is gunning for a pair of armed and dangerous killers Cole and Pike.

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| Book 331 – The first rule by Robert CraisThe organized criminal gangs of the former Soviet Union are bound by what they call the thieves' code. The first rule is this: A thief must forsake his mother, father, brothers, and sisters. He must have no family-no wife, no children. We are his family. If any of the rules are broken, it is punishable by death. Frank Meyer had the American dream-until the day a professional crew invaded his home and murdered everyone inside. The only thing out of the ordinary about Meyer was that-before the family and the business and the normal life-a younger Frank Meyer had worked as a professional mercenary, with a man named Joe Pike. The police think Meyer was hiding something very bad, but Pike does not. With the help of Elvis Cole, he sets out on a hunt of his own-an investigation that quickly entangles them both in a web of ancient grudges, blood ties, blackmail, vengeance, double crosses, and cutthroat criminality, and at the heart of it, an act so terrible even Pike and Cole have no way to measure it. Sometimes, the past is never dead. It's not even past.[**https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4727121?format=DAISY\_2\_AUDIO&previous-title=Search**](https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4727121?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search) |

### Book 332 – Taken by Robert Crais

When the police tell a wealthy industrialist that her missing son has faked his own kidnapping, she hires Elvis Cole and Joe Pike - and Cole soon determines that it was no fake. The boy and his secret girlfriend have been taken, and are now lost in the gray and changing world of the professional border kidnappers, who prey not only on innocent victims but also on one another- buying, selling, and stealing victims like commodities.Fortunately, the kidnappers don't yet know who the boy is, but when Cole goes undercover to try to buy the two of them back, he himself is taken, and disappears. Now it is up to Pike to retrace Cole's steps, burning through the hard and murderous world of human traffickers... before it is too late.

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### Book 333 – The promise by Robert Crais

Elvis Cole and Joe Pike keep their promises. Even if it could get them killed... Cole is hired to find a woman who’s disappeared, a seemingly ordinary case, until he learns the missing woman is an explosives expert and worked for a Defense Department contractor. Meanwhile, LAPD K-9 Officer Scott James and his patrol dog, Maggie, track a fugitive to a house filled with explosives—and a dead body. As the two cases intertwine, they all find themselves up against shadowy arms dealers and corrupt officials, and the very woman they promised to save may be the cause of their own deaths.

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### Book 334 – Prisoner by S.R. White

When a man is found savagely 'crucified' amidst a murky swamp in northern Australia, detective Dana Russo and her team are called to a shocking scene. The victim is a convicted rapist, just released from prison, who years earlier committed an atrocious crime yards from where he was killed. Who murdered him - and why? With several potential leads, the investigation quickly becomes more complex, and sinister, than anyone imagined. And Dana realises she'll have to confront her own troubled past to understand the true motives of the killer...

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### Book 335 – Wake by Shelley Burr

The small town of Nannine lies in the harsh red interior of New South Wales. Once a thriving outback centre, years of punishing drought have whittled it down to no more than a couple of pubs and a police station. And its one sinister claim to fame: the still-unsolved disappearance of Evelyn McCreery nineteen years ago from the bedroom she shared with her twin sister.Mina McCreery's life has been defined by the intense and ongoing public interest in her sister's case. Now an anxious and reclusive adult, Mina lives alone on her family's sunbaked destocked sheep farm. The million-dollar reward her mother established to solve the disappearance has never been paid out.Enter Lane Holland, a private investigator who dropped out of the police academy to earn a living cracking cold cases. Lane has his eye on the unclaimed money, but he also has darker motivations for wanting to solve the case...

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### Book 336 – Slow burn by Stephen Leather

There are thousands of jihadi brides in refugee camps in the Middle East. Spider Shepherd is about to be sent on an extraordinary mission. There he will have to decide which of the women he meets are a threat, and which of them have useful information. But there is one bride he must take back to the UK whatever her circumstances. She is the wife of a notorious ISIS bombmaker, Salam Jaraf. The bombmaker will only tell MI5 what he knows if his wife and son are brought to him. But it soon becomes obvious that hostile forces are following Spider and Mrs Jaraf across Turkey.

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### Book 337 – Russian roulette by Stephen Leather

Russian troops are preparing to cross the border into Belarus, threatening its independence. The only thing facing them are an armed partisan group but they are poorly trained and will be no match for the Russians. The British Government wants an independent Belarus as a buffer against Russian expansion - so Shepherd is despatched with a crack SAS team to help the partisans. And as the Russians prepare to attack Belarus, assassins are at work, carrying out an audacious series of killings. All the victims are supporters of Boris Yeltsin, the first President of Russia. Someone wants President Yeltsin dead. And it's up to Shepherd and his team to ensure that doesn't happen.

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### Book 338 - The Mephisto Club by Tess Gerritsen

PECCAVI: The Latin is scrawled in blood at the scene of a young woman's brutal murder: I HAVE SINNED. It's a chilling Christmas greeting for Boston medical examiner Maura Isles and Detective Jane Rizzoli, who swiftly link the victim to controversial celebrity psychiatrist Joyce O'Donnell - Jane's professional nemesis and member of a sinister cabal called the Mephisto Club. On Beacon Hill, the club's acolytes devote themselves to the analysis of evil: Can it be explained by science? Does it have a physical presence? Do demons walk the earth? Drawing on a wealth of dark historical data and mysterious religious symbolism, the Mephisto scholars aim to prove a startling theory: that Satan himself exists among us. With the grisly appearance of a corpse on their doorstep, it's clear that someone - or something - is indeed prowling the city. Soon, the members of the club begin to fear the very subject of their study. Could this maniacal killer be one of their own - or have they inadvertently summoned an evil entity from the darkness? Delving deep into the most baffling and unusual case of their careers, Maura and Jane embark on a terrifying journey to the very heart of evil, where they encounter a malevolent foe more dangerous than any they have ever faced . . . one whose work is only just beginning.

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### Book 339 - The keepsake by Tess Gerritsen

For untold years, the perfectly preserved mummy had lain forgotten in the dusty basement of Boston's Crispin Museum. Now its sudden rediscovery by museum staff is both a major coup and an attention-grabbing mystery. Dubbed 'Madam X,' the mummy'"to all appearances, an ancient Egyptian artifact'"seems a ghoulish godsend for the financially struggling institution. But medical examiner Maura Isles soon discovers a macabre message hidden within the corpse'"horrifying proof that this 'centuries-old' relic is instead a modern-day murder victim. To Maura and Boston homicide detective Jane Rizzoli, the forensic evidence is unmistakable, its implications terrifying. And when the grisly remains of yet another woman are found in the hidden recesses of the museum, it becomes chillingly clear that a maniac is at large'"and is now taunting them. Archaeologist Josephine Pulcillo's blood runs cold when the killer's cryptic missives are discovered, and her darkest dread becomes real when the carefully preserved corpse of yet a third victim is left in her car like a gruesome offering'"or perhaps a ghastly promise of what's to come.

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### Book 340 – Ice cold by Tess Gerritsen

In Wyoming for a medical conference, Boston medical examiner Maura Isles joins a group of friends on a spur-of-the-moment ski trip. But when their SUV stalls on a snow-choked mountain road, they're stranded with no help in sight. As night falls, the group seeks refuge from the blizzard in the remote village of Kingdom Come, where twelve eerily identical houses stand dark and abandoned. Something terrible has happened in Kingdom Come: Meals sit untouched on tables, cars are still parked in garages. The town's previous residents seem to have vanished into thin air, but footprints in the snow betray the presence of someone who still lurks in the cold darkness - someone who is watching Maura and her friends. Days later, Boston homicide detective Jane Rizzoli receives the grim news that Maura's charred body has been found in a mountain ravine. Shocked and grieving, Jane is determined to learn what happened to her friend. The investigation plunges Jane into the twisted history of Kingdom Come, where a gruesome discovery lies buried beneath the snow. As horrifying revelations come to light, Jane closes in on an enemy both powerful and merciless - and the chilling truth about Maura's fate.

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### Book 341 - The silent girl by Tess Gerritsen

When a severed hand, clutching a gun, is found in a Chinatown alley in downtown Boston, detective Jane Rizzoli climbs to the adjacent roof-top and finds the hand's owner: a red-haired woman whose throat has been slashed so deeply the head is nearly severed. She is dressed all in black, and the only clues to her identity are a throwaway cell phone and a scrawled address of a long-shuttered restaurant. With its wary immigrant population, Chinatown is a closed neighbourhood of long-held secrets - and nowhere is this more obvious than when Jane meets Iris Fang. Strikingly beautiful, her long black hair streaked with grey, she is a renowned martial arts master. Yet, despite being skilled in swordplay, neither she nor her strangely aloof daughter, Willow, will admit any knowledge of the rooftop murder. And pathologist Dr Maura Isles has determined that the murder weapon was a sword crafted of ancient metal from China. It soon becomes clear that an ancient evil is stirring in Chinatown - an evil that has killed before, and will kill again - unless Jane and Iris can join forces, and defeat it ...

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### Book 342 – Last to die by Tess Gerritsen

For the second time in his short life, Teddy Clock has survived a massacre. Two years ago, he barely escaped when his entire family was slaughtered. Now, at fourteen, in a hideous echo of the past, Teddy is the lone survivor of his foster family's mass murder. Orphaned once more, the traumatized teenager has nowhere to turn - until the Boston PD puts detective Jane Rizzoli on the case. But no sooner does her investigation begin than Teddy's life almost ends . . . again. Suddenly, what seemed like a grisly coincidence is unmasked as the mission of a relentless killer. Jane spirits Teddy to the exclusive Evensong boarding school, a sanctuary where young victims of violent crime learn the secrets and skills of survival in a dangerous world. But even behind locked gates, and surrounded by acres of sheltering Maine wilderness, Jane fears that Evensong's mysterious benefactors aren't the only ones watching. When strange blood-splattered dolls are found dangling from a tree, Jane knows that her instincts are dead on. And when she meets Will Kennedy and Claire Ward, students whose tragic pasts bear a shocking resemblance to Teddy's, it becomes chillingly clear that a circling predator has more than one victim in mind...

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### Book 343 – Die again by Tess Gerritsen

THE VICTIMS: In Boston, Detective Jane Rizzoli and Forensic Pathologist Maura Isles investigate a bizarre murder. A man has been found gutted and hanging in his home. When the remains of another victim are found, it is clear that this murderer has been at work for years, and not just in Boston. THE KILLER: Five years ago, a group of travellers set off on an African safari. None of them was seen again - apart from one woman who stumbled out of the bush weeks later, barely alive. The only woman to have seen the killer's face. THE SURVIVOR: Has the 'safari killer' resurfaced in Boston? Jane is sent to Africa to find the one link between the two cases - the only survivor. And convince her to face death once again...

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### Book 344 – I know a secret by Tess Gerritsen

Two separate homicides, at different locations, with unrelated victims, have more in common than just being investigated by Boston PD detective Jane Rizzoli and medical examiner Maura Isles. In both cases, the bodies bear startling wounds—yet the actual cause of death is unknown. It’s a doubly challenging case for the cop and the coroner to be taking on, at a fraught time for both of them. As Jane struggles to save her mother from the crumbling marriage that threatens to bury her, Maura grapples with the imminent death of her own mother — infamous serial killer Amalthea Lank. While Jane tends to her mother, there’s nothing Maura can do for Amalthea, except endure one final battle of wills with the woman whose shadow has haunted her all her life. Though succumbing to cancer, Amalthea hasn’t lost her taste for manipulating her estranged daughter—this time by dangling a cryptic clue about the two bizarre murders Maura and Jane are desperately trying to solve.

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### **Book 345 - The joy and light bus company by Alexander** McCall Smith

Mma Ramotswe knows she is very lucky indeed. She has a loving family, good friends and a thriving business doing what she enjoys most – helping people. But the latest mystery she is called upon to solve is distinctly trickier than it initially appears, and, of course, there's plenty to handle in her personal life between Charlie and his new bride and Mma Makutsi and her talking shoes. In the end, Mma Ramotswe's patience and common-sense will win out, and, without a doubt, all will be the better for it.

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### Book 346 - Dangerous to know by Anne Buist

Natalie King is back. Her reluctance to live a quiet life has led to severe depression, and now it's time to retreat to the country; a borrowed house on the Great Ocean Road and a low-key research job at a provincial university. But Natalie and trouble have a mutual attraction. Unsurprisingly, Natalie finds herself drawn deep into a local mystery, and even deeper into danger.

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### Book 347 – When we fall by Aoife Clifford

In the wild, coastal town of Merritt, Alex Tillerson and her mother make a shocking find on the beach. The police claim it's an accidental death but there are whispers of murder and that it is not the first. Bella Greggs was found dead at the bottom of a ravine but drowned in salt water. Maxine McFarlane was pulled from the ocean but with no water in her lungs. Black feathers were found with both bodies but what do they mean? As Alex fights for answers to honour the dead, and to discover why her mother fled town as a teenager, good people keep looking the other way, memories become unreliable and secrets threaten to reveal the past. Alex discovers the truth never dies but it can kill.

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### Book 348 – The detachment by Barry Eisler

John Rain is back, and up against the nexus of political, military, media, and corporate factions known only as the Oligarchy. But the opposition on this job is going to be too much for even Rain to pull it off alone. He'll need a detachment of other deniable irregulars. His partner, the former Marine sniper, Dox. Ben Treven, a covert operator with ambivalent motives and conflicted loyalties. And Larison, a man with a hair trigger and a secret he'll kill to protect.

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### Book 349 - A graveyard of memories by Barry Eisler

What makes a legendary assassin? For John Rain, it was the lessons of love, war, and betrayal he learned in Tokyo in 1972. Fresh from the killing fields of Southeast Asia, Rain works as a bagman under the watchful eye of his CIA handler, delivering cash to corrupt elements of the Japanese government. But when a delivery goes violently wrong, Rain finds himself in the crosshairs of Japan's most powerful yakuza clan. To survive, Rain strikes a desperate deal with his handler: take out a high-profile target in the Japanese government in exchange for the intel he needs to eliminate his would-be executioners. As Rain plays cat and mouse with the yakuza and struggles to learn his new role as contract killer, he also becomes entangled with Sayaka, a tough, beautiful ethnic Korean woman confined to a wheelchair. But the demands of his dark work are at odds with the longings of his heart?and with Sayaka's life in the balance, Rain will have to make a terrible choice.

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### Book 350 - Zero sum by Barry Eisler

Returning to Tokyo in 1982 after a decade of mercenary work in the Philippines, a young John Rain learns that the killing business is now controlled by Victor, a half-Russian, half-Japanese sociopath who has ruthlessly eliminated all potential challengers. Victor gives Rain a choice: kill a government minister or die a grisly death. But the best route to the minister is through his gorgeous Italian wife, Maria, a route that puts Rain on a collision course not only with Victor but with the shadowy forces behind the Russian's rise to dominance-and the longings of Rain's own conflicted heart. It's a battle between kingpin and newcomer, master and apprentice, a zero-sum contest that can only end with one man dead and the other the world's foremost assassin.

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### Book 351 - The chaos kind by Barry Eisler

Assistant US Attorney Alondra Diaz hates traffickers. And she’s determined to put one of America’s most powerful financiers, Andrew Schrader, in prison forever for his crimes against children. But Schrader has videos implicating some of the most powerful members of the US national security state. To eliminate Diaz, the powers that be bring in a contractor – Marvin Manus, an implacable assassin whose skills have been forged in intelligence, the military and the hardest prisons. Enter former Marine sniper Dox and black-ops veteran Daniel Larison with an unusual assignment: not to kill Diaz, but to keep her alive. A lot of players are determined to acquire the videos and the blackmail power they represent. But with Seattle sex-crimes detective Livia Lone, 'natural causes' killer John Rain and ex-Mossad honey-trap specialist Delilah, the good guys might just have a chance. They’re not going to play by anyone else’s rules. They’re not going to play by any rules at all. They want a different kind of fight. The chaos kind.

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### Book 352 - Livia Lone by Barry Eisler

Seattle PD sex-crimes detective Livia Lone knows the monsters she hunts. Sold by her Thai parents along with her little sister, Nason; marooned in America; abused by the men who trafficked them, the only thing that kept Livia alive as a teenager was her determination to find Nason. Livia has never stopped looking. And she copes with her failure to protect her sister by doing everything she can to put predators in prison. Or, when that fails, by putting them in the ground. But when a fresh lead offers new hope of finding Nason and the men who trafficked them both, Livia will have to go beyond just being a cop. Beyond even being a vigilante. She'll have to relive the horrors of the past. Take on one of the most powerful men in the US government. And uncover a conspiracy of almost unimaginable evil. In every way, it's an unfair fight. But Livia has two advantages: her unending love for Nason, and a lifelong lust for vengeance.

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### Book 353 - The night trade by Barry Eisler

Livia Lone is back with a vengeance. For sex-crimes detective Livia Lone, a position with a government anti-trafficking task force is a chance to go back to Thailand to ferret out Rithisak Sorm, the trafficking kingpin behind her own childhood ordeal. But after a planned takedown in a nightclub goes violently awry, Livia discovers that she's not the only one hunting Sorm. Former Marine sniper Dox has a score to settle, too, and working together is the only way to take Sorm out. Livia and Dox couldn't be less alike. But they share a single-minded creed: the law has to serve justice. And if it doesn't, justice has to be served another way. What they don't know is that in threatening Sorm, they're also threatening a far-reaching conspiracy-one involving the highest levels of America's own intelligence apparatus. It turns out that killing Sorm just might be the easy part. The real challenge will be payback from his protectors.

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### Book 354 - The Khmer kill by Barry Eisler

A Dox short story. For former Marine sniper Dox, a long-range hit in Cambodia was supposed to be just business as usual. But when you find yourself mixed up with rogue intelligence operations, gorgeous bar girls, and the world's worst human-trafficking heart of darkness, business is anything but usual. And making it personal is the most dangerous business of all.

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### Book 355 - The god’s eye view by Barry Eisler

NSA director Theodore Anders has a simple goal: collect every phone call, email, and keystroke tapped on the Internet. He knows unlimited surveillance is the only way to keep America safe. Evelyn Gallagher doesn't care much about any of that. She just wants to keep her head down and manage the NSA's camera network and facial recognition program so she can afford private school for her deaf son, Dash. But when Evelyn discovers the existence of a program code-named God's Eye and connects it with the mysterious deaths of a string of journalists and whistle-blowers, her doubts put her and Dash in the crosshairs of a pair of government assassins: Delgado, a sadistic bomb maker and hacker, and Manus, a damaged giant of a man who until now has cared for nothing beyond protecting the director. Within an elaborate game of political blackmail, terrorist provocations, and White House scheming, a global war is being fought, a war between those desperate to keep the state's darkest secrets and those intent on revealing them. A war that Evelyn will need all her espionage training and savvy to survive, because the director has the ultimate advantage: The God's Eye View.

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### Book 356 - The Russian wife by Barry Maitland

When the Russian wife of the owner of one of the most valuable private collections of modern art in the UK is found dead, Detective Chief Inspector David Brock is drawn into the world of art forgery and fraud. From the dealers and galleries of London’s West End, his investigations take him to Hanover, Miami and New York. Meanwhile, his old colleague DCI Kathy Kolla, who now leads one of the Metropolitan Police Murder Investigation teams, finds herself at the wrong end of a corruption charge. With her whole career in the balance, she will do almost anything to clear her name.

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### Book 357 - Treasure and dirt by Chris Hammer

In the desolate outback town of Finnigans Gap, police struggle to maintain law and order. Thieves pillage opal mines, religious fanatics recruit vulnerable young people and billionaires do as they please. Then an opal miner is found crucified and left to rot down his mine. Nothing about the miner's death is straightforward, not even who found the body. Sydney homicide detective Ivan Lucic is sent to investigate, assisted by inexperienced young investigator Nell Buchanan. But Finnigans Gap has already ended one police career and damaged others, and soon both officers face damning allegations and internal investigations. Have Ivan and Nell been set up and, if so, by whom? As time runs out, their only chance at redemption is to find the killer. But the more secrets they uncover, the more harrowing the mystery becomes, as events from years ago take on a startling new significance.

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### Book 358 - A serpent’s tooth by Craig Johnson

It's homecoming in Absaroka County, but the football and festivities are interrupted when a homeless boy wanders into town. A Mormon 'lost boy,' Cord Lynear is searching for his missing mother but clues are scarce. Longmire and his companions, feisty deputy Victoria Moretti and longtime friend Henry Standing Bear, embark on a high plains scavenger hunt in hopes of reuniting mother and son. The trail leads them to an interstate polygamy group that' s presiding over a stockpile of weapons and harboring a vicious vendetta.

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### Book 359 - Killers of the flower moon by David Grann

In the 1920s, the richest people per capita in the world were members of the Osage Indian Nation in Oklahoma. After oil was discovered beneath their land, the Osage rode in chauffeured automobiles, built mansions, and sent their children to study in Europe. Then, one by one, they began to be killed off. One Osage woman, Mollie Burkhart, watched as her family was murdered. David Grann revisits a shocking series of crimes in which dozens of people were murdered in cold blood. The book is a masterpiece of narrative nonfiction, as each step in the investigation reveals a series of sinister secrets and reversals. But more than that, it is a searing indictment of the callousness and prejudice toward Native Americans that allowed the murderers to operate with impunity for so long.

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### Book 360 - The good turn by Dervla McTiernan

Police corruption, an investigation that ends in tragedy and the mystery of a little girl's silence - three unconnected things that will prove to be linked by one small town. While Detective Cormac Reilly faces enemies at work and trouble in his personal life, Garda Peter Fisher is relocated out of Galway with the threat of prosecution hanging over his head. But even that is not as terrible as having to work for his overbearing father, the local copper for the pretty seaside town of Roundstone. For some, like Anna and her young daughter Tilly, Roundstone is a refuge from trauma. But even this village on the edge of the sea isn't far enough to escape from the shadows of evil men.

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### Book 361 - Speed chronicles edited by Joseph Mattson

Deprived of the ingrained romantic mysticism of the opiate or the cosmopolitan chic of cocaine or the mundane tolerance of marijuana, there is no sympathy for this devil. Yet speed—crystal meth, amphetamines, Dexedrine, Benzedrine, Adderall; crank, spizz, chickenscratch, oblivious marching powder, the go-fast—is the most American of drugs: twice the productivity at half the cost, and equal opportunity for all. It feels so good and hurts so bad. The first contemporary collection of all new literary short fiction on the drug from an array of today's most compelling and respected authors. These are no stereotypical tales of tweakers - the element of crime and the bleary-eyed, shaky zombies at dawn are here right alongside heart-wrenching narratives of everyday people, good intentions gone terribly awry, the skewed American Dream going up in flames, and even some accounts of pure joy.

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### Book 362 - The inheritance by Gabriel Bergmoser

A young woman is hiding out in a sleepy North Queensland tourist town, trying to stay under the radar, when she stumbles across a dangerous drug cartel. Anyone else might back away and keep quiet, even though people are getting hurt. But Maggie is no ordinary girl. She's got skills, as well as plenty of secrets to keep, burdens to carry – and anger to burn. When circumstances mean that she has to get out of town – fast – she heads towards Melbourne, where she just might find the answers that she needs – about her family and who she really is. With a bent cop for a dubious ally, the police tracking her and furious bikies on her trail, Maggie is in deep trouble. She's only got her ingenuity and wits on her side – and a determination not to inherit the sins of her father.

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### Book 363 – Home by Harlan Coben

A decade ago, kidnappers grabbed two boys from wealthy families and demanded ransom, then went silent. No trace of the boys ever surfaced. For ten years their families have been left with nothing but painful memories and a quiet desperation for the day that has finally, miraculously arrived: Myron Bolitar and his friend Win believe they have located one of the boys, now a teenager. Where has he been for ten years, and what does he know about the day, more than half a life ago, when he was taken? And most critically: what can he tell Myron and Win about the fate of his missing friend? Drawing on his singular talent, Harlan Coben delivers an explosive and deeply moving thriller about friendship, family, and the meaning of home.

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### Book 364 - If I am missing or dead: a sister’s story of love, murder, and liberation by Janine Latus

In April 2002, Janine Latus's youngest sister Amy wrote a note and taped it to the inside of her desk drawer. 'If I am gone or dead', it read, 'question Ron'. By the time the letter was found, Amy was already missing. Helicopters and 'missing' posters went up and search dogs were sent out. It took more than two weeks to find Amy's body, wrapped in a tarpaulin and buried at a building site. Ron had been Amy's boyfriend. He is now in prison for her murder. Since childhood, Janine and Amy had been sexualised and belittled. As adults the sisters, trapped in a cycle of abuse, ended up in a series of violent relationships. Finally, Janine faced her demons and, with Amy's support, escaped in time. But Amy was keeping a terrible secret of her own ... Amy never escaped. She died in silent fear and pain. Janine has resolved to break that silence so that her sister didn't die in vain.

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### Book 365 - Over my dead body by Jeffrey Archer

In London, the Metropolitan Police have set up a new Unsolved Murders Unit - a cold case squad - to catch the criminals nobody else can. Four victims. Four cases. All killers poised to strike again. In Geneva, millionaire art collector Miles Faulkner - convicted of theft - was pronounced dead two months ago. So why is his unscrupulous lawyer still representing a dead client? And who is the mysterious man his widow is planning to marry? On board luxury cruise liner the Alden, a wealthy clientele have signed up for the opulence and glamour of a trans-Atlantic voyage. But the battle for power at the heart of a wealthy dynasty is about to turn to murder. And at the heart of all three investigations lies Detective Chief Inspector William Warwick, rising star of the Met...

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### Book 366 - False witness by Karin Slaughter

Leigh Collier has worked hard to build what looks like a normal life. She's an up-and-coming defence attorney at a prestigious law firm in Atlanta, would do anything for her sixteen-year-old daughter Maddy, and is managing to successfully co-parent through a pandemic after an amicable separation from her husband Walter. But Leigh's ordinary life masks a childhood no one should have to endure ... a childhood tarnished by secrets, broken by betrayal, and ultimately destroyed by a brutal act of violence. On a Sunday night at her daughter's school play, she gets a call from one of the firm's partners who wants Leigh to come on board to defend a wealthy man accused of multiple counts of rape. Though wary of the case, it becomes apparent she doesn't have much choice if she wants to keep her job. They're scheduled to go to trial in one week. When she meets the accused face-to-face, she realizes that it's no coincidence that he's specifically asked for her to represent him. She knows him. And he knows her. More to the point, he may know what happened over twenty years ago, and why Leigh has spent two decades avoiding her past. Suddenly she has a lot more to lose than this case. The only person who can help is her younger, estranged sister Callie -- the last person Leigh would ever want to drag into this after all they've been through. But with the life-shattering truth in danger of being revealed, she has no choice.

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### Book 367 - Speaking in bones by Kathy Reichs

Forensic anthropologist Temperance Brennan investigates what looks to be a typical missing person case, only to find herself digging up bones possibly left by a serial killer, a cult, or perhaps something not entirely of this world.

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### Book 368 - The bone code by Kathy Reichs

A storm has hit South Carolina, dredging up crimes of the past. On the way to Isle of Palms, a barrier island off the South Carolina coast, forensic anthropologist Temperance Brennan receives a call from the Charleston coroner. During the storm, a medical waste container has washed up on the beach. Inside are two decomposed bodies wrapped in plastic sheeting and bound with electrical wire. Chillingly, Tempe recognizes many details as identical to those of an unsolved case she handled in Quebec fifteen years earlier. With a growing sense of foreboding, she flies to Montreal to gather evidence and convince her boss Pierre LaManch to reopen the cold case. She also seeks the advice, and comfort, of her longtime beau Andrew Ryan. Meanwhile, a storm of a different type gathers force in South Carolina. The citizens of Charleston are struck by a bacterium that, at its worst, can eat human flesh.

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**Book 369 - Better off dead by Lee Child**

Reacher never backs down from a problem. And he's about to find a big one, on a deserted Arizona road, where a Jeep has crashed into the only tree for miles around. Under the merciless desert sun, nothing is as it seems. Minutes later Reacher is heading into the nearby border town, a backwater that has seen better days. Next to him is Michaela Fenton, an army veteran turned FBI agent, who is trying to find her twin brother. He might have got mixed up with some dangerous people. And Reacher might just need to pay them a visit. Their leader has burrowed his influence deep into the town. Just to get in and meet the mysterious Dendoncker, Reacher is going to have to achieve the impossible. To get answers will be even harder. There are people in this hostile, empty place who would rather die than reveal their secrets. But then, if Reacher is coming after you, you might be better off dead.

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### Book 370 – Angel of death: Dulcie Markham, Australia's most beautiful bad woman by Leigh Straw

This is the story of Dulcie Markham, a key figure of the underworld of Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, who, according to one crime reporter, 'saw more violence and death than any other woman in Australia's history'. Nicknamed the 'Black Widow' and 'Angel of Death' by the crooks, reporters and police who knew her best, Dulcie's lovers were stabbed and gunned down in the most violent years of Australian crime, the 1920s to the 1950s. Not always by her...

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### Book 371 – Striking range by Margaret Mizushima

He was suspect number one--the man who tried to kill Deputy Mattie Cobb and may have killed her father thirty years earlier. But when Mattie and cold-case detective Jim Hauck reach the Colorado state prison where they will finally get to interview him, he's found dead in his cell. There's only one clue: a map leading to Timber Creek and rugged Redstone Ridge. Following the clue, Mattie and her K-9 partner Robo journey into the burned forest surrounding Redstone Ridge. But before they can finish their search, they're called to help investigate the death of a young woman found in a campground filled with elk hunters. Identification of the deceased points to her having recently given birth, but the infant is nowhere to be found. As a deadly storm descends upon the mountains, covering everything with a layer of ice and snow, Mattie and her team search for the missing newborn. The storm batters the area, taking its toll on the team and forcing the sheriff to call in reinforcements. When new evidence surfaces, they decide that finding the woman's killer will lead them to her baby, making them even more desperate to solve the case.

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### Book 372 – The man who died twice by Richard Osman

It's the following Thursday. Elizabeth has received a letter from an old colleague, a man with whom she has a long history. He's made a big mistake, and he needs her help. His story involves stolen diamonds, a violent mobster, and a very real threat to his life. As bodies start piling up, Elizabeth enlists Joyce, Ibrahim and Ron in the hunt for a ruthless murderer. And if they find the diamonds too? Well, wouldn't that be a bonus? But this time they are up against an enemy who wouldn't bat an eyelid at knocking off four septuagenarians. Can the Thursday Murder Club find the killer (and the diamonds) before the killer finds them?

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### Book 373 – Voodoo river by Robert Crais

Hired to uncover the past of Jodi Taylor, an actress in a hit TV show, Elvis leaves his native Los Angeles to head for Louisiana in search of Jodi's biological parents. But before he can tackle the mystery of the actress's background, he is up against a whole host of eccentrics, including a crazed Raid spraying housewife, a Cajun thug who looks like he's been made out of spare parts, and a menacing hundred year old river turtle named Luther. As Elvis learns about the enigmatic actress's origins, he also discovers the real reason he's been sent to Louisiana ...

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### Book 374 – Sunset express by Robert Crais

On his own turf in LA, Elvis Cole is embroiled in a controversial, high-profile murder case. Hired by the defence lawyer to investigate alleged evidence tampering by the detective on the case, Cole soon begins to be more suspicious of the media-loving lawyers than the cops.

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### Book 375 – Indigo slam by Robert Crais

15 year old Teri Hewitt has been left holding the babies now that her dad, Clark has disappeared without trace. She wants Cole to find him. The search reveals a chronically unemployed drug addict caught up in counterfeiting scams and mixed up with the Russian mafia and Vietnamese Gunmen; as the action heads towards a gunfight in Disneyland and Cole dodges his almost girlfriend's husband.

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### Book 376 - L.A. requiem by Robert Crais

A reckoning has come to the City of Angels ... Karen Garcia is missing and her father doesn't trust the cops he wants someone he knows on the case so he enlists the help of Elvis Cole and Joe Pike. It seems that Karen is the latest victim of a distinctive serial killer and the police are determined to pin her death, and four others, on the witness who found her body. Cole doesn't believe the man has the guts to murder, and with his partner and the police at each other's throats, it's down to him to find the connection that will reveal the killer. But nailing the murderer means choosing between the two people he cares most about ...

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### Book 377 - The last detective by Robert Crais

Elvis Cole is once again coming to terms with his life as a PI on the streets of LA. He loves his girlfriend, Lucy Chenier, but his constant exposure to the Californian underclasses has stretched their relationship to the limit especially when Cole's job brings danger too close to her beloved son. The young boy, Ben, is rapidly becoming the light in both their lives. Then one sunny afternoon, the demons from Elvis's past finally come to visit. Ben is snatched from Cole's secluded home. The kidnappers call. They don't want money. They only want retribution. But who from his past is capable of such a crime? The only clue is that the kidnappers mention the words 'five two'. Five two was his unit designation in Vietnam a life he has avoided thinking about for over twenty years. But now he must embark on a journey into his own past to try to protect his future. For it seems that this kidnapper is not only someone who knows him, but someone who owes him.

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### Book 378 - The forgotten man by Robert Crais

Los Angeles, 3:58 a.m.: Elvis Cole receives the phone call he's been waiting for since childhood. Responding to a gunshot, the LAPD has found an injured man in an alleyway. He has told the officer on the scene that he is looking for his son, Elvis Cole. Minutes later, the man is dead. Haunted throughout his life by a lack of knowledge about his father, Elvis turns to the one person who can help him navigate the minefield of his past?his longtime partner and confidant, Joe Pike. Together with hard-edged LAPD detective, Carol Starkey, they launch a feverish search for the dead man's identity?even as Elvis struggles between wanting to believe he's found his father at last, and allowing his suspicions to hold him back. With each long-buried clue they unearth, a frightening picture begins to emerge about who the dead man might have been, and the terrible secret he's been guarding. At the same time, Elvis has no way of knowing he has awakened a sleeping monster.

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### Book 379 - Chasing darkness by Robert Crais

Elvis was a hero when he cleared an innocent man of a murder charge. But when that innocent man is found dead three years later holding photos of the victim, Elvis is the one on trial.

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### Book 380 – The wanted by Robert Crais

It seemed like a simple case - before the bodies started piling up... When single-mother Devon Connor hires Elvis Cole, it's because her troubled teenage son Tyson is flashing cash and she's afraid he's dealing drugs. But the truth is devastatingly different. With two others, he's been responsible for a string of high-end burglaries, a crime spree that takes a deadly turn when one of them is murdered and Tyson and his girlfriend disappear. They stole the wrong thing from the wrong man, and, determined to get it back, he has hired two men who are smart and brutal and the best at what they do. To even the odds, Cole brings in his friend Joe Pike, but even the two of them together may be overmatched. The police don't want them anywhere near the investigation, the teenagers refuse to be found, and the hired killers are leaving a trail of bodies in their wake. Pretty soon, they'll find out everything they need to know to track the kids down - and then nothing that Elvis or Joe can do may make any difference. It might even get them killed.

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### Book 381 – A dangerous man by Robert Crais

Joe Pike didn't expect to rescue a woman that day. He went to the bank same as anyone goes to the bank, and returned to his Jeep. So when Isabel Roland, the lonely young teller who helped him, steps out of the bank on her way to lunch, Joe is on hand when two men abduct her. Joe chases them down, and the two men are arrested. But instead of putting the drama to rest, the arrests are only the beginning of the trouble for Joe and Izzy. After posting bail, the two abductors are murdered and Izzy disappears. Pike calls on his friend, Elvis Cole, to help learn the truth. What Elvis uncovers is a twisted family story that involves corporate whistleblowing, huge amounts of cash, the Witness Relocation Program, and a long line of lies. But what of all that did Izzy know? Is she a perpetrator or a victim? And how far will Joe go to find out?

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### Book 382 - The ink stain by Thomas Keneally and Meg Keneally

Henry Hallward, editor of the Sydney Chronicle, has been imprisoned for criminal libel so often he can edit the newspaper from his cell. While awaiting trial during one of his imprisonments, Hallward boasts of a story that will destroy several powerful people. But before he can finish it he is killed, and Monsarrat and Mrs Mulrooney are sent to investigate. After Monsarrat meets with Colonel Duchamp, the governor's right-hand man, it is clear the duo are on their own in solving this murder. And it seems there are many who had reason to wish Hallward dead. There is Gerald Mobbs, editor of the Chronicle's rival newspaper. There is Duchamp's sister, Henrietta, who can't quite hide her cunning behind her ladylike exterior. And there is Albert Bancroft, an éminence grise whose property dealings seem to put him in an ideal position to have carried out the killing. Monsarrat and Mrs Mulrooney must sift through the suspects, unravel hidden agendas and navigate shifting loyalties, aware that at any moment Duchamp could ignominiously dismiss them, leaving Hallward's murder unsolved and the independence of the colony's press in grave jeopardy. And when a young boy is kidnapped, it becomes clear freedom of speech may not be the only casualty.

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### Book 383 - Sweet Jimmy by Bryan Brown

"It was a gentle knock. Agnes had been waiting for it. Hoping he would be on time. Such a lovely fella, she thought... 'Come on through. Got a surprise for you,' she said. He had one for her too." Phil and Sweet Jimmy are cousins. Phil grows orchids... spider orchids ...learnt about them in the nick. Jimmy likes orchids, too, but there are other things he likes even more... Trish Bennett didn't like her life. Hadn't liked it for a long time. Been on the streets. Bit of this for a bit of that. The 'that' wasn't always nice. Then Ahmed found her. Sam is a tea-leaf, a thief. Likes nickin... anything...always has... until the day he knocked off more than the Volvo. Fell for the sexy and beautiful Sue May from Hong Kong, Frank Testy did. Silly old prick. What price for ego? A huge bloody price it turns out.

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### Book 384 - Deception Creek by Fleur McDonald

Emma Cameron, a recently divorced farmer and a local in Barker, runs Deception Creek, the farm that three generations of her family have owned before her. Every day Emma pushes herself hard on the land, hoping to make ten-year-old memories of a terrible car accident disappear. And now there are more recent nightmares of an ex-husband who refuses to understand how much the farm means to Emma. When criminal Joel Hammond is released from jail and heads home to Barker, Detective Dave Burrows and his officer Senior Sergeant Jack Higgins are on high alert. Joel has a long and sorry history with many of the townsfolk and they are not keen to see him home to stay. Not all of the Barker locals want to see Joel run out of town though. Some even harbour doubts about Joel's conviction. The town finds itself split down the middle, families pitted against each other with devastating outcomes.

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### Book 385 - A pocket full of pie by Mandy Morton

As the Easter weekend approaches, feline detectives Hettie Bagshot and Tilly Jenkins are called to investigate the murder of local radio DJ Hartley Battenberg. Bowled over by the prospect of a bake-off competition, a cricket match and an outdoor screening of The Sound of Music, Hettie and Tilly struggle through a sea of trifle to catch out a killer. Will Bunty Basham's eleven be triumphant? Has Whisker FM played its final jingle? And will celebrity cook Fanny Haddock get her just desserts? Join them as they tune in to a world of blackmail, obsession and murderous pies.

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### Book 386 - Cross and burn by Val McDermid

Guilt and grief have driven a wedge between long time crime-fighting partners psychologist Tony Hill and ex-DCI Carol Jordan. But just because they're not talking doesn't mean the killing stops. Someone is killing women. Women who bear a disturbing resemblance to Carol Jordan. And when the evidence begins to point in a disturbing direction, thinking the unthinkable seems the only possible answer. Cornered by events, Tony and Carol are forced to fight for themselves and each other as never before.

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### Book 387 - Crosskill by Garry Disher

The Mesics took Wyatt's money and it's time to get it back. The Outfit has other plans. They want him dead. For Wyatt the street has become an extremely dangerous place. He must also manoeuvre cops on the take and an Outfit lieutenant with a gun in her hand and revenge on her mind.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4780948?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 388 - Cabin fever by Alex Dahl

Kristina is a successful therapist in central Oslo. She spends her days helping clients navigate their lives with a cool professionalism that has got her to the top. But when her client Leah, a successful novelist, arrives at her office clearly distressed, begging Kristina to come to her remote cabin in the woods, she feels the balance begin to slip. When Leah fails to turn up to her next two sessions, Kristina reluctantly heads out into the wilderness to find her. Alone and isolated, Kristina finds Leah's unfinished manuscript, and as she reads she realises the main character is terrifyingly familiar.

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### Book 389 - Sea of spies by Alex Gerlis

The Allies are desperate to stop neutral Turkey supplying vital materials to the Nazis - materials which could help them win the war. But then a British agent makes a fatal mistake, and disappears in Istanbul. In England, detective turned spy Richard Prince - back from a clandestine mission in Nazi-occupied Europe - is hunting for his lost son. Before long he is drawn into a dangerous follow-up operation, posing as a journalist in Turkey. The mission soon goes wrong. Out of touch with London and stranded hundreds of miles behind enemy lines, Prince will have to find evidence of the Turks secret trade with the Nazis, as well as a way out. Chances of survival? Low. Chance of completing his mission? Prince will do whatever it takes.

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### Book 390 - Ring of spies by Alex Gerlis

Berlin, 1939: A German intelligence officer learns a top agent is quickly moving up the British Army ranks. He bides his time. Arnhem, 1944: British paratroopers have been slaughtered in one of the bloodiest battles of the Second World War. A shell shocked officer is convinced: the Germans knew they were coming. But who betrayed them? Back in London, Richard Prince, detective and spy, is approached by MI5 about a counterintelligence operation. Information is leaking and British troops are dying. Prince has to stop it, and crack the suspected spy ring at all costs. But in the world of espionage nothing is as it seems.

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### Book 391 - East of Acre Lane by Alex Wheatle

Set in 1981, the year of the Brixton riots, this novel is a gripping thriller in a society on the edge of explosion. Biscuit lives with his mother, brother and sister, and helps support the family by hustling on the frontline for the south London badman, Nunchaks. He doesn't want to be doing this for the rest of his life, but it's difficult to get out of the trap. As the patience of the community breaks and the riots begin to erupt, Biscuit has to make a choice that could change his life forever.

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### Book 392 - Girl, 11 by Amy Suiter Clarke

Former social worker Elle Castillo is the host of a popular true-crime podcast that tackles cold cases of missing children in her hometown. After four seasons of successful investigations, Elle decides to tackle her white whale: the Countdown Killer, or TCK. Twenty years ago, TCK established a pattern of taking and ritualistically murdering girls, each a year younger than the last. No one's ever known why - why he stopped abruptly with his eleven-year-old victim, or why he followed the ritual at all. Weeks into her new season, Elle sets out to interview a listener promising a tip, only to discover his dead body. When a child is abducted days later, in a pattern that looks very familiar, Elle is convinced TCK is back. Will she be able to get law enforcement on her side and stop TCK before it's too late?

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### Book 393 - Nemesis by Anthony Riches

Mickey Bale is an elite close protection officer. That's why the Met police has given him the toughest job of all: guarding the Minister of Defence at a moment when Chinese-British relations have hit a deadly boiling point. And when Mickey's life isn't on the line for his work, he's taking his chances waging war on a powerful London gang family. Their dealer supplied a lethal ecstasy pill to his sister, and Mickey is determined to take them down, one at a time. But will he get away with it – or will his colleagues in the force realise that the man on an underworld killing spree is one of their own?

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### Book 394 - Squeeze me by Carl Hiaasen

It's the height of the Palm Beach charity ball season: for every good cause, there's a reason for the local luminaries to eat (minimally), drink (maximally), and be seen. But when prominent high-society dowager Kiki Pew suddenly vanishes during a swanky gala, and is later found dead, panic and chaos erupt. Kiki was an ardent fan of the Winter White House resident just down the road, and a founding member of the POTUSSIES, a group of women dedicated to supporting their President - who immediately declares that Kiki was the victim of rampaging immigrant hordes. This, it turns out, is far from the truth. The truth might just lie in the middle of the highway, where a bizarre discovery brings the First Lady's motorcade to a grinding halt.

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### Book 395 - Cold boy's wood by Carol Birch

"Did you hear? Big landslip over by Ercol. Last night. The road into Gully's closed off. They found a body. Got police tape. All that stuff. They only do that for murder, don't they? Murder!"A body has been uncovered in a mudslide just outside the village of Andwiston. In the pub they talk of murder, but Dan – sometime mechanic, constant drunk – is finding it hard to sift through his jumbled memories. Watching him from the dark is Lorna, a lost soul living in the woods, haunted by ghosts and a vision from her childhood: a cold boy standing alone in Gallinger's field.

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### Book 396 - Honour: achieving justice for Banaz Mahmod by Caroline Goode

When Rahmat Suleimani reported his girlfriend Banaz missing, it quickly became clear to DCI Caroline Goode that something was very wrong. In fact, Banaz had contacted her local police station multiple times before, even listing the names of the men she expected to murder her in a so-called honour killing. Her parents didn't seem worried about her whereabouts, but Banaz had already accused them of being in on the conspiracy. DCI Goode's homicide team took on the investigation before they even had proof that a murder had taken place. What emerged was a shocking story of betrayal and a community-wide web of lies, which would take the team from the suburban streets of south London to the mountain ranges of Kurdistan, making covert recordings and piecing together cell phone data to honour Banaz's memory and finally bring the killers to justice.

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### Book 397 - A plague of crows by Douglas Lindsay

The Plague Of Crows plants his victims in a forest clearing, bound to chairs embedded in the ground. The lucky ones die quickly, the tops of their skulls missing, birds feeding on the flesh inside. DS Hutton lives on the side of a Scottish mountain, only coming down for weekly psychiatric sessions in town. But this new serial killer forces Hutton to end his sick leave and return to duty in Glasgow. As the months pass and the police remain clueless in the face of the horrors perpetrated by the most inhuman serial killer of his time, Hutton finds himself haunted by his past and plummeting further and further into a desperate world of sex, alcohol and guilt. And while he has no idea where to look for the Plague of Crows, the killer knows exactly where to find him.

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### Book 398 - Wild abandon by Emily Bitto

In the fall of 2011, a heartbroken young man flees Australia for the USA. Landing in the excessive, uncanny-familiar glamour and plenitude of New York City, Will makes a vow to say yes to everything that comes his way. By fate or random chance, Will's journey takes him deep into the American heartland where he meets Wayne Gage, a fast-living, troubled Vietnam veteran, would-be spirit guide and collector of exotic animals. These two men in crisis form an unlikely friendship, but Will has no idea just how close to the edge Wayne truly is. 'Wild Abandon' is a headlong tumble through the falling world of end-days capitalism, a haunting, hyperreal snapshot of our own strange times. We listen with increasing horror and denial as we approach the cataclysmic conclusion of Will's American odyssey, dreading what is galloping towards us, but utterly unable to look away.

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### Book 399 - Her revenge by Emma Tallon

Scarlet Drew isn't to be messed with. As the daughter of a notorious London gangster, she's got enough street smarts to take on the world. But when the most important person in Scarlet's life is murdered in cold blood on the East End streets where she grew up, she can only think of one thing - revenge. Scarlet's aunt Lily is fierce, straight-talking and a force to be reckoned with. As head of the family firm and queen of the London underworld, she welcomes her niece into the business and swears to help her get revenge - after all, family comes first. Scarlet soon discovers that the murder is just one part of a plot by a rival firm to take down the entire Drew empire. She stands shoulder to shoulder with her aunt, ready to fight back, but these new enemies are the most dangerous threat the Drew family has ever faced.

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### Book 400 - The way it is now by Garry Disher

Twenty years ago Charlie Deravin's mother went missing near the family beach shack-believed murdered; body never found. His father has lived under a cloud of suspicion ever since. Now Charlie's back living in the shack in Menlo Beach, on disciplinary leave from his job with the police sex-crimes unit, and permanent leave from his marriage. After two decades worrying away at the mystery of his mother's disappearance, he's run out of leads. Then the skeletal remains of two people are found in the excavation of a new building site - and the past comes crashing in on Charlie.

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### Book 401 - Crystal by Heather Burnside

When Crystal's pimp, protector, and former lover, Gilly, dies of a drugs overdose Crystal is bereft. She refuses the paid protection of a rival pimp, determined to go it alone. But a vicious beating from a client leaves her feeling vulnerable and angry. Meanwhile, Crystal's daughter, Candice, is asking difficult questions about her job. Crystal decides it's time to make some changes, and, when a high-profile judge offers her payment to keep schtum about his nefarious activities, it gives her an idea. Perhaps other clients will also pay for her silence. Crystal engages on a revenge mission to rob, blackmail and expose her most depraved clients. But some of these men are highly dangerous and, if Crystal wants to exact her plan of revenge, she must accept the risks that go with it.

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### Book 402 - Amber by Heather Burnside

With an unfit mother and a brother who despises her, working girl Amber can rely on no one but herself - until the meanest pimp in Manchester, Kev Pike, offers her his protection. Unfortunately, this attracts the fury of Cora, a prostitute no one wants to get on the wrong side of. When Cora is found strangled to death, the late-night city streets feel increasingly exposed with a killer on the loose. And as Amber grows closer to Kev, she realises his security comes at a price she might not be willing to pay. Amber is frozen in fear, knowing one wrong move will risk her life. But then she discovers a horrifying secret that forces her to choose: stay or run?

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### Book 403 - The pickwick murders by Heather Redmond

London, January 1836: Just weeks before the release of his first book, Charles is intrigued by an invitation to join the exclusive Lightning Club. But his initiation in a basement maze takes a wicked turn when he stumbles upon the corpse of Samuel Pickwick, the club's president. With the victim's blood literally on his hands, Charles is locked away in notorious Newgate Prison. Now it's up to Kate to keep her framed fiancé from the hangman's noose. To solve this labyrinthine mystery, she is forced to puzzle her way through a fiendish series of baffling riddles sent to her in anonymous poison pen letters. With the help of family and friends, she must keep her wits about her to corner the real killer-before time runs out and Charles Dickens meets a dead end...

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### Book 404 - The silent quarry by Cheryl Rees-Price

In 1987 a quiet Welsh village was devastated by a brutal attack on two schoolgirls, Bethan Hopkins and Gwen Collier. Only Gwen survived, with horrific injuries and no memory of the attack. The killer was never caught. Now, nearly 30 years later, Gwen has gone missing and DI Winter Meadows is assigned to the case. Charismatic and intuitive, he has an uncanny gift for finding the truth. But in this small and close-knit community, the past is never far away, and those who have secrets will go to any lengths to keep them. Tensions run high as old feelings and accusations are stirred. And DI Meadows has to battle his own demons as he uncovers a truth he wished had stayed in the past.

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### Book 405 - London bridge is falling down by Christopher Fowler

91 year-old Alice Hoffman died alone in her top floor flat. Social services say she slipped through the cracks in a failing system. But detectives Arthur Bryant & John May of the Peculiar Crimes Unit have their suspicions. A former government security expert, Hoffman had once worked for their own unit. And when they uncover a link between her and a diplomat desperate to leave the country it begins to look as if someone might have committed an impossible murder. But Mrs Hoffman wasn't acting alone. With the help of some of his more certifiable contacts and historical experts, he and John May embark on an investigation that will lead them down forgotten alleyways to riverside buildings and on to the city's oldest bridge. But just when the case appears to have been solved, the detectives discover that they've been the victims of the biggest deception of all.

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### Book 406 - The unburied dead by Douglas Lindsay

A psychopath walks the streets of Glasgow, selecting his first victim. He sees his ex-girlfriend everywhere, and he will have her back. When a woman is savagely murdered, her body stabbed over a hundred times, the police know from the nature of the crime that the killer will strike again. DCI Bloonsbury, the once-feted detective, is put in charge of the investigation, but as the killer begins to hit much closer to home and an old police conspiracy starts to unravel, Bloonsbury slides further into morose alcoholic depression. In the middle of it all is Detective Sergeant Thomas Hutton, juggling divorce, deception, alcohol, murdered colleagues, and Dylan. He could use a break but the dead will not rest and the past will not be buried until he can catch the latest serial killer to haunt the streets of his city.

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### Book 407 - Phosphate rocks by Fiona Erskine

As the old chemical works in Leith are demolished a long deceased body encrusted in phosphate rock is discovered. Seated at a card table, he has ten objects laid out in front of him. Whose body is it? How did he die and what is the significance of the objects?

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### Book 408 - Ikon by Graham Masterton

You are about to discover the most devastating political secret of the twentieth century. IKON. The secret for which US presidents were assassinated, resigned or disgraced. IKON. Your own life has been living out in the shadow it has cast since 1962. IKON. Air Force Major Willie Monahan, an expert in advanced forms of radar and guided missiles, has disappeared. Hid friend Dan Korvitz wants to find him. Instead he finds a conspiracy, which has been draining us since the sixties, and interweaving plots of mounting horror. Only immediate, drastic action can save us from a betrayal so vast, so deep-rooted that it will destroy not only America but the American Dream.

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### Book 409 - White lie by John Smith

John Winter thought his flying days were over. But when his new life falls victim to dirty, distant war, Winter's unique skills, honed over years in the military, mean someone's going to pay. The CIA black ops wing is only too happy to let a former British combat pilot, SAS man and mercenary with nothing left to lose make sure they do. Sent on a covert, deniable mission to South America, Winter faces a ruthless and powerful enemy. Success or failure will come down to his ability to lead a rag-tag air force from the cockpit of a lethal but battleworn British jet fighter: the English Electric Lightning F6.

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### Book 410 - Saigon express by John Smith

A lifetime spent fighting other people's wars had earned John Winter a comfortable early retirement. But when the CIA seizes his money, they quickly realise that their former employee is not a man you want to try to push around. When the former combat pilot and SAS man turned gun-for-hire gives Langley a deadline for its return, the Agency think it holds all the cards. An F-4 Phantom jet fighter, an audacious plan to fly halfway round the world, and a threat to dramatically alter the balance of power in the Middle East says they don't. He asked them nicely. They had their chance. He's not going to ask again.

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### Book 411 - Then a soldier by John Smith

Getting caught up in the wrong place at the wrong time never stopped John Winter from doing the right thing. But when a covert mission unravels with fatal consequences, the SAS man decides he's had enough. Forging a new life as a pilot-for-hire, Winter wants to put his violent past behind him. But his former enemies have tracked him down. And the arrival of the US army to provide protection for an upcoming US Presidential visit has provided them with cover for a bold and elaborate plan to exact their revenge. At least that's what they think. Their intended target, it turns out, has other ideas.

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### Book 412 - The Malvern murders by Kerry Tombs

Before Jack the Ripper terrorised London, Police Inspector Samuel Ravenscroft patrolled the streets of Whitechapel. Clever and hard-working, Ravenscroft nonetheless has the worst record in the force. He lets a murderer escape during a chase and is banished to the spa town of Malvern for a water treatment to cure his asthma. Ravenscroft accepts a dinner invitation from a new acquaintance, Jabez Pitzer. Before dinner, the maid finds Pitzer slumped over his desk - dead. Ravenscroft immediately recognises the signs - Pitzer has been poisoned. But the local authorities are reluctant to believe there is a murderer in Malvern. Hungry to prove himself, Ravenscroft is determined to solve the case. But the bodies mount up. Someone is killing local luminaries.

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### Book 413 - The Worcester whisperers by Kerry Tombs

A few weeks before the outbreak of the infamous 'Ripper' murders in 1888 Detective Inspector Samuel Ravenscroft of the Whitechapel Constabulary is sent to the peaceful county town of Worcester to investigate the unexpected disappearance of the Cathedral librarian and the priceless medieval manuscript known as the Whisperie.

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### Book 414 - The Ledbury lamplighters by Kerry Tombs

A mysterious stranger arrives in the small Herefordshire market town of Ledbury. He offers a solicitor, Anthony Midwinter, a generous sum to look after a package for him until spring, no questions asked. The stranger warns that it must remain sealed or else the very stability of England will come under threat. The Ledbury Lamplighters see out the year with a public ceremony extinguishing the town's lamps, a local tradition. A prominent local businessman is brutally murdered in full view of the revellers. Detective Inspector Samuel Ravenscroft is reunited with his old friend and colleague, Constable Tom Crabb. They unravel a sequence of events that threatens the very political and social stability of the country.

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### Book 415 - Constable on the prowl by Nicholas Rhea

Nick is still settling into his role at the Ashfordly Section police station, and he's drawn the short straw: night duty. Alone in the midnight hours with nothing but dead leaves, stray cats and legends of ghosts and ghoulies to accompany him. A sleeping village doesn't mean a simple shift, though. Between the early risers of the farming community, a badger with a sweet tooth, and getting to know his new workmates, there's no time for Nick to kick his feet up in the station. And of course there's Claude Jeremiah Greengrass! Why did he have to retreat hastily down a ladder from a lady's bedroom? And can he really be innocent of taking a deer during the night, when he was seen emerging from the forest carrying a particularly fine set of antlers?

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### Book 416 - Constable across the moors by Nicholas Rhea

Constable Nick has come to know and love the host of characters who live and work on the beautiful North Yorkshire Moors. The amiable constable handles every encounter with his characteristic humour and professionalism, whether he's investigating a plot to scare away a troublesome suitor or helping a neighbour return his late wife's ashes to her beloved moors. Not to mention the insurance agent with a rather unusual policy on Edgar Dawson's dog, Arthur. It covers him for stealing clothes from washing lines and getting lady dogs pregnant! But when Ted Williamson's sheep start disappearing, can Rhea find the culprit without making enemies of the farmers of Yorkshire?

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### Book 417 - A vow of silence by Veronica Black

Sister Sophia is dead. Another disappears. And a mysterious last letter from a dying nun is sent to the prioress. Sister Joan has faced her own demons. Now she is sent to the convent to investigate, as well as teach the local children. There are whispers of virgin sacrifice and suicide, and the mother prioress certainly wears pink nail varnish. And who is the young man hiding in the bracken? Meet Sister Joan, a rebel nun who vows to find out the truth.

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### Book 418 - She knows by A J Wills

Sky is convinced a woman she met in tears on the beach is in desperate danger. Afterall, the abuse is all spelled out in the diary she dropped when she fled. But when Sky tries to rescue Esme Winters from her violent and controlling husband, she stubbornly rejects Sky's offer of help. Because it's not her husband she's frightened of. Esme has a bigger secret to hide and will stop at nothing to protect her lies - even if that means sacrificing Sky's life to save her own ...

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### Book 419 - Every last fear by Alex Finlay

University student Matt Pine has just received devastating news. Nearly his entire family have been found dead while holidaying in Mexico. The local police claim it was an accident, but the FBI aren't convinced - and they won't tell Matt why. The tragedy thrusts his family into the media spotlight again. Seven years ago, Matt's older brother, Danny, was sentenced to life in prison for murdering his teenage girlfriend. Danny has always sworn he was innocent, and last year, a true crime documentary that claimed he was wrongfully convicted went viral. Now his family's murder is overlapping with Danny's case, Matt is determined to uncover the truth behind the crime that sent his brother to prison. Even if it means putting his own life in danger, and confronting his every last fear.

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### **Book 420 - The consequences of fear by Jacqueline** Winspear

London, October 1941. Freddie Hackett, a message runner for a government office, witnesses an argument that ends in murder. Hiding in the doorway of a bombed-out house, Freddie waits until the coast is clear. But when he arrives at his next delivery address, he's shocked to come face-to-face with the killer. Dismissed by the police when reporting the crime, Freddie turns to private investigator Maisie Dobbs. While Maisie believes the boy and wants to help, she must exercise caution given her work with the French resistance. When she spots the killer in a place she least expects, she soon realises she's been pulled into the orbit of a man who has his own reasons to kill - reasons that go back to the last war.

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### **Book 421 - No ordinary killing by Jeff Dawson**

1899, South Africa: As the Boer War rages, Captain Ingo Finch of the Royal Army Medical Corps pieces together casualties at the front. Then, recovering in Cape Town, he is woken by local police. A British officer has been murdered, and an RAMC signature is required for the post-mortem. Shocked by the identity of the victim, the bizarre nature of the crime and what appears a too-convenient resolution, Finch turns detective. He is soon thrust into a perilous maze of espionage and murder. Along with an Australian nurse, Annie, and an escaped diamond miner, Mbutu, Finch finds he has stumbled on a terrifying secret, one that will shake the Empire to its core.

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### **Book 422 - Hell gate by Jeff Dawson**

Ingo Finch faces his biggest challenge yet. New York, 1904 - over a thousand are dead after the sinking of the General Slocum, a pleasure steamer full of German immigrants out for a day on the East River. The community is devastated, broken, in uproar. With a populist senator preying on their grievances, a new political force is unleashed, pushing America to ally with Germany in any coming war. Nine months later, Ingo Finch arrives in Manhattan, now an official British agent. Tasked with exposing this new movement, he is caught in a deadly game between Whitehall, Washington, Berlin. and the Mob. Not everything in the Big Apple is as it seems. For Finch, completing the mission is one thing; surviving it quite another.

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### **Book 423 - The tribute by John Byron**

A serial killer is stalking the streets of Sydney, hell-bent on recreating scenes from the Fabrica, the 16th-century foundation text of modern European anatomy. His cold, methodical attacks have the city on edge, but the serial killer may not even be the darkest player in this story. Desperate for a breakthrough, decorated homicide detective David Murphy draws into the case his art-historian sister, Joanna, and his wife, Sylvia. Unravelling the mystery of who is behind the killings pushes each beyond the limits of what they thought possible.

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### **Book 424 - Ocean prey by John Sandford**

An off-duty Coast Guardsman is fishing with his family when he calls in some suspicious behaviour from a nearby boat. It's a snazzy craft, slick and outfitted with extra horsepower, and is zipping along until it slows to pick up a surfaced diver - a diver who was apparently alone, without his own boat, in the middle of the ocean. None of it makes sense, and his hunch is proved right when all three Guardsmen who come out to investigate are shot and killed. They're federal officers killed on the job, which means the case is the FBI's turf. When the FBI's investigation stalls out, they call in Lucas Davenport. And when his case turns lethal, Davenport will need to bring in every asset he can claim, including a detective with a fundamentally criminal mind - Virgil Flowers.

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### **Book 425 - My name is Jensen by Heidi Amsinck**

Guilty. One word on a beggar's cardboard sign. And now he is dead, stabbed in a wintry Copenhagen street, the second homeless victim in as many weeks. Dagbladet reporter Jensen, stumbling across the body on her way to work, calls her ex lover DI Henrik Jungersen. As, inevitably, old passions are rekindled, so are old regrets, and that is just the start of Jensen's troubles. The front page is an open goal, but nothing feels right. When a third body turns up, it seems certain that a serial killer is on the loose. But why pick on the homeless? And is the link to an old murder case just a coincidence? With her teenage apprentice Gustav, Jensen soon finds herself putting everything on the line to discover exactly who is guilty.

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### **Book 426 - The fish club by J J Ellis**

Holly Blain and Inspector Tanaka are back on the case. Despite their tumultuous relationship when taking down the Otaku killer, the unlikely pair find themselves teaming up once more to stop a new murderer who is plaguing Tokyo. Recently, there has been an increase in poisonings from the delicacy fugu. But with strict preparation guidelines for the toxic fish, Blain and Tanaka fear these are more than just accidents. And when a pattern of targeting foreigners emerges, the recent crimes can only be linked to an extremist xenophobic group gathering attention in Japan. Up against a criminal organisation bent on making a deadly point, Tanaka and Blain must risk everything to solve a case that might just go all the way to the top.

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### **Book 427 - The man on Hackpen Hill by J S Monroe**

It isn't unusual for crop circles to appear overnight on Hackpen Hill. In this part of Wiltshire, where golden wheat fields stretch for miles, the locals have got used to discovering strange mathematical patterns stamped into the earth. But this time, it's different. Not only because this particular design of dramatic spiralling hexagons has never been seen before. But because of the dead body positioned precisely in the centre of the circle. DI Silas Hart, of Swindon Police, is at a loss. Only Jim, a scientist at secretive government laboratory Porton Down, knows the chilling truth about the man on Hackpen Hill. And he wants Bella, a trainee journalist on her first ever story, to tell the world. But Silas has other ideas - and a boss intent on a cover up.

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### **Book 428 - Sacrifice by Graham Masterton**

What would happen if America and Russia redefined their spheres of influence? If the Soviets withdrew their interests in Cuba, South America, Afghanistan - and the US pulled their troops out of Europe? Such a radical redrafting of the political map would have consequences for all those involved? Charles Krogh thought he had left the intelligence world for good, but before long finds himself immersed back in the vast invisible game without rules, the game of deception and bluff - the game without which the world can never be safe - or at peace. Nicholas Reed, brutally murdered by a stone-cold KGB killer - what did he know? Marshal T.K. Golovanov, Hero of the Soviet Union and one of the most powerful men in the world - why is he jeopardising the future of his country with a female agent?

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### **Book 429 - The mark by Heather Burnside**

When respected journalist, Maddy, goes to interview prostitutes in a rundown Manchester pub, she doesn't reckon on attracting the attention of their ruthless pimp, Gilly. He quickly decides to use Maddy for his own gains; he just needs to work out how. In the weeks that follow, Maddy is oblivious to Gilly's growing obsession with her, particularly when she begins a romance with successful businessman, Aaron. Their passionate love affair starts to dominate her life, and she finds herself losing control and alienating the people around her. As Maddy's safe and successful life starts to crumble around her, she must quickly work out who has it in for her, before it's too late.

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### **Book 430 - Ruby by Heather Burnside**

Ruby has always been strong. Growing up with a feeble mother and an absent father, she is forced to fight the battles of her younger siblings. And when a childhood experience leaves her traumatised, her distrust of men turns to hatred. With no safe place to call home, Ruby is desperate to fit in with the tough crowd. She spends her teenage years sleeping around and drinking in the park, and by the time she is sixteen, prostitution has become a way of life. But Ruby has ambitions, and she soon moves up the ladder to become the madam of her own brothel. But being in charge of a brothel has its down sides, Ruby faces her worst nightmare when an enemy from the past comes back into her life, and gang intimidation threatens to ruin everything. Can she find a way to beat her tormentors? And will she be strong enough to see it through?

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### **Book 431 - Letter from the dead by Jack Gatland**

"By the time you read this, I will be dead..." When Victoria Davies was pushed off her stately home's roof in 2001, all evidence pointed to her husband Michael. But twenty years later a letter has appeared, written by Victoria before her death; a letter that was never received, and a letter that brings new suspects into the fray; Labour MPs Shaun Donnal, Andrew MacIntyre and Charles Baker. But two decades on, life has changed for these men. Donnal is now a paranoid alcoholic living on the streets of London, 'Andy Mac' is a popular YouTube Evangelist and Charles Baker is the current Conservative Home Secretary, and the bookie's choice for next Prime Minister in the upcoming Leadership Election. Now Detective Inspector Declan Walsh, saved from permanent suspension and newly transferred to the Temple Inn 'Last Chance Saloon' Crime Unit, must navigate a minefield filled with political intrigue, adulterous affairs, social activist aristocrats and brutal, bloody murder, as each suspect leads his new team to another problem, and skeleton to fall out of the closet...

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### **Book 432 - Straight shot by Jack Lively**

Ex-Special Forces operator Tom Keeler is a rambling man. He's just passing through the town of Alencourt, France, and in less than an hour, someone tries to kill him. Nice place, nice try. But it's a case of mistaken identity, and they picked the wrong guy. The French police can't be trusted, except for the beautiful Cecile Nazari. She finds out fast, that keeping up with Keeler is a dangerous occupation. Because someone's preying on the weak and unprotected. Someone murderous. But they never counted on coming up against a guy like Keeler.

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### **Book 433 - Christmas carol murder by Heather Redmond**

London, December, 1835. Charles and Kate are out with friends and family for a chilly night of carolling and good cheer. But their blood truly runs cold when their singing is interrupted by a body plummeting from an upper window of a house. They soon learn the dead man at their feet, his neck strangely wrapped in chains, is Jacob Harley, the business partner of the resident of the house, an unpleasant codger who owns a counting house, one Emmanuel Screws. Ever the journalist, Charles dedicates himself to discovering who's behind the diabolical defenestration. But before he can investigate further, Harley's corpse is stolen. Following that, Charles is visited in his quarters by what appears to be Harley's ghost - or is it merely Charles's overwrought imagination?

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### **Book 434 - The institute by Jakub Zulczyk**

The residents of an apartment block, in the Central Krakow, are trapped in their own building. All windows and doors are sealed, phone lines are down and the Internet is off. Seven people, cut off from the world. It quickly turns out that they are participating in a strange game played by the mysterious 'THEY'. Suspicions are cast and conflicts break out. Paranoia thickens. Until finally, blood is shed.

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### **Book 435 - How to betray your country by James Wolff**

Disgraced spy August Drummond is in emotional free fall after the death of his wife, fired for a series of security breaches - and now his neighbour on the flight to Istanbul won't stop talking. The only thing keeping August sane is the hunch that there's something not quite right about the nervous young man several rows ahead - a hunch confirmed when August watches him throw away directions to a European cemetery seconds before being detained by Turkish police. A reckless August decides to go to the cemetery, where he meets a mysterious figure from the dark heart of the Islamic State and quickly finds himself drawn into a shadowy plot.

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### **Book 436 - The plot by Jean Hanff Korelitz**

When a young writer dies before completing his first novel, his teacher, Jake, (himself a failed novelist) helps himself to its plot. The resulting book is a phenomenal success, but Jake worries: what if somebody out there knows? Somebody does. As Jake is increasingly tormented by accusations and threats, he learns more about his former student and the source of his marvellous plot - one that, it transpires, is an actual person's actual story. That actual person is furious. The closer Jake gets to the real people he's fictionalised, the more violence he unearths; if he can't figure out who he's dealing with, he risks something far worse than the loss of his career.

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### Book 437 - Spy game by John Fullerton

February 1981. The Cold War is in full swing. Richard Brodick decides to follow in his father's footsteps and seeks an exciting role in what used to be called the Great Game, only to find that it turns out to be less of an adventure and more brutal betrayal. As a contract 'head agent' for Britain's Secret Intelligence Service based in Pakistan, he is expected to follow orders, toe the line, keep Mrs T happy back in London. However, what he finds on the ground -- in both Pakistan and Afghanistan -- is a murky world of blurred lines and conflicting stories.

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### Book 438 - Double deal by John M. Green

In top-secret talks in Barcelona, ex-spy Dr Tori Swyft seals a landmark deal over the Arctic that sends Washington DC and Moscow reeling. The next morning, she wakes beside two dead bodies. A nameless voice phones her, taunting her and revealing a shocking video that shows Tori as the murderer. Yet she has no memory of what happened. With Spanish police converging at her door, Tori flees, in a race against time to find The Voice and prove her innocence - before it's too late.

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### Book 439 - A man named doll by Jonathan Ames

Happy Doll is a charming, if occasionally inexpert, private detective living just one sheer cliff beneath the glass houses of Mulholland Drive with his beloved half-Chihuahua half-Terrier, George. A veteran of both the Navy and LAPD, Doll now works through the night at a local Thai spa that offers its clients a number of special services. Armed with his sixteen-inch steel telescope baton, biting dry humour, and just a bit of a hero complex, the ex-cop sets out to protect the mostly undocumented immigrant women who work there from clients who won't take 'no' for an answer. Doll gets by just fine following his two basic rules: bark loudly and act first. But when things get out-of-hand with one particularly violent patron, even he finds himself wildly out of his depth.

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### Book 440 - The salesman by Joseph O'Connor

Dublin, June 1995, the hottest summer since records began. But Billy Sweeney, a middle-aged salesman with a failed marriage, a faltering career and a tumbledown house, has more than weather on his mind. His youngest daughter lies in a coma in hospital following a mysterious attack on the petrol station where she worked. Devastated by the unfolding consequences of that hot, violent night, frustrated by officialdom and failed by the system, Billy finally tires of seeking legal justice. He decides to take the law into his own hands.

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### Book 441 - Voice of rage by Kerry Barnes

Harley Mason, you may love her, or hate her, but never underestimate her. As the Masons settle down to a more normal life following the death of three family members, a shocking discovery of a schoolgirl found dead in nearby woods starts the finger-pointing once again. Lewis Sanders, the detective on the case, struggles to believe that a teenage girl is capable of such a horrific crime. Yet the discovery of a second body could put Harley Mason in the frame. Is the evidence staring at him in the face or is there more to it? Proving a link between the Gemini Gene and higher functioning psychopaths had been Dr Katherine Renee's sole purpose until she had to discontinue the study. Now, she questions her own sanity. So, desperate to convince the police that Harley is the killer, is Dr Renee harbouring a dark secret of her own?

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### Book 442 - The house of Gucci by Sara G. Forden

The sensational true story of murder, madness, glamour, and greed that shook the Gucci dynasty, now fully updated with a new afterword. On March 27, 1995, Maurizio Gucci, heir to the fabulous fashion dynasty, was slain by an unknown gunman as he approached his Milan office. In 1998, his ex-wife Patrizia Reggiani Martinelli - nicknamed "The Black Widow" by the press - was sentenced to 29 years in prison, for arranging his murder. Did Patrizia murder her ex-husband because his spending was wildly out of control? Did she do it because her glamorous ex was preparing to marry his mistress, Paola Franchi? Or is there a possibility she didn't do it at all? The Gucci story is one of glitz, glamour, intrigue, the rise, near fall and subsequent resurgence of a fashion dynasty.

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### Book 443 - Canticle Creek by Adrian Hyland

When Adam Lawson's wrecked car is found a kilometre from Daisy Baker's body, the whole town assumes it's an open and shut case. But Jesse Redpath isn't from Canticle Creek. Where she comes from, the truth often hides in plain sight, but only if you know where to look. When Jesse starts to ask awkward questions, she uncovers a town full of contradictions and a cast of characters with dark pasts, secrets to hide and even more to lose. As the temperature soars, and the ground bakes, the wilderness surrounding Canticle Creek becomes a powderkeg waiting to explode. All it needs is one spark.

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### Book 444 - Deadlock by Quintin Jardine

Sir Robert Skinner's stock is rising - after retiring from the police service he's been promoted to head an international media organisation. Yet a series of unexplained deaths on his home turf in Scotland threaten to bring him crashing back down to earth. As Skinner helps the elderly in his local community, several residents seem to die of natural causes. But when a gruesome discovery is made in a Glasgow flat and one of Skinner's long-time friends - an aspiring politician - emerges as the prime suspect, things become very murky indeed. After unpicking clues that go nowhere, Skinner and his team are left grappling the most baffling conundrum they have ever encountered - is there a mystery at all?

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### Book 445 - Glass houses by Louise Penny

One cold November day, a mysterious figure appears on the village green in Three Pines, causing unease, alarm and confusion among everyone who sees it. Chief Superintendent Armand Gamache knows something is seriously wrong, but all he can do is watch and wait, hoping his worst fears are not realised. But when the figure disappears and a dead body is discovered, it falls to Gamache to investigate. In the early days of the murder inquiry, and months later, as the trial for the accused begins, Gamache must face the consequences of his decisions, and his actions, from which there is no going back.

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### Book 446 - Kingdom of the blind by Louise Penny

When Armand Gamache receives a letter inviting him to an abandoned farmhouse outside of Three Pines, the former head of the Surete du Quebec discovers that a complete stranger has named him as an executor of her will. Armand never knew the elderly woman, and the bequests are so wildly unlikely that he suspects the woman must have been delusional - until a body is found, and the terms of the bizarre will suddenly seem far more menacing. But it isn't the only menace Gamache is facing. The investigation into the events that led to his suspension has dragged on, and Armand is taking increasingly desperate measures to rectify previous actions.

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### Book 447 - A better man by Louise Penny

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| The air is unbearably tense as Armand Gamache returns to the Sûreté du Québec for his first day of work since being demoted from its command to head of homicide. Amid blistering personal social media attacks, Gamache sets out on his first assignment. He has been tasked with finding a missing woman, but while he leads the search for Vivienne Godin, Three Pines itself is threatened when the river breaks its banks, and a province-wide emergency is declared. As the waters rise, a body is discovered - and the victim's distraught father contemplates a murder of his own. Gamache is a father himself, and is haunted by a question . . . what would he do, if his child's killer might walk free?<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4838001?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>  |

### Book 448 - All the devils are here by Louise Penny

On their first night in Paris, the Gamaches gather for a family dinner with Armand's godfather, the billionaire Stephen Horowitz. But the evening ends in horror when Stephen is critically injured in what Armand is convinced is no accident. When a strange key is found in Stephen's possession it sends Armand on a desperate search for the truth that will take him from the top of the Tour Eiffel, to the bowels of the Paris Archives. Armand finds himself ensnared in a web of lies and deceit that threatens to destroy everything - and everyone - he holds dear. For even the City of Light casts long shadows. And in that darkness devils hide...

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### Book 449 - The madness of crowds by Louise Penny

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| When Chief Inspector Armand Gamache is asked to provide crowd control at a statistics lecture given at the Universite de l'Estrie in Quebec, he is dubious. Why ask the head of homicide to provide security for what sounds like a minor, even mundane lecture? But dangerous ideas about who deserves to live in order for society to thrive are rapidly gaining popularity, fuelled by the research of the eminent Professor Abigail Robinson. When a murder is committed days after the lecture, it's clear that within crowds can lie madness. The line separating good and evil, right and wrong, is quickly blurring - especially when the case leads unexpectedly close to home...<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4838003?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>  |

### Book 450 - Black out by John Lawton

London, 1944. While the Luftwaffe makes its final assault on the already battered British capital, Londoners rush through the streets, seeking underground shelter in the midst of the city’s blackout. When the panic subsides, other things begin to surface along with London’s war-worn citizens. A severed arm is discovered by a group of children playing at an East End bomb site, and when Scotland Yard’s Detective Sergeant Frederick Troy arrives at the scene, it becomes apparent that the dismembered body is not the work of a V-1 rocket. After Troy manages to link the severed arm to the disappearance of a refugee scientist from Nazi Germany, America’s newest intelligence agency, the OSS, decides to get involved. The son of a titled Russian émigré, Troy is forced to leave the London he knows and enter a corrupt world of bloody consequences, stateless refugees, and mysterious women as he unearths a chain of secrets leading straight to the Allied high command.

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### Book 451 - Old flames by John Lawton

In April 1956, at the height of the Cold War, Khrushchev and Bulganin, leaders of the Soviet Union, are in Britain on an official visit. Chief Inspector Troy of Scotland Yard is assigned to be Khrushchev’s bodyguard and to spy on him. Soon after, a Royal Navy diver is found dead and mutilated beyond recognition in Portsmouth Harbor. Troy embarks on an investigation that takes him to the rotten heart of MI6, to the distant days of his childhood, and into the dangerous arms of an old flame.

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### Book 452 - Bluffing Mr. Churchill by John Lawton

It is 1941. Wolfgang Stahl, an American spy operating undercover as an SS officer, has just fled Germany with Hitler's henchmen on his trail. He is carrying valuable cargo - the blueprint of the Fuhrer's secret plan to invade Russia. Stahl's man in the American embassy, the shy and sheltered Calvin M. Cormack, is teamed with a boisterous MI5 officer, Walter Stilton, to find the spy and bring him to safety. Their investigation takes them across war-torn London, from the shelled-out blocks to the ubiquitous pubs to the underground counterfeiting shops; and in Cormack's case, into the arms of Kitty, his partner's rambunctious daughter. As Cormack and Stilton close in on Stahl, bodies begin turning up - and the duo realize they may not be the only ones in pursuit of the spy. Someone, it seems, wants the German dead. When his partner is suddenly murdered in the line of duty, Cormack must turn to the ingenious devices of his lover Kitty's old flame - Sergeant Troy of Scotland Yard. Together, they investigate the trail of murders and are forced to ask themselves a horrifying question -- are Cormack and his spy being played by one of their own in the American embassy?

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### Book 453 - Flesh wounds by John Lawton

An old flame has returned to Troy’s life: Kitty Stilton, wife of an American presidential hopeful. Private eye Joey Rork has been hired to make sure Kitty’s amorous liaisons with a rat pack crooner don’t ruin her husband’s political career. But he also wants to know why Kitty has been spotted with Danny Ryan, whose twin brothers, in addition to owning one of London’s hottest jazz clubs, are said to have inherited the crime empire of fallen mobster Alf Marx. Before Rork can find out, he meets a gruesome end. And he isn’t the only one: bodies have started turning up around London, dismembered in the same bizarre and horrifying way. Is it possible that the blood trail leads back to Troy’s own police force and into Troy’s own forgotten past?

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### Book 454 - Second violin by John Lawton

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| The year is 1938 and Europe is on the brink of war. In London, Frederick Troy, newly promoted to the prestigious Murder Squad at Scotland Yard, is put in charge of rounding up a list of German and Italian “enemy aliens” that also includes Frederick’s brother, Rod, who learns upon receiving an internment letter that despite having grown up in England he is Austrian born. Hundreds of men are herded by train to a neglected camp on the Isle of Man. And, as the bombs start falling on London, a murdered rabbi is found, then another, and another. Amidst great war, murder is what matters.<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837871?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>  |

### Book 455 - A lily of the field by John Lawton

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| Vienna 1934. Ten-year-old Meret Voytek becomes a pupil of esteemed musician professor Viktor Rosen, a Jew in exile from Germany. Three years later, aware that the Nazis are advancing, Rosen tells his promising pupil that he must leave Vienna for London. When Vienna quietly comes under Nazi rule, Meret witnesses the repercussions for the city's Jews, but when her orchestra becomes a division of the Hitler Youth, she complies and wears the uniform. Meanwhile, across Europe, Dr. Karel Szabo, a Hungarian physicist, has been interned in a camp on the Isle of Man. Shortly thereafter, Szabo is transported to Canada and rescued by the Americans, who recruit him to join the team in New Mexico building an atomic bomb...<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837893?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>  |

### Book 456 - Friends and traitors by John Lawton

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| London, 1958. Chief Superintendent Frederick Troy of Scotland Yard, newly promoted after good service during Nikita Khrushchev's visit to Britain, is not looking forward to a European trip with his older brother, Rod. Rod has decided to take his entire family on the "grand tour" for his fifty-first birthday: a whirlwind of restaurants, galleries, and concert halls from Paris to Florence to Vienna to Amsterdam. But Frederick Troy only gets as far as Vienna. It is there that he crosses paths with an old acquaintance, a man who always seems to be followed by trouble: British spy turned Soviet agent Guy Burgess. Suffice it to say that Troy is more than surprised when Burgess, who has escaped from the bosom of Moscow for a quick visit to Vienna, tells him something extraordinary: "I want to come home." Troy knows this news will cause a ruckus in London - but even Troy doesn't expect an MI5 man to be gunned down as a result, and Troy himself suspected of doing the deed. As he fights to prove his innocence, Troy is haunted by more than just Burgess' past liaisons - there is a scandal that goes up to the highest ranks of Westminster, affecting spooks and politicians alike. And the stakes become all the higher for Troy when he reencounters a woman he first met in the Ritz hotel during a blackout - falling in love is a handicap when playing the game of spies.<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837833?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>  |

### Book 457 - Turn to stone by Brian Freeman

Turn to Stone takes place in the days immediately preceding the events of The Cold Nowhere, the sixth book in the Jonathan Stride series. On his way back to Duluth, Stride stops to visit the grave of his mother in a small Wisconsin town. After a shocking occurrence in the cemetery, Stride becomes enmeshed in a gruesome and suspenseful search for a killer who knows things no one else alive should know.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837980?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 458 - The orchard murders by Robert Gott

In 1944, in the outer-Melbourne suburb of Nunawading, a brutal triple murder heralds the return of a long-forgotten cult. A man named Anthony Prescott has declared himself the Messiah and has promised his followers immortality. There are those who believe him and who are ready to kill in his name. Inspector Titus Lambert of the Melbourne Homicide unit, whose detectives are over-stretched, requests the discreet assistance of Helen Lord and Joe Sable, once members of his unit, now private inquiry agents. The investigation is more perilous than any of them realise, and will have tragic consequences.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837975?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 459 - Trusted by Kerry Barnes

14-year-old girls are disappearing, and it is hardly headline news. Before leaving prison, having served 12 years, Harper Kane makes a promise - to find out what happened to an inmate's missing teenage daughter. But first, she must secure a well-paid job and a place of her own to take back custody of her son. What she falls into is a frightening discovery of human trafficking. Forced to make an inconceivable decision, Harper will use everything she has learned inside to protect her family, even if that means resorting to murder. Who can you trust if you can't trust the people who are supposed to protect you?

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837983?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 460 - The Tewkesbury tomb by Kerry Tombs

March 1889. It is midnight and six strangers meet for the first time outside the great door of Tewkesbury Abbey, their mission to enter the sacred building and seek out the tomb of the medieval crusader knight, Sir Roger de la Pole. What they find inside however, is both unexpected and deeply shocking.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837923?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 461 - Dead Horse Gap by Lee Christine

When a light plane crashes at night in the midst of the New South Wales Snowy Mountains, Sydney Homicide's Detective Sergeant Pierce Ryder and Detective Constable Mitchell Flowers are sent to investigate what immediately looks like foul play. As Ryder and Flowers investigate the crash they uncover a generations-old feud between two local families. Could the bitterness that has been carried through the years have anything to do with the death of the pilot? Meanwhile, Detective Constable Nerida Sterling is already deep undercover in the Snowies, her assignment to infiltrate a drug ring operating in the mountains and to ultimately hunt down a murderer. As her cover becomes more and more tenuous, what lengths will Sterling go to in order to get the information that she needs?

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### Book 462 - The house uptown by Melissa Ginsburg

After the sudden death of her mother, Ava finds herself headed cross-country to live with the only relative she has left. But Lane, her grandmother, doesn't seem to have much room in her heart for a teenage girl, barely acknowledging Ava between obsessive painting sessions. The only other person who comes around is Lane's assistant, Oliver, who's dealing with issues of his own. As the summer goes on, Ava begins to get a sense that something is very wrong in her grandmother's house. Why was Lane estranged from Ava's mother, and is she now losing her mind? Could the danger lie with Oliver? Or, is there something darker in their past, something which could come back to destroy them all?

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### Book 463 - Heartbreaker by Nick Louth

Veteran BBC journalist Chris Wyrecliffe finds himself in the Middle East as the Arab Spring explodes into life. Back on the front line at last, he's stumbled across the biggest story of his life. But two women have a hold on him. One, a wealthy Saudi beauty he has loved since the first moment he saw her. The other, a feisty young Palestinian refugee loves him with a frightening intensity. Wyrecliffe is caught between them in a dangerous game whose implications are as extreme as they are hidden. For in the dark Al Qaeda underworld hides a man with the veteran journalist in his sights. The net is closing fast. With the clock ticking, Wyrecliffe could be the instrument of a terrorist plot astonishing in its ingenuity and daring.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4838002?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 464 - The mercenary by Paul Vidich

Moscow, 1985. The Soviet Union and its communist regime are in the last stages of decline, but remain opaque to the rest of the world and still very dangerous. In this ever-shifting landscape, a senior KGB officer code name GAMBIT has approached the CIA Moscow Station chief with top secret military weapons intelligence and asked to be exfiltrated. GAMBIT demands that his handler be a former CIA officer, Alex Garin, a former KGB officer who defected to the American side.

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### Book 465 - Blackwatertown by Paul Waters

When maverick police sergeant Jolly Macken is banished to the sleepy 1950s Irish border village of Blackwatertown, he vows to find the killer of his brother - even if the murderer is inside the police. But a lot can happen in a week. Over seven days Macken falls in love, uncovers dark family secrets, accidentally starts a war and is hailed a hero and branded a traitor. When Blackwatertown explodes into violence, who can he trust? And is betrayal the only way to survive?

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837836?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 466 - Assassins by Rob Sinclair

Stalking the streets of Prague, James Ryker is on the hunt for justice when he hears a news report of a murder in rural England. Big problem. He knows the victim. Ten years ago, in Qatar, Ryker led a team of assassins to kill him. He thought they had. So how has a man Ryker thought dead for over a decade suddenly resurfaced? Travelling across the globe, Ryker sets off on a quest to discover the truth from that fateful night in Qatar. When he realises that his old team members are now under threat from a ruthless female assassin, he knows his problems have only just started. In a race against time, Ryker must work out who is behind the killings and evade the assassin before he becomes the next victim.

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### Book 467 - Sunset swing by Ray Celestin

Los Angeles. Christmas, 1967. A young nurse, Kerry Gaudet, travels to the City of Angels desperate to find her missing brother, fearing that something terrible has happened to him: a serial killer is terrorising the city, picking victims at random, and Kerry has precious few leads. Ida Young, recently retired Private Investigator, is dragged into helping the police when a young woman is discovered murdered in her motel room. Ida has never met the victim but her name has been found at the crime scene and the LAPD wants to know why. Meanwhile mob fixer Dante Sanfelippo has put his life savings into purchasing a winery in Napa Valley but first he must do one final favour for the Mob before leaving town: find a bail jumper before the bond money falls due, and time is fast running out.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837892?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 468 - The secret next door by Rebecca Taylor

Alyson Tinsdale is giving her son the childhood she never had: a stable family, loving home, and a great school in a safe neighbourhood. When they move into the home of her dreams in one of Denver's most sought-after developments, Alyson works hard to fit in and impress the other mothers. Bonnie Sloan is the neighbourhood matriarch. With her oldest son headed to Yale, and her youngest starting kindergarten, Bonnie is now pursuing her long-held political aspirations. But it's her middle child, Elijah, and their family struggles, that cast a shadow over her plans. When the open space behind some of the most expensive homes gets slated for development, the neighbourhood becomes deeply divided. The personal pressures and community conflicts ratchet with every passing day, but it's when a 13-year-old boy is found dead beside the lake, that simmering tensions boil over into panic.

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### Book 469 - The cane by Maryrose Cuskelly

Quala, a North Queensland sugar town, the 1970s. Barbara McClymont walks the cane fields searching for Janet, her sixteen-year-old daughter, who has been missing for weeks. The police have no leads. The people of Quala are divided by dread and distrust. But the sugar crush is underway and the cane must be burned. Meanwhile, children dream of a malevolent presence, a schoolteacher yearns to escape, and history keeps returning to remind Quala that the past is always present. As the smoke rises and tensions come to a head, the dark heart of Quala will be revealed, affecting the lives of all those who dwell beyond the cane.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4838023?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 470 - The ice coven by Max Seeck

Six months have passed since Jessica’s encounter with the mysterious serial-killing coven of witches and the death of her mentor. Her nightmares about her mother and the witchcraft that undid her have only gotten worse, but she’s doing what she can to stay focused. Her homicide squad, now under new leadership, has been given a murder case and a new series of disappearances to investigate. A young woman’s corpse has washed up on an icy beach, and two famous Instagram influencers have gone missing at the same time. The missing influencers and the murdered woman all have ties to a sinister cult. Jessica finds an eerie painting—of a lighthouse on a remote island—as she investigates, and under the picture is a gruesome poem detailing a murder. The nightmares about her mother suddenly seem all too real, making Jessica wonder if the dead woman might be trying to tell her something about the killings. And as Jessica works frantically to solve her latest case, her horrific past comes roaring back and threatens to destroy her.

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### Book 471 - Such a quiet place by Megan Miranda

Welcome to Hollow's Edge - a picture-perfect neighbourhood where everyone has each other's backs. At least, that's how it used to be, until the night Brandon and Fiona Truett were found dead. Two years ago, branded a grifter, thief and sociopath by her friends and neighbours, Ruby Fletcher was convicted of murdering the Truetts. Now, freed by mistrial, Ruby has returned to Hollow's Edge. But why would she come back? No one wants her there, least of all her old housemate, Harper Nash. As Ruby's return sends shockwaves through the community, terrified residents turn on each other, and it soon becomes clear that not everyone was honest about the night the Truetts died.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837772?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 472 - Out of the mountain's shadow by Rose Alexander

1939: War has broken out, and in Albania Bekim's family take in a Jewish family fleeing from Nazi Austria. The years of war will shape his life in unimaginable ways as Bekim grows to love Hannelore, doing everything in his power to protect her. But will he be enough to keep her safe? 2019: Following a shock redundancy, Ruth is taking an extended holiday in southern Italy where she befriends local Zak. When Zak's dying father asks them to solve a mystery from his past, Ruth leaps at the chance. Journeying through his homeland of Albania, Ruth and Zak race to find the sacred artefacts hidden in the mountains during the war.

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### Book 473 - Brimstone by Russel Hutchings

John Devereaux, an SAS Warrant Officer, is seconded to the Australian Secret Intelligence Service and handed a mission that will test him to his very core. The operationally deniable mission: infiltrate into Cambodia via parachute from 37,000 feet in the dead of night and assassinate two high-value targets, alone, and with dozens of enemy soldiers in his way. From the relentless jungles of Cambodia to the chaotic streets of Sydney and Bangkok, to the secretive dens of Moscow and the extravagant French Riviera, explosive SAS and ASIS action uncovers a shadowy and powerful organisation that brings us face to face with the Russian Mafia. Unbeknown to Devereaux, the Director-General of the Secret Intelligence Service, Magnus Webb, is testing him for a far more important role - to head an off-the-books clandestine cell buried deep inside this secret organisation and known only as MANTRA-6.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4837925?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 474 - Angel maker by Morgan Greene

When a teenage girl is found dead in the woods, her body posed like an angel, Stockholm holds its breath. The kill bears a chilling resemblance to those of the Angel Maker, a serial killer caught two decades ago. One who just died in prison. Detective Inspector Jamie Johansson is taking some much-needed time away from the London Met when the call comes in. Her father, one of Stockholm's most notorious detectives, caught the Angel Maker when she was just a girl, and Jamie has long since closed the door to that part of her life. But with the original case files missing, the threat of another kill looming, and her father's reputation at stake, Jamie is drawn back to the frozen streets of her hometown to finish what he started. Has a copycat emerged? Or did he catch the wrong man all those years ago?

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### Book 475 - Constable along the lane by Nicholas Rhea

A hay barn is set on fire at Low Dale Farm. It seems that an arsonist is targeting isolated barns. Arnold Merryweather's ancient bus helps catch a car thief. And when Nick arrests not only a pig thief but also the expectant pig, the police station cleaner is not very pleased. But it's not all crime. A glider crashes into a romance in a thatched cottage and then Constable Nick is involved in a plot to force a penny-pincher to spend money.

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### Book 476 - Murder at Roaringwater by Nick Foster

'Murder at Roaringwater' is the inside story of the final days of young Frenchwoman, Sophie Toscan du Plantier. This is a violent, unresolved murder, where the victim seemed to have a premonition of her own terrible end. For six years, Nick Foster has been piecing together the life and death of Sophie, who was brutally killed outside her cottage in rural West Cork in 1996. He also developed an ongoing friendship with the Englishman long-suspected of her murder, Ian Bailey, and his partner, Jules, the couple at the centre of the case. This story is as fascinating as it is tragic. It follows Nick in Paris and Ireland during his dedicated investigation into the circumstances surrounding Sophie's murder, his quest to reveal her killer and efforts to understand what the motive could have been for such a terrible crime.

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### Book 477 - Rising dust by Fleur McDonald

Emma Cameron, a recently divorced farmer and a local in Barker, runs Deception Creek, the farm that three generations of her family have owned before her. Every day Emma pushes herself hard on the land, hoping to make ten-year-old memories of a terrible car accident disappear. And now there are more recent nightmares of an ex-husband who refuses to understand how much the farm means to Emma. When criminal Joel Hammond is released from jail and heads home to Barker, Detective Dave Burrows and his officer Senior Sergeant Jack Higgins are on high alert. Joel has a long and sorry history with many of the townsfolk and they are not keen to see him home to stay. Not all of the Barker locals want to see Joel run out of town though. Some even harbour doubts about Joel's conviction. The town finds itself split down the middle, families pitted against each other with devastating outcomes.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4838180?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 478 - The shadow people by Graham Masterton

Det. Sgt. Jamila Patel and Det. Con. Jerry Pardoe have reluctantly acquired a reputation in the Metropolitan Police for their ability to tackle bizarre and apparently supernatural crimes. Now they have been called back together after three bodies are found in a London basement - bodies which have been taken apart, roasted and eaten. The markings on the wall suggest this might have been done by some kind of religious cult - and as more people are kidnapped and cannibalised, Patel and Pardoe realise they are dealing with a group of devil-worshippers invoking an ancient god who has not been worshipped since the Neolithic age.

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### Book 479 - The razor gang murder by Simon McCleave

When the remains of a missing teenager are uncovered, DC Ruth Hunter presumes the 40-year-old murder is linked to a knife fight between South London gangs in the 1950s. However, as the investigation widens, Ruth, and her impetuous partner DC Lucy Henry, discover a disturbing connection to the dark criminal past of a prominent knight of the realm. Narrowing down their investigation to an infamous South London club, Ruth begins to uncover a complex web of historic police corruption, brutal protection rackets and celebrity gangsters. When a key witness is viciously murdered, Ruth realises that the killer might be far closer to home than she had ever envisaged. Can Ruth find the murderer before another witness is executed?

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### Book 480 - A valiant deceit by Stephanie Graves

Returning to Pipley following her FANY (First Aid Nursing Yeomanry) training, Olive is eager to step up her involvement in the war effort. Her pigeons are being conscripted to aid the Belgian resistance, and it's up to Olive to choose the best birds for the mission. To protect the secrecy of their work, she must also continue the ruse of being romantically involved with her superior, Captain Jameson Aldridge, a task made more challenging by the fact that she really does have feelings for the gruff Irish intelligence officer. But perhaps the greatest challenge of all comes when an instructor at Station XVII, the top-secret training school housed at Brickendonbury Manor, is found dead in Balls Wood by a troop of Girl Guides. The police quickly rule Lieutenant Jeremy Beckett's death an accident, but based on clues she finds at the scene, Olive begins to suspect he might have been a spy.

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### Book 481 - Leave well alone by A J Campbell

When Eva's brother Ben announces he has found their mother, Eva is determined to have nothing to do with the woman who abandoned them eighteen years ago to a traumatic childhood in foster care. Eva is happy now, in a loving relationship with rich and dependable Jim, and she is pregnant. Nothing can change Eva's mind. She only wants to look to the future. But when her baby is born with a serious hereditary illness, she is forced to confront both her mother and her past. Eva begins to find forgiveness. But as old secrets and layers of deceit emerge, she makes a shocking discovery, leaving her fearing for her baby's, Jim's, and her own life.

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### Book 482 - Don't come looking by A J Campbell

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| Marc O'Sullivan has disappeared. His wife Sasha is frantic, and Eva is baffled. They were blissfully married with three kids. The perfect couple - or so everybody thought. Sasha begs Eva to help her find Marc. But he has given a written statement at the police station where Eva works. It's on record - when his family report him missing, Marc does not want to be found. But why? Ultimately, friendship and loyalty override Eva's professional integrity, and she is compelled to use her resources to delve into Marc's life, even if it means breaking the police Code of Conduct and jeopardising her career. As each day passes, the mystery deepens. Murky goings-on from Marc and Sasha's neighbours heighten the tension. What dark secrets are they hiding? And what drove Marc's inexplicable actions in the weeks leading up to his disappearance?<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4838047?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>  |

### Book 483 - Dohany Street by Adam LeBor

The Danube is grey and half-frozen, covered with ice, and the city seems to have gone into hibernation. But not for Detective Balthazar Kovacs. He has been called out to investigate the disappearance of a young Israeli historian, Elad Harari. Harari was working in the archives of the city's Jewish museum, researching what happened to the assets of the Hungarian Jews murdered in the Holocaust. His work could bring justice to the families of those who died, but it seems not everyone welcomed his probing into the country's darkest period. Balthazar soon finds that there are powerful forces out to sabotage his investigation, as bizarre warnings escalate to violent attacks. When they finally make their demand, Balthazar will be forced to make an impossible decision: give up real evidence of horrific wrongdoing in Hungary's past, or see the young historian die.

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### Book 484 - The Yard by Alex Grecian

Victorian London—a violent cesspool of squalid sin. The twelve detectives of Scotland Yard’s Murder Squad are expected to solve the thousands of crimes committed in the city each month. Formed after the Metropolitan Police’s spectacular failure in capturing Jack the Ripper, they suffer the brunt of public contempt. But no one can anticipate the brutal murder of one of their own... A Scotland Yard Inspector has been found stuffed in a black steamer trunk at Euston Square Station, his eyes and mouth sewn shut. When Walter Day, the squad’s new hire, is assigned to the case, he finds a strange ally in Dr. Bernard Kingsley, the Yard’s first forensic pathologist. Their grim conclusion: this was not just a random, bizarre murder but in all probability, the first of twelve.

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### Book 485 - A deadly endowment by Alyssa Maxwell

To make ends meet, Lady Phoebe Renshaw and her lady's maid, Eva Huntford, have decided to open up Foxwood Hall to guided public tours. Their first tour group consists of members of the Historical Society, a magazine writer and a flock of students. It's a large group for Phoebe, her sister Amelia, and Eva to manage, and when the widow Arvina Bell goes missing, Eva goes in search of her - only to find her in the library, strangled with a silken drapery cord. There is also, curiously, a framed photo missing from the library. As the police hastily zero in on a suspect, Phoebe and Eva weigh the clues. But they must make haste to solve the widow's murder-before someone else becomes history.

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### Book 486 - Attack and decay by Andrew Cartmel

It starts with a perfectly normal evening in, except for the corpse-faced gentleman dressed all in black, with a crow on his shoulder, staring into the house, of course. And the visit from Owyn Wynter, head of Whyte Ravyn Records, who needs the Detective's unique skills. So begins an all-expenses-paid trip to Trollesko, Sweden for the Detective, Nevada, Tinkler and Agatha to track down a copy of the debut album from demonic metal legends, Storm Dream Troopers. Condemned by the church and banned on release, Attack and Decay is a legendary record. But their trip to the homelands of Nordic noir is quickly thrust into a world of intrigue as the Detective closes in on the deal, the band unexpectedly converge on the peaceful town, And worse, their trip somehow coincides with a visit from Stinky Stanmer. Soon the bodies start piling up, and the Vinyl Detective is the only one who can solve the case.

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### Book 487 - Bricks and mortality by Ann Granger

A body is discovered inside of the smouldering ruins of Key House. The crumbling Cotswold manor has long been empty, but rumor has it that the owner, Gervase Crown, was seen lurking around just before the fire. Inspector Jess Campbell and Superintendent Ian Carter pin Gervase as a prime suspect, but was he the murderer, or the target? It seems that his sudden reappearance has stirred up animosity long thought forgotten.

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### Book 488 - A traitor's heart by Ben Creed

Winter, 1952: Leningrad's icy streets are haunted by a murderer. The name is whispered everywhere - Koshchei has returned, the people say, Koshchei the Immortal. Koshchei, named after a sinister figure from Slavic folklore, is an invisible killer who cuts out the tongue of his victims and replaces it with a scroll of paper containing a few lines of what seems to be Italian verse. 3000 kilometres away in a labour colony above the Arctic Circle, threatened by the Thieves who rule the camp, former militia lieutenant Revol Rossel is close to death. As helicopter blades whip the snow into hallucinatory flurries, Rossel watches the arrival of a saviour he hates: Major Nikitin, the man who once cut off the former virtuoso violinist's fingers. Along with skilled aviator Tanya 'Vassya' Vasilievna, the two men must hunt Koshchei down.

<https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4838027?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search>

### Book 489 - Sapphire by Heather Burnside

Sophie and Kelsey have always had each other. When their mum is diagnosed with cancer and their dad fails to step up, they're forced to move into the care system. But Sophie knows they'll be okay as long as she's there to protect her sister. But when Kelsey is found a foster family and Sophie can't join her, Sophie's left in an unsafe situation in the home, forced to do things against her will. Finding her own foster family feels like a relief, but it's short lived when her trust in her new foster parents is betrayed. With nowhere to turn, Sophie finds herself homeless. But when she finds her new street family, Sophie joins the working girls and her new identity as Sapphire is complete.

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### Book 490 - The eight year lie by J.M. Hewitt

Jessica returns home one day to find her husband, Patrick, dead. It's unclear what caused his death and though the shock is huge, she cannot pretend it's entirely unexpected. The police have questions, and Jessica knows that once they hear the answers her fate may well be sealed. Eight years ago, Jessica was living another life. She was a different person, and despite what people think, she has changed. Anyway, there was never any proof that she harmed anyone back then. Yet on the day she loses her husband, a ghost from the past reappears. Louise was her friend once, but that was then. Now, they are strangers. Except Louise seems very familiar - so familiar that it's like peering into a mirror. Why would she go out of her way to look just like Jessica? Unless more than one person has been keeping deadly secrets.

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### Book 491 - The life she wants by J.M. Hewitt

Paula worries that her marriage to Tommy is hanging by a thread. She loves how safe her husband makes her feel, but lately, it seems like he's pulling away from her, and he keeps avoiding a much-needed conversation about finally having children. When Tommy suggests a cruise getaway, Paula is thrilled. He's fighting for this marriage, and he's even promised that they will talk about growing their family. It's Paula's dream come true. Until the couple meets beautiful Anna. From the moment Anna appears in their lives, things start to go wrong for Paula. She finds herself trapped in a sauna. Her hair is destroyed at the salon. Money goes missing from her cabin. At first, Paula thinks she's paranoid in suspecting Anna is turning her dream holiday into a nightmare. But soon, it becomes clear that Paula may not be the only woman fighting for Tommy's affections. The only question is why.

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### Book 492 - Murder of angels by Jack Gatland

For DI Declan Walsh, life is finally returning to normal. Finding a home at DCI Alexander Monroe's Last Chance Saloon Crime Unit, Declan and his team; DS Anjli Kapoor, DC Billy Fitzwarren, Doctor Rosanna Marcos and her assistant DC Joanne Davey are still recovering from the fallout connected to their most recent case, while Declan is cleaning out his late father's home in order to move in. But when Derek Salmon, Declan's old mentor, now terminally ill with cancer arrives at Declan's old Crime Unit confessing to a gruesome kidnapping and murder in London six months earlier on the condition that Declan himself takes on the case, Declan and his colleagues find themselves in a race against time to not only prove Derek's innocence, but also to find the real killer before a violent gang war breaks out over it; for Angela Martin, the 17 year old victim was the girlfriend of Moses Delcourt, heir to a crime empire and main rival of Macca Byrne, the teenage drug lord of Birmingham. But here things take a strange turn when another witness appears, claiming that he knows where Angela Martin's body is buried; in the process revealing another body in Birmingham, Gabrielle Chapman, identical in every way - including DNA, tattoos and long repaired skiing injuries. Now, with both North London and South Birmingham becoming battlegrounds and with vendettas reaching boiling point, Declan Walsh must delve back into the world of Johnny and Jackie Lucas, the East End ‘Twins’ as Declan tries to discover how one victim can have two identical bodies. And at the same time, he has to deal with a deadly secret involving his late father's murder, an ex-girlfriend with a very personal request and his daughter's first date...

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### Book 493 - Breacher by Jack Lively

After four months on a fishing boat Tom Keeler is done with Alaska. He's on his way to a permanent vacation. But Alaska isn't done with him. Jane Abrams just got there, and she's got big problems. Her son has gone missing and the police can't help. On top of that some very bad people are pushing her around. Abrams wants Keeler's help, but he has other plans. But then the bad guys take a big step across the line. They thought that owning the town gave them special privileges. They planned on getting away with murder. But they never planned on coming up against a guy like Keeler.

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### Book 494 - Impact by Jack Lively

Tom Keeler finds himself in the town of Promise, Indiana. He just needs to drop off a package, then he can get back to the Florida sunshine. But nothing's ever that simple. The package gets stolen, things get complicated. Linda Cartwright's a happily married woman, and then someone tried to kill her on her own front lawn. Why would they do that? Good question. Keeler's interested, but Cartwright won't talk about it. When Cartwright's attacked a second time, Keeler begins to suspect that she's in over her head. She's a tough lady, but even tough nuts crack. And it's not only Cartwright, bad things are happening to regular folk, all over the town of Promise. Behind every bad deed are bad people. And when bad people get murderous, Keeler takes it to the next level.

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### Book 495 - A sunlit weapon by Jacqueline Winspear

September, 1942. Jo Hardy, an Air Transport Auxiliary ferry pilot, is delivering a Spitfire when she has the unnerving experience of someone shooting at her aircraft. A few days later she hears that another ferry pilot has been killed when her aircraft crashed in the same area of Kent. Although the death has been attributed to 'pilot error', Jo is convinced there is a link between the two incidents. Jo takes her suspicions to Maisie Dobbs and while Maisie wants to find out why someone appears to want to take down much-needed pilots, she finds it is part of a much larger operation involving Eleanor Roosevelt, the American president's First Lady. To protect Eleanor's life - and possibly the safety of everyone in London - Maisie must quickly uncover the connection.

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### Book 496 - A vow of sanctity by Veronica Black

Sister Joan heads to the serene shores of Loch Morag for a spiritual retreat in a cave up a steep hill. She's hoping for peace and quiet, but she soon finds trouble. Six years ago the womanising husband of the local store-owner disappeared. Then the minister's wife died of an overdose. Was it an accident or suicide? Then, after a sudden storm a body surfaces in the loch. What's going on? The grumpy villagers don't want to talk about it. Sister Joan must abandon her solitude to search for the killer and unearth the truth.

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### Book 497 - A vow of obedience by Veronica Black

16-year-old Valerie vanishes from home in the small hours clad only in her robe and slippers. Three days later, Sister Joan finds her body abandoned in the convent's little Moor Schoolhouse. The dead girl is dressed in wedding white. A garland of leaves encircles her head and a thin red line runs round her neck. Valerie has been strangled. Then a second young Catholic girl, also dressed in white, turns up dead. Sister Joan is once again torn between her religious duties and helping Detective Sergeant Mill's inquiries, but time is running out. The threat of violence moves closer to the convent with sightings of a skulking figure and Sister Hilaria found unconscious outside the gates - the victim of a hit-and-run.

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### Book 498 - The good life by Dorian Sykes

1988 is the era, Detroit is the scene, and crack is the movement. It's a time when young black men can become self-made millionaires seemingly overnight by selling dope. The crack era has become to Blacks what Prohibition was to the Italians--a time to get over! It's a time that inspires generations of street dreamz... Fresh out of high school, young Wink has but one thing on his mind--rollin' fresh. Infatuated by all the trappings of the game, Wink and his B-boy crew jump headfirst into the ills of the drug trade, determined to taste the good life. As they pay their dues and the unforgiving streets harden their hearts, they learn that all dreams aren't worth livin', and nothing lasts forever, not even friendship.

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## PARENTING AND FAMILY

### Book 499 - An orphan’s sorrow by Cathy Sharp

When Jamie's mother dies, he is taken in by his neighbour, Martha. Small for his age, he is picked on by a local gang so joins the boxing club run by the local Bobby and learns to defend himself. Jamie's older brother, Archie, arrives back on the scene and things seem to look up, but when a violent altercation ends in tragedy, Jamie runs away again and meets a homeless girl called Cassie. She shows him the decaying slum that's she has been calling home and he vows to look after her, even if that means remaining on the streets himself. Jamie and Cassie desperately need love and a safe place to live. There are kind hearts who want to help, but sometimes kindness isn't enough and both Jamie and Cassie's search for belonging will be filled with heartbreak. Will there be a light at the end of the tunnel for them?

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### Book 500 - An orphan’s dream by Cathy Sharp

Danny gets a terrible start in life and runs away from his drunken father when he thrashes him to within an inch of his life. But life on the streets is no better and he falls into the clutches of evil men, finding that being big and strong for his age is no protection from the people who want to do him harm. Help comes in the form of Constable Jones, who is determined to help out the children who need it, and new friends Ron and Cassie, who are also runaways. Can Danny's dream of a loving home ever be a reality?

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### Book 501 - Love objects by Emily Maguire

Nic is a forty-five-year-old trivia buff, amateur nail artist and fairy godmother to the neighbourhood's stray cats. She's also the owner of a decade's worth of newspapers, enough clothes and shoes to fill Big W three times over and a pen collection which, if laid end-to-end, would probably circle her house twice. She'd put her theory to the test, if only the pen buckets weren't currently blocked in by crates of Happy Meal toys and towers of Vegemite jars, take-away containers and cat food tins. The person she's closest to in the world is her beloved niece Lena, who she meets for lunch every Sunday. One day Nic fails to show up. When Lena travels to her aunt's house to see if Nic's all right, she gets the shock of her life, and sets in train a series of events that will prove cataclysmic for them both.

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### Book 502 - Wartime with the Cornish girls by Betty Walker

1941. The Blitz rages over London. And even in Cornwall, the war is being fought. When Violet loses her sister in the Blitz, she must take her nieces to safety in Cornwall. On the coast, she meets carefree chorus girl Eva, who is also running from the dangers of London. But Porthcurno hides a secret military base, and soon Violet and Eva realise there's a battle to fight in Cornwall, too. Together with local Hazel, who works on the base, they must come together to help the war effort. But will their friendship be enough to keep them safe?

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### Book 503 - Secret of half-arsed parenting (raising kids with half the guilt and twice the joy) by Dr Susie O’Brien

'The Secret of Half-Arsed Parenting' is a practical and entertaining antidote to the extreme stress of modern parenting. It pokes fun at the unrealistic goals and expectations thrust on parents today, and offers a way to raise kids with less pressure, less guilt, less stress and fewer cupcakes baked at midnight. It's not about doing a bad job. It's about recognising that parents don't have to be perfect.

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### **Book 504 - The new teen age by Dr Ginni Mansberg & Jo** Lamble

As both clinicians and parents, Dr Ginni Mansberg and clinical psychologist Jo Lamble know first-hand how challenging it can be to raise adolescents. In this book, they team up to address both the physical and psychological issues faced by teens in this new age of social media and 24-hour devices, equipping parents and carers with sound strategies for navigating everything from parent-child tensions and peer pressure online and in the schoolyard to questions around food, sleep, exercise, screentime, body image, hormones, sexual development, skin, academic pressure and so much more.

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### **Book 505 – The family holiday by Elizabeth Noble**

The Chamberlain family - Charlie and Daphne, and their children Laura, Scott and Nick - had fantastic summer holidays when they were young. But then, inevitably, the children grew up, and their own messy lives got in the way. Since their mum died, it feels to them all as if their family just isn't that close any more. And Charlie fears his kids have all lost their direction. For his eightieth birthday, all Charlie wants is to bring his family together again - and by some miracle, they've all said yes. It's only ten days, how hard can it be?

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### **Book 506 – Christmas for the district nurses by Annie Groves**

The East End of London has been devastated by the Blitz and the people are struggling to come to terms with their ravaged city. Rationing bites ever deeper and everything that makes life better is in short supply. For the district nurses, the challenges are tougher than ever. Gladys loves her work in the Civil Nursing Reserve, but just when she needs to rely on her sister at home to help out with the chores, she turns into a handful of trouble. Edith is learning to cope with her boyfriend's injuries after Dunkirk but will she have to choose between her love for him and her career? With no end in sight, the war reaches its darkest moment. Can the nurses - and the families and patients that rely on them - find the strength to carry on?

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### **Book 507 – A gift for the district nurses by Annie Groves**

It's 1943 and the district nurses have two new recruits. As the country ramps up for D-Day, the new nurses getting to know their patients on their patch in London's East End. Lily is quite sure of herself and doesn't believe she has anything new to learn. She'll find out the hard way that anyone can be made a fool of when she meets a man who promises her everything. Ruby thinks that nursing might not be for her - is she as hopeless as she thinks, or will tough times bring out the best in her? As the war takes on a new urgency, everything is at stake - can the nurses do what is right for the country and for themselves?

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### **Book 508 – Eudora Honeysett is quite well, thank you by Annie Lyons**

Eudora Honeysett is done - with all of it. Having seen first-hand what a prolonged illness can create, the 85-year-old has no intention of leaving things to chance. With one call to a clinic in Switzerland she takes her life into her own hands. But then 10-year-old Rose arrives in a riot of colour on her doorstep. Now, as precocious Rose takes Eudora on adventures she'd never imagined she reflects on the trying times of her past and soon finds herself wondering - is she ready for death when she's only just experienced what it's like to truly live?

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### **Book 509 – 50 risks to take with your kids by Daisy Turnbull**

'50 Risks to Take With Your Kids' is a guide for parents and carers to nurture resilience and independence in kids as they learn to take their own risks. Daisy Turnbull offers an easy-to-use framework with simple, practical challenges for children aged up to 10 years old. You'll find risks that build physical skills, social confidence and character development. You'll also find some all-important parenting risks that will encourage you to step outside your comfort zone. Peppered with Daisy's own experiences in teaching, wellbeing and parenting, this warm and funny book is about teaching kids to recognise and assess risks themselves, and readying them to take on life and all that it brings. And it's about having fun and connecting as a family along the way.

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### **Book 510 – The last of the apple blossom by Mary-Lou Stephens**

7 February, 1967. Walls of flame reduce much of Tasmania to ash. Young schoolteacher Catherine Turner rushes to the Huon Valley to find her family's apple orchard destroyed, her childhood home in ruins and her brother dead. Despite her father's declaration that a woman will never run the orchard, Catherine resolves to rebuild the family business. After five sons, Catherine's friend and neighbour, Annie Pearson, is overjoyed by the birth of a much longed for daughter. As Annie and her husband Dave work to repair the damage to their orchard, Dave's friend Mark pitches in, despite the fact that Annie wants him gone. Mark has moved his family to the valley to escape his life in Melbourne, but his wife has disappeared leaving chaos in her wake and their young son Charlie in Mark's care. Catherine becomes fond of Charlie, whose strange upbringing has left him shy and withdrawn. However, the growing friendship between Mark and Catherine not only scandalises the small community but threatens a secret Annie is desperate to keep hidden. Through natural disasters, personal calamities and the devastating collapse of the apple industry, Catherine, Annie and those they love battle to save their livelihoods, their families and their secrets.

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### **Book 511 – The secrets of Ashmore Castle by Cynthia Harrod-Eagles**

1901. When the Earl of Stainton dies in a tragic hunting accident, Giles, the eldest son of the noble Tallant family, must step forward to replace him as the head of the family. But Giles has avoided the Castle and his stifling relatives for years, deciding instead to forge his own path away from the spotlight. Now, he must put aside his ambitions and honour his duty to the family. With their world upended, the Tallants and their servants struggle to find their place in the house - and society - once again. And Giles realises that, along with the title and the castle, he's also inherited his father's significant financial troubles that threaten the security of his entire family. In Kensington, Kitty Bayfield, the painfully shy but moneyed daughter of a Baronet, has just left school with her penniless companion Nina. Nina captures the new Earl's heart, but only Kitty can save his family from their debts, and soon Giles must choose between his duty and his heart . . .

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### **Book 512 – The Foyles Bookshop girls at war by Elaine Roberts**

Working at the Foyles bookshop was Molly Cooper's dream job. But with the country at war she's determined to do her bit. She must face the tribulations of being the 'new girl' at Silvertown munitions factory, as well as the relentless physical work. The happy-ever-afters Molly read about in the pages of her beloved books have been lost to the war. And yet the munitions girls unite through their sense of duty in the most unlikely of settings...

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### **Book 513 – Christmas at the Foyles Bookshop by Elaine Roberts**

London, 1917. After the death of their parents, Victoria did everything she could to keep her siblings safe. Working at the Foyles Bookshop with her best friends is a dream come true ? but now the war has put everything she holds dear in danger. With her brother fighting on the frontline, Victoria wants to do her part. Little does she know that volunteering to spend time with injured soldiers at Endell Street Military Hospital will reward her in ways she could never have imagined.

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### **Book 514 – Evie by Julia Stoneham**

Eighteen-year-old Evie arrives at Post Stone Farm in December 1944, and choosing to join the Land Army, she longs for quiet days. The other land girls have already formed close friendships, and Evie barely makes a ripple when trying to blend in. But it is here she falls in love with Giorgio, an Italian POW. All this changes one June evening when Corporal Norman Clark arrives at the farm and a startling revelation thrusts Evie into the spotlight. As the full history of her tragic life becomes known to the valley people, many of them become deeply and in some cases, violently, involved in overcoming the obstacles which lie between Evie and the happiness and the enduring love she deserves.

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### **Book 515 – The French gift by Kirsty Manning**

Fresne Prison, 1940: A former maid at a luxury villa on the Riviera, Margot Bisset finds herself in a prison cell with writer and French Resistance fighter Joséphine Murant. Together, they are transferred to a work camp in Germany for four years, where the secrets they share will bind them for generations to come. Paris, around about now: Evie Black lives in Paris with her teenage son, Hugo, above her botanical bookshop, La Maison Rustique. Life would be so sweet if only Evie were not mourning the great love of her life. When a letter arrives regarding the legacy of her husband’s great-aunt, Joséphine Murant, Evie clutches at an opportunity to spend one last magical summer with her son. They travel together to Joséphine’s house, now theirs, on the Côte d’Azur. Here, Evie unravels the official story of this famous novelist, and the truth of a murder a lifetime ago. Along the way, she will discover the little-known true story of the women who were enslaved by German forces in WWII.

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### Book 516 – Dinner with the Schnabels by Toni Jordan

Things haven't gone well for Simon Larsen lately. He adores his wife, Tansy, and his children, but since his business failed and he lost the family home, he can't seem to get off the couch. His larger-than-life in-laws, the Schnabels, Tansy's mother, sister and brother, won't get off his case. To keep everyone happy, Simon needs to do one little job: he has a week to landscape a friend's backyard for an important Schnabel family event. But as the week progresses, Simon is derailed by the arrival of an unexpected house guest. Then he discovers Tansy is harbouring a secret. As his world spins out of control, who can Simon really count on when the chips are down?

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### Book 517 - The last green valley by Mark Sullivan

In late March 1944, as Stalin's forces push into Ukraine, young Emil and Adeline Martel must make a terrible decision: Do they wait for the Soviet bear's intrusion and risk being sent to Siberia? Or do they reluctantly follow the wolves-murderous Nazi officers who have pledged to protect "pure-blood" Germans? The Martels are one of many families of German heritage whose ancestors have farmed in Ukraine for more than a century. But after already living under Stalin's horrifying regime, Emil and Adeline decide they must run in retreat from their land with the wolves they despise to escape the Soviets and go in search of freedom. Caught between two warring forces and overcoming horrific trials to pursue their hope of immigrating to the West, the Martels' story is a brutal, complex, and ultimately triumphant tale that illuminates the extraordinary power of love, faith, and one family's incredible will to survive and see their dreams realized.

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### Book 518 – Lucky’s by Andrew Pippos

Lucky's is a story of family. A story about migration. It is also about a man called Lucky. His restaurant chain. A fire that changed everything. A New Yorker article which might save a career. The mystery of a missing father. An impostor who got the girl. An unthinkable tragedy. A roll of the dice. And a story of love - lost, sought and won again (at last).

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### Book 519 – The talk of pram town by Joanna Nadin

It's 1981. Eleven-year-old Sadie adores her beautiful and vibrant mother, Connie, whose dreams of making it big as a singer fill their tiny house in Leeds. It's always been just the two of them. Until the unthinkable happens. Jean hasn't seen her good-for-nothing daughter Connie since she ran away from the family home in Harlow – or Pram Town as its inhabitants affectionately call it – aged 17 and pregnant. But in the wake of the Royal Wedding, Jean gets a life-changing call: could she please come and collect the granddaughter she's never met? We all know how Charles and Diana turned out, and Jean and Sadie are hardly a match made in heaven – but is there hope of a happy ending for them?

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### Book 520 – The missing girl by Kerry McGinnis

The darkest secrets are buried the deepest. Meg Morrissey has just lost her job and her partner to an overseas assignment, when she is called back to the family home of Hunters Reach in the picturesque Adelaide Hills. Her ailing grandmother, who raised her when she was orphaned as a child, has always been a formidable figure in her life and this is hardly a welcome summons. When Meg arrives at the ramshackle old homestead, she learns that the place is up for sale. She is expected to care for the property with its extensive garden, while packing up the contents of the house. As she begins the arduous work of bringing the grand old homestead back to its former glory, she is forced to examine the question that has plagued her all her life, why nobody loved her as a child. As the house unfolds the history of an earlier age, it also spills out secrets Meg had never imagined, in particular, the discovery of an aunt she never knew, her mother's twin sister, Iris. The discovery brings horror in its wake, as Meg learns the secrets of the missing girl and the truth behind a wicked heart where love simply never existed. The more she uncovers, the more questions she has. With her grandmother unwilling to share what she knows, Meg must seek out the truth for herself.

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### Book 521 – Winter garden by Kristin Hannah

Meredith and Nina Whitson are as different as sisters can be. One stayed at home to raise her children and manage the family business; the other followed a dream and traveled the world to become a famous photojournalist. But when their beloved father falls ill, these two estranged sisters will find themselves together again, standing alongside their disapproving mother, Anya, who even now offers no comfort to her daughters. On his deathbed, their father extracts a promise: Anya will tell her daughters a story; it is one she began years ago and never finished. This time she will tell it all the way to the end. The tale their mother tells them is unlike anything they've heard before, a captivating, mysterious love story that spans more than sixty years and moves from frozen, war-torn Leningrad to modern-day Alaska. Nina's obsession to uncover the truth will send them all on an unexpected journey into their mother's past, where they will discover a secret so shocking, it shakes the foundation of their family and changes who they believe they are.

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### Book 522 – Apples never fall by Liane Moriarty

From the outside, the Delaneys appear to be an enviably contented family. Even after all these years, former tennis coaches Joy and Stan are still winning tournaments, and now they've sold the family business they have all the time in the world to learn how to 'relax'. Their four adult children are busy living their own lives, and while it could be argued they never quite achieved their destinies, no one ever says that out loud. But now Joy Delaney has disappeared and her children are re-examining their parents' marriage and their family history with fresh, frightened eyes. Is her disappearance related to their mysterious house guest from last year? Or were things never as rosy as they seemed in the Delaney household?

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### Book 523 – The missing sister by Lucinda Riley

The six D'Apliese sisters have each been on their own incredible journey to discover their heritage, but they still have one question left unanswered: who and where is the seventh sister? They only have one clue - an image of a star-shaped emerald ring. The search to find the missing sister will take them across the globe - from New Zealand to Canada, England, France and Ireland - uniting them all in their mission to complete their family at last. In doing so, they will slowly unearth a story of love, strength and sacrifice that began almost one hundred years ago, as other brave young women risk everything to change the world around them.

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### Book 524 – The villa by Rosanna Ley

Initially resistant to her daughter, Tess, going back to her roots, Flavia realises the secrets from her past are about to be revealed and decides to try to explain her actions. Meanwhile, Tess' teenage daughter Ginny is stressed by college, and all three women are seeking answers. Will Villa Sirena bring them together?

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### Book 525 – The saffron Trail by Rosanna Ley

Once, there was a girl who loved saffron. She loved its secrets, its mystery, and best of all, she loved its hint of magic. After the death of her beloved mother, Nell travels from rural Cornwall to the colour and chaos of Marrakech. Her marriage may be on the rocks, but exploring the heady delights of Moroccan cuisine could help her fulfil her dream of opening her own restaurant. It's there she meets Amy - a young photographer trying to unravel the story behind her family's involvement in the Vietnam War. The two women develop a close friendship and discover a surprising connection between their own pasts. This connection will take Nell and Amy on a journey to find their own 'saffron trail' - from the labyrinthine medina and bustle of Moroccan bazaars all the way back home to Cornwall and to the heart of their families' origins.

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### Book 526 – Return to Mandalay by Rosanna Ley

Eva Gatsby has often wondered about her grandfather Lawrence's past, and exactly what happened to him in Burma during the Second World War. But it is only when Eva's job as an antiques dealer suddenly requires a trip to Mandalay that Lawrence finally breaks his silence and asks her to return a mysterious artefact of his own - a chinthe - to its rightful owner. As Eva arrives in Burma her mission soon proves dangerously complicated, and the treasure she is guarding becomes the centre of a scandal that will have far-reaching consequences. Caught between loyalty and integrity, Eva is determined to find the truth about her grandfather's past, of her own family origins, and of the red-eyed chinthe itself - enigmatic symbol of the riches of Mandalay.

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### Book 527 – The little theatre by the sea by Rosanna Ley

Faye has just completed her degree in interior design when she finds herself jobless and boyfriend-less. While debating what to do next she receives a surprise phone call from her old college friend Charlotte who now lives in Sardinia and is married to Italian hotelier, Fabio. When Charlotte suggests that Faye relocate for a month to house-sit, Faye wonders if a summer break in sunny Sardinia might be the perfect way to recharge her batteries and think about her future. But then Charlotte tells Faye that there's something more behind the sudden invitation: her friends Marisa and Alessandro are looking for a designer to renovate a crumbling old theatre they own in the scenic village of Deriu. The idea certainly sounds appealing to Faye, but little does she know what she's letting herself in for if she accepts this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

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### Book 528– Bay of secrets by Rosanna Ley

Spain, 1939. Following the wishes of her parents to keep her safe during the war, a young girl, Julia, enters a convent in Barcelona. Looking for a way to maintain her links to the outside world, she volunteers to help in a maternity clinic. But worrying adoption practices in the clinic force Sister Julia to decide how far she will go to help those placed in her care. England, 2011. Six months after her parents' shocking death, 34-year-old journalist and jazz enthusiast Ruby Rae has finally found the strength to pack away their possessions and sell the family home. But as she does so, she unearths a devastating secret her parents, Vivien and Tom, had kept from her all her life.

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### Book 529 - The stolen baby by Diney Costeloe

Based on a true story. Plymouth, 1941. As sirens blare all around, the Shawbrook family take refuge in a packed shelter. Bombs have already begun to fall through the night sky when they realise their infant son, Freddie, has been forgotten in the rush, left to sleep in his crib. Terrified, Vera, his young mother races to find him and bring him to safety. The next morning, air raid warden David Shawbrook returns from his watch to find the shelter pulverised, and his family seemingly all dead. Dirty footprints inside their home betray the looters who have rifled through the house. Meanwhile, Maggie waits alone for her husband. Since the death of her infant son, she passes her days at home with neither joy nor aim. But not this morning. For this morning her husband has brought home a child, found abandoned in the aftermath of the terrible raid - a child she is sure is Freddie...

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### Book 530 - A woman made of snow by Elisabeth Gifford

Scotland, 1949: Caroline Gillan and her new husband Alasdair have moved back to Kelly Castle, his dilapidated family estate in the middle of nowhere. Stuck caring for their tiny baby, and trying to find her way with an opinionated mother-in-law, Caroline feels adrift, alone and unwelcome. But when she is tasked with sorting out the family archives, Caroline discovers a century-old mystery that sparks her back to life. There is one Gillan bride who is completely unknown - no photos exist, no records have been kept - the only thing that is certain is that she had a legitimate child. Alasdair's grandmother. As Caroline uncovers a strange story that stretches as far as the Arctic circle, her desire to find the truth turns obsessive. And when a body is found in the grounds of the castle, her hunt becomes more than just a case of curiosity. What happened all those years ago? Who was the bride? And who is the body?

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### Book 531 - Good eggs by Rebecca Hardiman

When Kevin Gogarty’s irrepressible eighty-three-year-old mother, Millie, is caught shoplifting yet again, he has no choice but to hire a caretaker to keep an eye on her. Kevin, recently unemployed, is already at his wits’ end tending to a full house while his wife travels to exotic locales for work, leaving him solo with his sulky, misbehaved teenaged daughter, Aideen, whose troubles escalate when she befriends the campus rebel at her new boarding school. Into the Gogarty fray steps Sylvia, Millie’s upbeat home aide, who appears at first to be their saving grace—until she catapults the Gogarty clan into their greatest crisis yet.

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### Book 532 - Ceremony of innocence by Madeleine Bunting

Neem has been investigating the secretive business of the wealthy Wilcox Smiths in Bahrain. When she goes missing, presumed dead, those close to her unravel a trail that leads back to the 1970s in Tehran where Martin Wilcox Smith began his career as a diplomat. Phoebe, Martin's enigmatic wife, is divided between her love of Neem and protecting her husband; Fauzia, Martin's daughter-in-law, is a reporter investigating British ties to the Middle East; and Kate, Martin's niece, is in a relationship with a Bahraini refugee who opens her eyes to Martin's corruption; together they are on a path of discovery into their family's secret past.

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### Book 533 - Loveland by Robert Lukins

Amid the ruins of a fire-ravaged amusement park and destroyed waterfront dwellings, one boarded-up building still stands. May has come from Australia to Loveland, Nebraska, to claim the house on the poisoned lake as part of her grandmother's will. Escaping the control of her husband, will she find refuge or danger? As she starts repairing the old house, May is drawn to discover more about her silent, emotionally distant grandmother and unravel the secrets that Casey had moved halfway around the world to keep hidden. How she and Casey's lives interconnect, and the price they both must pay for their courage, is gradually revealed as this mesmerising and lyrical novel unfolds.

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### Book 534 - Time to say goodbye by Rosie Goodwin

Nuneaton, 1935. Kathy has grown up at Treetops home for children, where Sunday and Tom Branning have always cared for her as one of their own. She enjoys her life at Treetops Manor, surrounded by her beloved horses, and with a future as a nurse ahead of her, she could wish for nothing more. But when Tom dies suddenly in a riding accident, life at Treetops will never be the same again. Kathy is distraught, and Sunday, overwhelmed by grief, leaves the running of the estate to her stepson. In an effort to raise all their spirits, Sunday invites the former residents of Treetops to return to the house for one final celebration before its inevitable closure. But as their financial difficulties mount, will Kathy and Sunday be forced to leave their home?

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### Book 535 - Paradiso by Francesca Scanacapra

Italy, 1937. In a tiny village in rural Lombardy, Graziella Ponti is born into a loving family. Though they are not rich and life is full of challenges, Graziella and her family are content and safe, surrounded by the tightly-knit community of Pieve Santa Clara. But when the shadow of World War Two falls across the village with the arrival of Nazi soldiers, nothing in young Graziella's life will ever be the same again. This is Graziella's story. It charts her loves, losses and triumphs as she grows up in post-war Italy, a country in transformation, freed from the shackles of dictatorship yet still gripped by the restraints of the Catholic church. 'Paradiso' is inspired by true stories told to Francesca Scanacapra by her Italian family and set in locations where she spent much of her childhood.

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### Book 536 - Changing Lara by Anna Jacobs

Lara Perryman has spent her life carefully planning and saving for her future. She is looking forward to the prospect of spending the rest of her days in comfort in a leisure village in Wiltshire and the adventure that her new life will bring. But when long-standing arrangements crumble, her situation quickly becomes worrying. With her dreams in disarray, Lara makes friends with the other residents and finds herself entangled in the ups and downs, triumphs and tragedies of her new community, hoping against hope that her independence will one day be restored.

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### Book 537 - Finding Cassie by Anna Jacobs

When the teenage girl who's been hanging around near the house knocks on the door and tells her she's her granddaughter, Cassie is shocked rigid. There's only one way this can be true: if Evie is the daughter of the baby Cassie gave away for adoption when she was herself a troubled teenager. Is this a trick? Or is Evie's tale true? When she finds out why the girl has come to find her, it brings a tangle of other problems that she can't ignore. This was the last thing she expected to be dealing with as she moves into her new home in a leisure village in Wiltshire.

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### Book 538 - Christmas in Peppercorn Street by Anna Jacobs

Christmas is approaching but the mood on Peppercorn Street is anything but jolly. Claire is convinced her stalker ex will catch up with her and her young daughter, and Luke is finding that living with his estranged teenage daughter brings its own problems. When a road accident brings them together, Luke impulsively offers them shelter in his home. Will this Christmas give them the best present of all: a new family? Or will Claire's ex again cause trouble?

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### Book 539 - The orphan of Ironbridge by Mollie Walton

Shropshire, 1875. Hettie Jones has grown up in Ironbridge. She has never known her father and, since her mother's death, has been brought up by the Malone family, who treat her as one of their own. She works as a pit girl at the local coal mines, alongside her childhood playfellow, Evan - although lately, their friendship seems to be blossoming into something more. But when Queenie King from up at the big house takes a fancy to her, Hettie's life is transformed. Trained first as a lady's maid, and then hurtled into a world of luxury and gentility, Hettie finds her new position difficult to reconcile with her past life and her friends. And with Queenie's daughter-in-law scheming against her, her situation becomes harder still. Can Hettie really use her new position for good? Can she find a way to bridge the divide between the town's rich and poor?

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### Book 540 - The healer’s awakening by Helen Pryke

Since Ginevra Innocenti's death, the cottage has lain empty and abandoned in the woods. Until the day Ginevra's granddaughter, Sara, sees a dragonfly in the depths of winter. Intrigued, she follows it and discovers the forgotten cottage. When Sara learns that her grandmother was once a healer, a series of events is set in motion which could lead to the end of the family legacy. As long-hidden secrets are revealed, Sara starts to doubt everything she once believed in. Her mind in turmoil, she no longer knows whether she can follow in the footsteps of her ancestors. Disowned by her parents, it's time to make a difficult decision. But rumours leave Sara fearing for her future. Will the curse of the Innocenti strike her family once more?

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### Book 541 - The healer’s curse by Helen Pryke

The year is 1348 and the plague is set to sweep through England, leaving tragedy in its wake. Unaware of what awaits her, Agnes is in love and betrothed to Ted. But her life is about to be torn apart and nothing will ever be the same again. Jennifer's life has changed for the better since she arrived in Italy. She's put her past behind her and can finally look forward to a brighter future with boyfriend Francesco and her Italian relatives. If it wasn't for the disturbing visions she keeps having of a pregnant young girl. Who is she? And what is her connection to Jennifer?

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### Book 542 - The gunpowder girl by Tania Crosse

The year is 1875, when life in Dartmoor is harsh and unforgiving. Rose could have any husband she chooses, but she is devoted to one man, her father. When tragedy strikes, it seems that despite Rose's determined efforts, there is only one way to hold the family together. But it is a solution that requires the greatest sacrifice.

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### Book 543 - The wind chime by Alexandra Walsh

Windsor, 2019. Amelia Prentice is recovering from the worst 2 years of her life. First her daughter and then her parents have died. As she gets ready to put the family home, a vast Victorian house in Windsor, on the market, she fulfils her mother's last request to clear out the attic, and she discovers a box of Victorian photographs. The photographs are of a large estate in Pembrokeshire called Cliffside, and they feature the Attwater family. When Amelia uncovers the diaries of Osyth Attwater, she realises the family had tragedies of their own. Pembrokeshire, 1883. Every summer the Attwater family gather at Cliffside to tell each other stories. The youngest in the house is Osyth, a dreamer and writer who waits every year for the wind chime in the garden to signal the arrival of her relatives. But her happiness is shattered when she overhears a conversation that tears her world apart.

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### Book 544 - The words I never wrote by Jane Thynne

New York, present day: On a whim, Juno Lambert buys a 1931 Underwood typewriter that once belonged to celebrated journalist Cordelia Capel. Within its case she discovers an unfinished novel, igniting a transatlantic journey to fill the gaps in the story of Cordelia and her sister and the secret that lies between them. Europe, 1936: Cordelia’s socialite sister Irene marries a German industrialist who whisks her away to Berlin. Cordelia, feistier and more intellectual than Irene, gets a job at a newspaper in Paris, pursuing the journalism career she cherishes. As politics begin to boil in Europe, the sisters exchange letters and Cordelia discovers that Irene’s husband is a Nazi sympathizer. With increasing desperation, Cordelia writes to her beloved sister, but as life in Nazi Germany darkens, Irene no longer dares admit what her existence is truly like. Knowing that their letters cannot tell the whole story, Cordelia decides to fill in the blanks by sitting down with her Underwood and writing the truth...

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### Book 545 - Sunset by Jessie Cave

Ruth and Hannah are sisters. They build each other up and tear each other down. Even as polar opposites they make each other laugh more than anyone else in the world. Ruth is forever single, aimless and wild while Hannah is radiant, organised and hard-working. Together, they are a force to be reckoned with. But a summer holiday changes everything, and Ruth finds herself entering a long period of self-imposed exile from the world. Searching for anonymity and facelessness, she takes a job at Heathrow airport serving coffee to a slow-motion carousel of travellers, cabin crew and taxi drivers. But when a face she recognises appears in the blur, she is forced to retrace her steps back to a time when her life had hope and meaning.

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### Book 546 - Home and other hiding places by Jack Ellis

When eight-year-old Fin and his mum Lindy travel to spend Christmas with his Gran in Sydney, Fin assumes they'll return to their isolated country property - the only home he's ever known. But he soon discovers that this large and crumbling riverside house, surrounded by bush and unwelcoming neighbours, is his home now. As Lindy's fragile emotions fracture under the weight of Gran's disapproval and the pressure of old memories, Fin holds onto a tenderness of spirit and the simple clarity he has learnt from his isolation on the farm - an insight that hasn't yet been clouded by the secret codes of adulthood. But as the life he has known crumbles around him, Fin learns that no-one is coming to his rescue, and he sets off on a journey to find his way home.

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### Book 547 - The mother by Jane Caro

Recently widowed, Miriam Duffy is a respectable North Shore real estate agent and devoted mother and grandmother. She was thrilled when her younger daughter Ally married her true love, but as time goes by Miriam wonders whether all is well with Ally, as she moves to the country and gradually withdraws, finding excuses every time Miriam offers to visit. Their relationship has always had its ups and downs, and Miriam tries to give her daughter the distance she so clearly wants. But is all as it seems? When the truth of her daughter's situation is revealed, Miriam watches in disbelief as Ally and her children find themselves increasingly vulnerable and cut off from the world. As the situation escalates and the law proves incapable of protecting them, Miriam is faced with an unthinkable decision.

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### Book 548 - House of the rising sun by James Lee Burke

From its opening scene in revolutionary Mexico to the Battle of the Marne in 1918, and on to the bordellos and saloons of San Antonio during the reign of the Hole in the Wall Gang, 'House of the Rising Sun' is an epic tale of love, loss, betrayal, vengeance, and retribution that follows Texas Ranger Hackberry Holland on his journey to reunite with his estranged son, Ishmael, a captain in the United States Army.

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### Book 549 - Another kind of eden by James Lee Burke

The American West in the early 1960s appears to be a pastoral paradise: golden wheat fields, mist-filled canyons, frolicking animals. Aspiring novelist Aaron Holland Broussard has observed it from the open door of a boxcar, riding the rails for both inspiration and odd jobs. Jumping off in Denver, he finds work on a farm and meets Joanne McDuffy, an articulate and fierce college student and gifted painter. Their soul connection is immediate, but their romance is complicated by Joanne's involvement with a shady professor who is mixed up with a drug-addled cult.

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### **Book 550 - Secrets at the last house before the sea by Liz** Eeles

Back in the tiny seaside village of Heaven's Cove after the death of her mother, all Rosie Merchant wants is to hide her tears, rent out her childhood home, and get back to her 'real' life, away from the gossiping villagers and wild Devon weather she escaped from years ago. She's surprised to find a smiling man in hiking boots - local farmer Liam - waiting on the stone doorstep. His kind offer to help clear crumbling, isolated Driftwood House is hard to refuse, and despite Rosie's determination not to let anyone get close, soon they're walking and laughing together along the clifftops. As clouds scud across the endless sky and green waves crash against the shore, Rosie is reminded that nowhere is more beautiful than home. Then, up in the attic of Driftwood House, Rosie stumbles across a photo which exposes the heart-stopping truth about how her mother came to live at Driftwood House years ago.

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## PHILOSOPHY

### Book 551 - Traveller of the century by Andres Neuman

A traveller on his way to Dessau stops off for the night in the mysterious city of Wandernberg. He intends to leave the following day, but the city begins to ensnare him with its strange, shifting geography. When Hans befriends an old organ grinder, and falls in love with Sophie, the daughter of a local merchant, he finds it impossible to leave. Through a series of encounters with starkly different characters, Neuman takes the listener on a hypothetical journey back into post-Napoleonic Europe. At the heart of the novel lies the love story between Sophie and Hans. They are both translators and, between dictionaries and bed, they gradually build up their own fragile common language. Through their relationship, Neuman explores the idea that all love is an act of translation, and that all translation is an act of love.

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### Book 552 – A happy death by Albert Camus

Is it possible to die a happy death? This is the central question of Camus's astonishing early novel, published posthumously and greeted as a major literary event. It tells the story of a young Algerian, Mersault, who defies society's rules by committing a murder and escaping punishment, then experimenting with different ways of life and finally dying a happy man. In many ways A Happy Death is a fascinating first sketch for The Outsider, but it can also be seen as a candid self-portrait, drawing on Camus's memories of his youth, travels and early relationships. It is infused with lyrical descriptions of the sun-drenched Algiers of his childhood - the place where, eventually, Mersault is able to find peace and die 'without anger, without hatred, without regret'.

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### Book 553 – Summer by Ali Smith

In the present, Sacha knows the world's in trouble. Her brother Robert just is trouble. Their mother and father are having trouble. Meanwhile the world's in meltdown - and the real meltdown hasn't even started yet. In the past, a lovely summer. A different brother and sister know they're living on borrowed time. This is a story about people on the brink of change. They're family, but they think they're strangers. So: where does family begin? And what do people who think they've got nothing in common have in common?

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### Book 554 - If on a winter's night a traveller by Italo Calvino

Italo Calvino imagines a novel capable of endless mutations in this intricately crafted story about writing and readers. If on a Winter's Night a Traveler turns out to be not one novel but ten, each with a different plot, style, ambience, and author, and each interrupted at a moment of suspense. Together they form a labyrinth of literatures, known and unknown, alive and extinct, through which two readers, a male and a female, pursue both the story lines that intrigue them and one another.

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### Book 555 - How to teach philosophy to your dog by Anthony McGowan

Monty was just like any other dog. A scruffy and irascible Maltese terrier, he enjoyed barking at pugs and sniffing at trees. But after yet another dramatic confrontation with the local Rottweiler, Anthony McGowan realises it's high time he and Monty had a chat about what makes him a good or a bad dog. Taking his lead from Monty's canine antics, McGowan takes us on a hilarious and enlightening jaunt through the major debates of philosophy. Will Kant convince Monty to stop stealing cheesecake? How long will they put up with Socrates poking holes in every argument? In this uniquely entertaining take on morality and ethics, the dutiful duo set out to uncover who - if anyone - has the right end of the ethical stick and can tell us how best to live one's life.

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### Book 556 - Who gets to be smart by Bri Lee

In 2018 Bri Lee's brilliant young friend Damian was named a Rhodes Scholar, an apex of academic achievement. When she goes to visit him and takes a tour of Oxford and Rhodes House, she begins questioning her belief in a system she has previously revered, as she learns the truth behind what Virginia Woolf described almost a century earlier as the 'stream of gold and silver' that flows through elite institutions and dictates decisions about who deserves to be educated there. The question that forms in her mind drives the following two years of conversations and investigations: who gets to be smart? Interrogating the adage, 'knowledge is power', and calling institutional prejudice to account, Bri once again dives into her own privilege and presumptions to bring us the stark and confronting results.

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## POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

### Book 557 - Raising the resistance: a mother’s guide to practical activism by Farrah Alexander

After millions of American women discarded their protest signs and put away their pink hats, the one-third of Women's March participants, who had never taken part of a protest before, used their newly discovered voices to ask, 'Now what?' 'Raising the Resistance' speaks directly to these newborn activists and provides the practical guidance, political commentary, and inspiration they crave while acknowledging their dual roles as mothers.

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### Book 558 - The palace letters by Jenny Hocking

A political betrayal. A constitutional crisis. A hidden correspondence. Gough Whitlam was a progressive prime minister whose reign from 1972 proved tumultuous after 23 years of conservative government in Australia. After a second election victory in May 1974, when a hostile Senate refused to vote on his 1975 budget, the political deadlock that ensued culminated in Whitlam's unexpected and deeply controversial dismissal by the governor-general, Sir John Kerr. Kerr was in close touch with the Palace during this period, but, under the cover of being designated as personal, that correspondence was locked away in the National Archives, and embargoed by the Queen - potentially forever. This ruse denied the Australian people access to critical information about one of the most divisive episodes in the nation's history. In the face of this, Professor Jenny Hocking embarked on what would become a ten-year campaign and a four-year legal battle to force the Archives to release the letters. In May 2020, despite being opposed by the Archives, Buckingham Palace, and the full resources of the federal government, she won her historic case in the High Court. The Palace Letters is the ground-breaking account of her indomitable fight.

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### Book 559 - The reckoning by Mary L. Trump

'The Reckoning' examines America's national trauma, rooted in its long history of slavery and civil rights abuses, but dramatically exacerbated by the impact of recent events and the Trump administration's corrupt and immoral policies. America's failure to acknowledge this trauma, let alone root it out, has allowed it to metastasize. Whether it manifests itself in rising levels of rage and hatred, or hopelessness and apathy, the stress of living in a country many no longer recognise has affected everyone. America is suffering from PTSD - a new leader alone cannot fix it. An enormous amount of healing must be done to rebuild faith in America's leadership and hope for the nation.

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## PSYCHOLOGY

### Book 560 – Turning down the noise by Christine Jackman

For centuries, wise men and women have sought silence to gain insight and creative inspiration. Now the modern world is catching up. Is neuroscience finally proving that the mystics, monks and medicine men were onto something? Turning Down the Noise explores what is happening to our brains, our lives and our communities as we navigate a never-ending assault on our senses and attention, whether from actual noise, exposure to media or the pings and alerts on our phones. More importantly, it shows how we can reverse the damage through simple daily acts to reclaim the silence. Seeking ways to channel and capture the clarity and peace of mind so often lacking in our lives, Jackman writes with a lightness of touch, sharing her own experiences. Through her personal quest for a better way of being, author and respected journalist Christine Jackman seeks out the best ways to regain clarity and peace of mind in a busy and noisy world.

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### Book 561 – Zero negativity by Ant Middleton

There are times when life feels like it has you cornered: financial difficulties, relationship issues, work problems, all of the above. Every one of us, at one time or another, will have to face up to the challenges that come our way. And there are two ways of meeting them: negatively, where blame is the answer, where other people are at fault, where you haven't been treated fairly. Or positively, where you own the situation, learn and grow from it, and become a better person at the end of it. Letting you into areas of his life he's never talked about before, Ant will show you how to embrace failure and use it to your advantage, how to see change as the foundation of your future success, how to develop resilience, how to deal with bullies, what it means to be a positive role model, and how to live a life with no regrets.

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### Book 562 – The mind strength method by Dr Jodie Lowinger

What if you could turn anxiety into your superpower? Dr Jodie Lowinger - clinical psychologist, executive coach and founder of the Anxiety Clinic - is at the forefront of mental health practice and has already helped thousands reframe their anxiety in this era of uncertainty. Through her groundbreaking Mind Strength methodology, and now in her first book, she offers a simple and practical toolkit of the best evidence-based techniques to: harness fear-driven thoughts and behaviours and turn them into empowered action; break free from being bossed around by worry and your inner critic; build a resilient, high-performance mindset. Woven through with relatable case studies and challenges to the stories you've been telling yourself, 'The Mind Strength Method' helps you move forward with your life in a way that is more aligned with your purpose and values.

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### Book 563 – The reality slap by Dr Russ Harris

Sometimes, it can feel like life holds endless setbacks and challenges; like reality is continually slapping you in the face and causing pain that you aren't equipped to handle. This 'reality slap' can take many forms, from the death of a loved one to the loss of a job, loneliness to rejection. And whatever form it takes, it hurts! With constructive methods based on real-world research, this guide gives you the tools to rebuild your life and thrive after serious setbacks.

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### Book 564 – How to break up with friends by Hannah Korrel

We all have that one friend. The one who expects the world, but never remembers your birthday. The one who constantly ditches your dinner plans when you're already halfway to the restaurant. The one who leaves you feeling exhausted, used and completely emotionally battered. Why do we let these people into our lives? When is their friendship actually friend-shit? How do we dump these crappy companions? This is the no-bullshit, essential guide for anyone devoting their precious time and energy into maintaining friendships with toxic friends. Using activities, truth bombs, and real-life examples, neuropscyhologist Dr Hannah Korrel will help you to identify the bad friends in your life, understand what true friendship should look like, learn how to attract the best people, and become the best friend you can be yourself.

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### Book 565 – The resilience project by Hugh Van Cuylenburg

Hugh van Cuylenburg was a primary school teacher volunteering in northern India when he had a life-changing realisation: despite the underprivileged community the children were from, they were remarkably positive. By contrast, back in Australia Hugh knew that all too many children struggled with depression, social anxieties and mental illness. His own little sister had been ravaged by anorexia nervosa. How was it that young people he knew at home, who had food, shelter, friends and a loving family, struggled with their mental health, while these kids seemed so contented and resilient? He set about finding the answer and in time came to recognise the key traits and behaviours these children possessed were gratitude, empathy and mindfulness. In the ensuing years Hugh worked tirelessly to study and share this revelation with the world. He launched The Resilience Project, which has become part of the curriculum in many schools and he tours Australia talking to parents, educators, corporations, CEOs and sporting elite. Now, with the same blend of humour, poignancy and clear-eyed insight that The Resilience Project has become renowned for, Hugh explains how we can all get the necessary tools to live a happier, more contented and fulfilling life.

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### Book 566 - Step into you by Lorraine Murphy

Are you lacking motivation or feeling overwhelmed, burnt out or not sure where you want life to take you next? Are you feeling like a 'low res' version of yourself, having focused all your energy on your career, your family or your community? If you answered 'yes', it's time to re-set. In Step Into You, entrepreneur and mentor Lorraine Murphy shares her best advice on how to re-focus on you and your personal version of success. She presents essential tips, advice and hacks that have transformed her own life, as well as real, raw and relatable examples from other busy women. Covering everything from growing a healthy mindset, getting shit done, developing your unique vision and goals, putting self-care first, progressing your career, managing your relationships and getting to grips with parenting, you'll feel like you've had a one-on-one mentoring session with Lorraine and will be recharged and ready to step into your best life.

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### Book 567 - I didn't do the thing today by Madeleine Dore

Any given day brings a never-ending list of things to do. There's the work thing, the catch-up thing, the laundry thing, the creative thing, the exercise thing, the family thing, the thing we don't want to do, the thing we've been putting off (despite it being the most important thing). Even on days when we get a lot done, the thing left undone can leave us feeling guilty, anxious or disappointed. After five years of searching for the secret to productivity, Madeleine Dore discovered there isn't one - instead, we're being set up to fail. 'I Didn't Do the Thing Today' is an inspiring call to take productivity off its pedestal, to embrace the joyful messiness and unpredictability of life. For anyone who has ever felt the pressure to do more, be more, achieve more, this antidote to our doing-obsession is the permission slip we all need to find our own way.

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### Book 568 - Embracing change by Jana Firestone

What would you do in your life if you knew you could not fail? What's stopping you from having a go? Therapist Jana Firestone breaks down the factors that often make us so reluctant to pursue new goals - from core beliefs and anxiety to ego and imposter syndrome - and offers concrete strategies to help you adapt and thrive. With a blend of professional advice, personal experience and real-life stories, 'Embracing Change' is a key to unlocking your potential.

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## RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY

### Book 569 - War room by Chris Fabry

Prayer is a powerful weapon. Tony and Elizabeth Jordan have it all; great jobs, a beautiful daughter, and their dream house. But appearances can be deceiving. Their world is actually crumbling under the strain of a failing marriage. While Tony basks in his professional success and flirts with temptation, Elizabeth resigns herself to increasing bitterness. But their lives take an unexpected turn when Elizabeth meets her newest client, Miss Clara, a wise, older widow who challenges Elizabeth to start fighting for her family instead of fighting against her husband. From the award-winning creators of Fireproof and Courageous comes War Room, a compelling drama with humor and heart that explores the power that prayer can have over marriages, parenting, careers, friendships, and every other area of our lives.

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### Book 570 - The bishop's daughter by Wanda E. Brunstetter

Leona is Bishop Jacob Weaver's daughter and a dedicated teacher in a one-room Amish schoolhouse. After her father's tragic accident, Leona's faith wavers. How could God allow something like this to happen to one of His servants? Outlander Jimmy Scott comes to Pennsylvania in search of his real family. When he is hired to paint an Amish schoolhouse, Jimmy and Leona find themselves irresistibly drawn to each other. Can anything good come from the love between an Amish woman and an English man? What secrets will be revealed and what miracles await God's people in Lancaster County?

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### Book 571 - A short history of Islamic thought by Fitzroy Morrissey

Day after day we read of the caliphate and the Qur'an, of Sunni and Shi'a, Salafis and Sufis, integration and isolation, radicals and refugees. Almost a quarter of the world's population is Muslim. It is clear that understanding the modern world requires knowing something about Islam. But while much is said and written about Islam and the global trends and historic events connected to it, little attention is given to placing these phenomena within their greater historical, religious and intellectual context. Tracing thirteen centuries of Islamic history - from the foundation of Islam in the seventh century and the life of Muhammad, through the Crusades in the Middle East and the growth of great empires, to the often fraught 21st century - this book considers questions of interpretation and legacy, of the lives of Muslims and how they relate to others.

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### Book 572 - The Muslim problem by Tawseef Khan

Why are Muslim men portrayed as inherently violent? Does the veil violate women's rights? Is Islam stopping Muslims from integrating? Across western societies, Muslims are more misunderstood than any other minority. But what does it mean to believe in Islam today, to have forged your beliefs and identity in the shadow of 9/11 and the War on Terror? Exploding stereo.

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## ROMANCE

### Book 573 - Two steps onward by Anne Buist and Graeme Simsion

Three years after life got in the way of their long-distance relationship, Californian illustrator Zoe and English engineer Martin have an unexpected opportunity to reunite: a second chance to follow in the footsteps of pilgrims in Europe. This time, they won't be walking the famous Camino de Santiago to north-west Spain but the less-travelled Chemin d'Assise and Via Francigena to Rome, the mountainous path down from rural France. And rather than each setting off solo, they will accompany Zoe's old friend Camille - who, despite her terminal illness, insists she will walk the whole 16,000km to seek an audience with the Pope - and her not-so-ex-husband, Gilbert, who sees the trip as a gourmet tour. Then Bernhard, Martin's young nemesis from the previous trek, shows up, along with Martin's daughter, Sarah, who is having a quarter-life crisis and doesn't exactly hit it off with Zoe.

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### Book 574 - David and Ameena by Ami Rao

Modern-day New York, a subway train. David, an American-Jewish jazz musician, torn between his dreams and his parents' expectations, sees a woman across the carriage. Ameena, a British-Pakistani artist who left Manchester to escape the pressure from her conservative family, sees David. When a moment of sublime beauty occurs unexpectedly, the two connect, moved by their shared experience. From this flows a love that it appears will triumph above all.

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### Book 575 - Asking for a friend by Andi Osho

Three best friends are going to solve their relationship woes once and for all. Forty-something Jemima's life is on track - well, sort of. All she has to do is muster the courage to bat her niggly ex away for good. Twenty-something Meagan is in the midst of her five-phase plan and is nearly ready for phase three - a relationship. While thirty-something Simi has had more it's not yous than any I dos. Deciding it's time to play the dating game by their own rules, they're going to ditch the dating apps and ask people out in real life. The catch? They're playing matchmaker and can only ask out potential dates for each other because the most important rule is that no woman gets left behind.

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### Book 576 – Irresistible by Mary Balogh

Sophia Armitage does not consider herself attractive. Even her late husband treated her more as a companion than a lover when she accompanied him to war. But Sophia hopes to enjoy a Season in London as her niece makes her social debut - until, that is, her hopes are dashed when she is faced with a threat she can reveal to no one. Then she meets Sir Nathaniel Gascoigne, an old army friend, and falls in love with him even as she must discourage his growing passion for her. Nathaniel can sense Sophia's unhappiness and fear, but does not understand that his attempts to protect and help her can only bring about her downfall.

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### Book 577 - A lonely girl is a dangerous thing by Jessie Tu

Jena Chung plays the violin. She was once a child prodigy and is now addicted to sex. She's struggling a little. Her professional life comprises rehearsals, concerts, auditions and relentless practice; her personal life is spent managing family demands, those of her creative friends, and lots of sex. Jena is selfish, impulsive and often behaves badly, though mostly only to her own detriment. And then she meets Mark - much older and worldly-wise - who bewitches her. Could this be love?

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### Book 578 - Just the way you are by Aimee Brown

Ambri and Henry have been best friends forever. They've been through the highs and lows of life with each other by their sides. Together, they can face it all. Until one night destroys everything. Two years after he stepped out of it, Henry walks back into Ambri's life and she's more than a little shocked. But as old friends fall into even older habits, they need to decide whether they can forget the past and embrace their future.

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### Book 579 - The man I didn’t marry by Anna Bell

Ellie has the perfect life: a happy marriage, a gorgeous daughter and a baby on the way. But when her husband Max suddenly develops amnesia, he forgets everything about the last five years. including his relationship with Ellie. Now the man she said 'I do' to has become a stranger; he's not who she married at all. Yet Ellie is determined to get to the bottom of his memory loss and find her Max again - he has to be in there somewhere, right? As they get to know one another afresh, Ellie finds herself seeing Max clearly for the first time. But then she discovers that before he lost his memory, Max was keeping a huge secret from her. Will their new beginning prove to be a false start, just as it seemed they might fall in love all over again?

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### Book 580 - Nasty by Dr. XYZ

Extremely nasty things happen when a rich divorcee, an ambitious music mogul, and an extremely horny high school virgin all cross paths in a delicious web of insatiable lust, obsession, and revenge. Nicola is beautiful, wealthy -- and newly divorced. Angry and bitter with the world over her life's failures, she goes on a sexual rampage and destroys everything in her path. She begins to slowly move in on one unsuspecting family with her sexual charms. She starts up a hot-and-heavy relationship with Carlos, a young music executive with big dreams and an even larger sexual appetite. Then she deflowers Carlos's wholesome brother, Jonathan, an up-and-coming basketball star. She's definitely on fire, but the summer is already hot for so many other reasons. Things get even more complicated when Carlos's mother is reunited with the love of her life. Eli is a recovering substance abuser and the father of her eldest child, Tarik, a talented neo-soul artist on the cusp of greatness. Thanks to Carlos's expert music management, Tarik was only seconds away from signing a major record deal -- but Eli's unexpected arrival disrupts everything. Now that the family's core strength is completely weakened, Nicola can finally be her truly ruthless self. The summer continues to sizzle for this family as Nicola's grip tightens around the men who would sacrifice everything for her.

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### Book 581 - The way you tempt me by Elle Wright

The heir-apparent to Pure Talent, ex-playboy Xavier Starks had it all figured out. With an engagement to Hollywood’s hottest actress and his innovative expansion plans, he can finally prove to his dad, Jax, that he's responsible enough to step into a leadership role at their company. Until a jilting-gone-viral puts Xavier back in the relentless social-media spotlight, out of the running for partner and in competition with the last person he ever expected: his very-grown-up childhood friend and girl-next-door. With her acclaimed sports talent roster and unparalleled instincts, agent Zara Reid knows she can take Pure Talent to the next level. To make the most of her mentor Jax’s faith in her, shell go head-to-head and scheme-to-scheme with Xavier to prove she's got what it takes. But suddenly, long days working too close together turn into reckless, insatiable nights. Now, being co-workers-with-benefits means Zara and Xavier must face their secrets, dare to trust and negotiate the toughest game of all love**.**

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### Book 582 - Phantom waltz by Catherine Anderson

The first time wealthy rancher Ryan Kendrick sees Bethany Coulter, he falls in love. She is perfect in every way, except a riding accident years ago has confined her to a wheelchair. Bethany is convinced she will never marry or bear children. As Ryan tries to win Bethany's trust and her heart, he must learn how to care for her.

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### Book 583 - The house at Greenacres by Darcie Boleyn

When Holly Dryden fled Penhallow Sands nearly a year ago she was determined to put the past - and Rich Turner - behind her. But now an unexpected loss and financial trouble has led her back to the family vineyard and it's time to tell Rich the truth - he's a father. Surrounded by the memories of what they once shared Holly's anger fades in the glow of Rich's undeniable love for their son and the way he selflessly steps in to help the vineyard out of trouble. As Holly watches Rich flourish in his new role as father to baby Luke, she realises that though they can't change the past, the future is still theirs to write.

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### Book 584 - The cottage at Plum Tree Bay by Darcie Boleyn

Catherine Bromley has spent her life in Penhallow Sands, dedicating herself to work and supporting her emotionally fragile mother. Since her father left, it's always been the two of them and Catherine has no interest in romance. What's the point when men just leave? And besides, her mother needs her. But when handsome novelist Mark Coleman arrives to stay at the cottage overlooking nearby Plum Tree Bay, Catherine's world is changed. She's soon bumping into Mark everywhere - or being thrown at him by her matchmaking friend! The chemistry is undeniable. But can Mark let go of his painful past to be the man that Catherine can rely on? And will Catherine find the courage to let love in?

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### Book 585 - The Christmas tea shop by Darcie Boleyn

Fran Gandolfini can't help taking in strays; with four dogs, five cats and two bearded dragons, she refuses to give up on a creature in need. The only thing Fran has given up on, in fact, is her love life. Moving from the city to Penhallow Sands to work in the Tea Shop, Ethan Clarke hopes he's made the right choice for his daughter, Tilly. Ethan's past means he struggles to trust people. Just as Fran starts to change that, a life-changing secret that she's keeping for a friend causes a rift between them. Fran can't tell Ethan the truth, but she hates lying to him more. It'll take a Christmas miracle to set things right.

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### Book 586 - Willow’s wedding vows by Debbie Viggiano

Willow has been living with marriage-shy Charlie for more years than she cares to remember and is old-fashioned enough to want a wedding band and a loads-of-sex honeymoon before stretchmarks and nipple shields. So when the once-wary Charlie surprisingly goes down on one knee, Willow doesn't question why her boyfriend is suddenly so keen to rush her into saying 'I do'. The first clue comes as Willow is zipped into her Cinderella dress, the second as she bobs into the wedding car, and the third as the Roller swings towards its fairy-tale destination - leaving a shell-shocked Willow desperately trying to figure out what to do next.

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### Book 587 - A reluctant belle by Beth White

Joelle Daughtry has a secret. By day, the impoverished Southern belle has been helping her sisters in their quest to turn the run-down family plantation into a resort hotel after the close of the Civil War. But by night and under a male pseudonym, she has been penning articles for the local paper in support of constructing a school for former slaves. With the Mississippi arm of the Ku Klux Klan gaining power and prestige, Joelle knows she is playing a dangerous game. Loyalties shift when Schuyler Beaumont, childhood enemy and current investor in the Daughtry House renovation, takes over his assassinated father's candidacy for state office. Joelle finds that in order to protect her family and her home, she and Schuyler will have to put aside their longstanding personal conflict and develop a united public front. The trouble is, what do you do when animosity becomes respect--and even love--if you're already engaged to someone else?

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### Book 588 - A rebel heart by Beth White

In the fine tradition established by her Southern grandmama, Aurora Daughtry has recently orchestrated the marriage of her eldest sister and facilitated her middle sister's engagement. Just when it seems there is nothing left to absorb her considerable talent for managing people, in walks federal deputy marshal Zane Sager. But Zane is not at Daughtry House for a vacation. He's tracking a killer and collecting two key witnesses to a federal judge's murder. Aurora takes it upon herself to disabuse the cynical lawman of his conviction that the world is out to get him. But just as she's on the verge of cracking Zane's defenses, the man he is after reminds him that no one he loves is safe. Ever.

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### Book 589 - By the book by Amanda Sellet

As a devotee of classic novels, Mary Porter-Malcolm is a walking encyclopedia of Mistakes That Have Been Made, especially by her favorite literary heroines. So when some new friends seem in danger of falling for the same tricks employed since the days of Austen and Tolstoy, Mary starts compiling the Scoundrel Survival Guide, using archetypes of literature's debonair bad boys to spot red flags in the dating department. But despite her best efforts, she soon finds herself falling for a supposed cad - the same one she warned her friends away from. Without a convenient rain-swept moor to flee to, Mary is forced to admit that real life doesn't follow the same rules as fiction and if she wants a happy ending, she's going to have to ditch the books and write it herself.

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### Book 590 - The love of stranger by Carol Drinkwater

Heartbroken following the death of her partner, Susan Parks knows she needs to find a new life, so she leaves her life in England and moves to Cannes. There Susan encounters the enigmatic Gustave. He seems intrigued by Susan, and begins a determined campaign to win her over. His attentions are flattering, and unexpected, but Susan's emotions are too raw. As they get to know one another, however, Susan learns more about Gustave's story - his ambitious plans for the stunning chateau he owns, his own tragic loss. Susan can't run from her growing feelings, but nor can she forget the heartache that brought her to France. She has a choice to make: to hide in bittersweet memories of the past or to take a chance on love.

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### Book 591 – The life we almost had by Amelia Henley

Anna wasn't looking for love when Adam swept her off her feet but there was no denying their connection, and she believed they would be together forever. Years later, cracks have appeared in their relationship. Anna is questioning whether their love can really be eternal when a cruel twist of fate delivers a crushing blow, and Anna and Adam are completely lost to one another. Now, Anna needs Adam more than ever, but the way back to him has life-changing consequences. Is a second chance at first love really worth the sacrifice? Anna needs to decide and time is running out.

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### Book 592 – The spice king by Elizabeth Camden

Gray Delacroix has dedicated his life to building his very successful global spice empire, but it has come at a cost. Resolved to salvage his family before it spirals out of control, he returns to his ancestral home to save his brother and sister before it's too late. As a junior botanist for the Smithsonian, Annabelle Larkin has been charged with the impossible task of gaining access to the notoriously private Delacroix plant collection. If she fails, she will be out of a job and the family farm in Kansas will go under. She has no idea that in gaining entrance to the Delacroix world, she will unwittingly step into a web of dangerous political intrigue far beyond her experience. Unable to deny her attraction to the reclusive business tycoon, Annabelle will be forced to choose between her heart and loyalty to her country. Can Gray and Annabelle find a way through the storm of scandal without destroying the family Gray is fighting to save?

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### Book 593 – A gilded lady by Elizabeth Camden

Caroline Delacroix is at the pinnacle of Washington high society in her role as secretary to the first lady of the United States. But beneath the facade of her beauty, glamorous wardrobe, and dazzling personality, she's hiding a terrible secret. If she cannot untangle a web of foreign espionage, her brother will face execution for treason. Nathaniel Trask is the newly appointed head of the president's Secret Service team. He is immediately suspicious of Caroline despite his overwhelming attraction to her quick wit and undeniable charm. Desperate to keep the president protected, Nathaniel must battle to keep his focus fully on his job as the threat to the president rises. Amid the glamorous pageantry of Gilded Age Washington, DC, Caroline and Nathaniel will face adventure, danger, and heartbreak in a race against time that will span the continent and the depth of human emotion.

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### Book 594 – A desperate hope by Elizabeth Camden

Eloise Drake's prim demeanor hides the turbulent past she's finally put behind her--or so she thinks. A mathematical genius, she's now a successful accountant for the largest engineering project in 1908 New York. But to her dismay, her new position puts her back in the path of the man responsible for her deepest heartbreak. Alex Duval is the mayor of a town about to be wiped off the map. The state plans to flood the entire valley where his town sits in order to build a new reservoir, and Alex is stunned to discover the woman he once loved on the team charged with the demolition. With his world crumbling around him, Alex devises a risky plan to save his town--but he needs Eloise's help to succeed. Alex is determined to win back the woman he thought he'd lost forever, but even their combined ingenuity may not be enough to overcome the odds against them before it's too late.

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### Book 595 – Fearless by Fern Michaels

Anna Campbell is ready to take her first tentative steps back into the world after widowhood. On a singles cruise, she meets divorced professor Ryan Robertson, and the sparks between them are undeniable. Back home in West Texas, Anna and Ryan continue their romance, and Anna decides it's time for their families to meet. Anna is delighted when her daughter, Christina, hits it off with Ryan's daughter, Renee. The two girls are close in age and have lots in common. Ryan's son, Patrick, is college-bound and somewhat aloof, but Anna feels sure they'll grow closer in time. She happily accepts Ryan's proposal, confident in the bond they've formed. But the idyllic relationships Anna is hoping for is quickly thrown into doubt. Ryan and his children may not be all she thinks they are.

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### **Book 596 – Home sweet home by Fern Michaels, Donna** Kaufman and Melissa Storm

Three's a crowd by Fern Michaels: Mothers Day will be the first in three years that Samantha Stewart has spent with her parents. And she's bringing a very special gift - the baby granddaughter they've never met. Sam's work as an overseas reporter was exhilarating and dangerous. Now she's seeking stability for little Caroline and answers for herself and finding them in a homecoming full of surprises. Blue Hollow Falls by Donna Kauffman: The moment she set foot in Blue Hollow Falls, Dubliner Katie MacMillan felt right at home. Back to help withher sister's pregnancy, she's contemplating her own future, especially when she confronts Declan MacGregor, her childhood tormentor and first crush. This Blue Ridge town was supposed to be a new beginning, but can it also be the setting for a second chance? Bring me home by Melissa Storm: For Hazel Long, spending time with her bedridden father is bittersweet. There's comfort in the friendship offered by other hospital visitors and the kindness of a handsome male nurse. And when Hazel's father begins to tell her the story of the mother she barely knew, it's an unexpected chance to bond, and a lesson in making the most of each new day.

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### **Book 597 – Very nearly normal by Hannah Sunderland**

Matilda 'Effie' Heaton has always felt like she's swimming against the tide. Everyone around her has life sorted, but Effie's living with her parents and crying into a wine bottle at night. The only thing she loves is her job at a bookshop, where she can lose herself in other people's stories. But then she meets Theo, who knows only too well that life isn't something to take for granted. Because Theo has a life-changing secret, and as Effie starts to realise that she's falling in love instead of falling apart, fate steps in and deals her a new hand. And this time, the stakes are high.

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### **Book 598 – The boundary fence by Alissa Callen**

The scars that country vet Ella Quinlivan hides are not solely on the outside. Men are off-limits. She fills her world with her friends, work and the colourful community of small town Woodlea. She also becomes custodian of a sandstone cottage of an elderly friend whose teenage daughter went missing two decades ago. With a broken marriage behind him, Saul Armstrong is determined to recapture his dreams by bringing American bison to the Australian bush. He intends to stick to his side of the high wire fence that divides his farm from his distracting new neighbour, Ella. When Saul calls out Ella for a bison emergency she isn't just thrown out of her comfort zone by dealing with an unfamiliar animal. Slow-smiling and guarded Saul stirs emotions she'd long ago discarded. When the summer heat parches the landscape and dust obscures the sun, hidden secrets come to light. Not only will Ella and Saul be tested, the connection forged between them will be threatened. Will love be enough to guarantee their freedom or will fear continue to dictate the direction their lives will take?

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### **Book 599 – The summer getaway by Tilly Tennant**

Ashley got much more than a suntan on her first ever foreign holiday; one whirlwind romance and nine months later she had a daughter, Molly. Too proud to ever contact the father, Ashley made a decision to go it alone and raise her daughter herself. Fifteen years later, she finally has the chance to take Molly on her first ever holiday; a gorgeous, all-expenses-paid trip to the charming French resort of St. Raphael. But fate has other plans. One look into her neighbour's dark hazel eyes is all it takes to give her the shock of her life. Standing in front of her is Haydon, Molly's long-lost father and the holiday fling she thought she'd never see again. As the temperature on the Cote D'Azure steadily rises and Ashley and Haydon begin to spend more time together, will Ashley find the courage to tell him who she is - and more importantly, who Molly is?

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### **Book 600 – The adventuress by M. C. Beaton**

The house at 67 Clarges Street in Mayfair has a new pair of renters - pretty, young Emily Goodenough and the silent, mysterious man she calls her uncle. Emily is in London to find a husband - though her awkwardness in society could prove to be an obstacle. The servants, led by Rainbird the butler, suspect there is more to the story and soon uncover the true identities of the Goodenoughs. The question remains whether in spite of it all, Emily can capture the heart of the ton's most eligible bachelor...

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### **Book 601 – Rainbird's revenge by M. C. Beaton**

When the Duke of Pelham returns to his town house at 67 Clarges Street, he is grimly determined to find a suitable wife—but completely unprepared for what the season has to offer. The duke’s title alone has always brought him more than his share of feminine attention; claiming not to believe in love, he has never been spurned by a lady. The duke’s self-imposed search is soon disrupted by the arrival in London of Miss Jenny Sutherland, a spoiled but beautiful country girl whose vanity is her tragic flaw. According to her guardian Aunt Letitia, lack of competition has made Jenny put on airs; in London, she will get the set-down she sorely deserves. Indeed, at her first important London party, Jenny’s blatant disdain for the duke leads to certain disaster. But no one has counted on the intervention of John Rainbird, the shrewd and resourceful butler at 67 Clarges Street.

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### **Book 602 – Rakes progress by M. C. Beaton**

Lord Guy Carlton, late of His Majesty's regiment and weary from the war in France, has only wine, women, and song in mind when he rents Number 67 Clarges Street for the season. He certainly has no desire for a serious attachment—and never marriage! Then his merry eyes spot the lovely but very proper Miss Esther Jones. But what will be her fate if she falls in love with the notorious Lord Guy? Though Esther's business acumen has made her one of the richest women in England, her innocence could make her a victim of the wild ways of the ton—unless the downstairs staff at Clarges Street devise a campaign to reform the rake who is laying siege to her heart.

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### **Book 603 – The choice by Nicholas Sparks**

Travis Parker has everything a man could want: a good job, loyal friends, even a waterfront home in small-town North Carolina. In full pursuit of the good life - boating, swimming , and regular barbecues with his good-natured buddies -- he holds the vague conviction that a serious relationship with a woman would only cramp his style. That is, until Gabby Holland moves in next door. Spanning the eventful years of young love, marriage and family, The Choice ultimately confronts us with the most heart-wrenching question of all: how far would you go to keep the hope of love alive?

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### **Book 604 – Nine rules to break when romancing a rake by Sarah MacLean**

A lady does not smoke cheroot. She does not ride astride. She does not fence or attend duels. She does not fire a pistol, and she never gambles at a gentlemen's club. Lady Calpurnia Hartwell has always followed the rules, rules that have left her unmarried—and more than a little unsatisfied. And so she's vowed to break the rules and live the life of pleasure she's been missing. But to dance every dance, to steal a midnight kiss—to do those things, Callie will need a willing partner. Someone who knows everything about rule-breaking. Someone like Gabriel St. John, the Marquess of Ralston—charming and devastatingly handsome, his wicked reputation matched only by his sinful smile. If she's not careful, she'll break the most important rule of all—the one that says that pleasure-seekers should never fall hopelessly, desperately in love . . .

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### Book 605 – Ten ways to be adored when landing a Lord by Sarah MacLean

Since being named “London’s Lord to Land” by a popular ladies’ magazine, Nicholas St. John has been relentlessly pursued by every matrimony-minded female in the ton. So when an opportunity to escape fashionable society presentsitself, he eagerly jumps—only to land in the path of the most determined, damnably delicious woman he’s ever met! The daughter of a titled wastrel, Lady Isabel Townsend has too many secrets and too little money. Though she is used to taking care of herself quite handily, her father’s recent passing has left Isabel at sea and in need of outside help to protect her young brother’s birthright. The sinfully handsome, eminently eligible Lord Nicholas could be the very salvation she seeks. But the lady must be wary and not do anything reckless and foolish…like falling madly, passionately in love.

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### Book 606 – Eleven scandals to start to win a duke’s heart by Sarah MacLean

She lives for passion. Bold, impulsive, and a magnet for trouble, Juliana Fiori is no simpering English miss. She refuses to play by society's rules: she speaks her mind, cares nothing for the approval of the ton, and can throw a punch with remarkable accuracy. Her scandalous nature makes her a favorite subject of London's most practiced gossips . . . and precisely the kind of woman The Duke of Leighton wants far far away from him. He swears by reputation. Scandal is the last thing Simon Pearson has room for in his well-ordered world. The Duke of Disdain is too focused on keeping his title untainted and his secrets unknown. But when he discovers Juliana hiding in his carriage late one evening—risking everything he holds dear—he swears to teach the reckless beauty a lesson in propriety. She has other plans, however; she wants two weeks to prove that even an unflappable duke is not above passion.

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### Book 607 – On the way to the wedding by Julia Quinn

Unlike most men of his acquaintance, Gregory Bridgerton is a firm believer in true love. He'd have to be an idiot not to be: all seven of his siblings are happily married. Gregory figures he is just biding his time until the right woman comes along. And so when he sees Hermione Watson, he knows with every fibre of his being that she is meant to be his. But through Hermione's closest - and slightly less beautiful - friend, Lucy Abernathy, he finds out that Hermione is desperately in love with another man. Sadly, by the time Gregory figures out the right girl is actually the wrong girl, and the right girl was Lucy all along, it's too late. Lucy is to marry another! Now - on the way to the wedding - Gregory must figure out how to thwart the nuptials and convince Lucy that she was always meant to be his....

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###  Book 608 – Flame tree hill by Mandy Magro

Kirsty Mitchell fled Flame Tree Hill after a tragic accident three years ago. Now, she's ready to return home. But at 25 Kirsty isn't prepared for the terrifying new challenge ahead: breast cancer. Kirsty's never been a quitter but can her budding romance with local vet Aden bear the strain? As she battles with chemotherapy and as the past threatens to overwhelm her, Kirsty realises you can never take anything - or anyone - for granted. By drawing strength from her family and the beauty of Far North Queensland, can she find the courage within to overcome the biggest challenge of her life?

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| Book 609 – Home sweet home by Mandy MagroWhat happens when fate gets a little helping hand? Sienna Lewis knows firsthand about being an Aussie battler, but she has her beautiful daughter, Zara, to keep fighting for. One day she dreams of giving Zara the life and big family she deserves. For now, Sienna can only focus on her work at the hospital. But when she connects with a new patient who has driven away nearly everyone in his life, she is astounded when he leaves her his sprawling Far-North Queensland property. Mason King has worked tirelessly to follow in the footsteps of his beloved cattleman neighbour, Max, by raising ethically farmed cattle – despite the stream of disapproval from his old-fashioned father. Little does he know that Max, having seen sparks fly between Mason and Sienna, has set up his own plan to bring Sienna to town. As new neighbours, Mason and Sienna discover they cherish similar things in life and are drawn to each other. Although, there's a secret between them that could ruin everything ... When all seems lost, will fate then have another twist in store for them?[**https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4744507?format=DAISY\_2\_AUDIO&previous-title=Search**](https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4744507?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search) |
| Book 610 – Riverstone Ridge by Mandy MagroA voice from the past becomes the key to her future. After making a mistake that felt like the end of the world to her teenage self, Nina Jones fled the small town of Huntingvale. Now 16 years later her beloved adoptive mother, Bea, has passed away, forcing Nina to return and decide whether to sell her family home, Riverstone Ridge. But even though Bea can't be there to help her through it all, she's left Nina five letters, one sent each week, to finally share the secrets she'd been unable to reveal in life. For Logan Steele, Nina's return is the catalyst he's needed to finally move beyond his tragic past and start living again. But only if she stays. When mysterious and increasingly worrisome accidents start happening around the homestead, both Logan's cop instincts and his protective feelings toward Nina spur him to investigate. Will he be able to piece together the puzzle of the past in time? And with dark family secrets emerging from Bea's last words rippling into the present day, how will Nina find the courage to be truthful to the one man who has always held her heart?[**https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4744464?format=DAISY\_2\_AUDIO&previous-title=Search**](https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4744464?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search) |

### Book 611 – Jacaranda by Mandy Magro

Molly's life is almost perfect. She's the devoted mother of Rose, and a renowned horse trainer. She lives amid the beauty of Jacaranda Farm in the beautiful Far North Queensland countryside, surrounded by family and friends, none closer than hunky stockman Heath. But she's still looking for the love of her life, and wonders whether that could be Mark, the long-lost father of her daughter. When Mark stumbles back into her world, Molly begins to hope for a future she'd long ago relinquished. But how will Mark react when he learns he's a father? And could the man of Molly's dreams be closer to home than she thinks?

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### Book 612 – Secrets of Silvergum by Mandy Magro

Can dark family secrets ever truly be buried? When a horrible twist of fate leaves teenage friends Emma Kensington and Zane Wolfe reeling in the wake of a fatal accident, the two are driven apart for decades. As a professional bull rider in America for the past 16 years, Zane has stayed a sensible distance from the one woman he's always loved but could never have, Emma, his childhood friend, and his brother's wife. But a phone call revealing his stepfather's sudden death means keeping half a world between them is no longer an option. Returning to Silvergum, how will he keep his long-held feelings under control? For Emma, along with the death of her father-in-law, Peter, is the shadow of the secrets he'd been blackmailing her with. She's finally free to tell the truth to the man she's covertly loved from afar all this time. But Peter's hand stretches beyond the grave, and all too soon Emma discovers she's not the only one who has been keeping secrets. And to make peace with her past, she could very likely lose everything she loves most.

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### Book 613 – Under currents by Nora Roberts

Within the walls of a tasteful, perfectly kept house in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains, young Zane Bigelow feels like a prisoner of war. Strangers -- and even Zane's own aunt across the lake -- see his parents as a successful surgeon and his stylish wife, making appearances at their children's ballet recitals and baseball games. Zane and his sister know the truth: there is something terribly wrong. As his father's violent, controlling rages -- and his mother's complicity -- become more and more oppressive, Zane counts the years, months, days until he can escape. He looks out for little Britt, warning her to be smart and careful. In fear for his very life, he plays along with the insidious lie that everything is fine, while scribbling his real thoughts in a secret journal he must carefully hide away. When one brutal, shattering night finally reveals cracks in the façade, Zane begins to understand that some people are willing to face the truth, even when it hurts. As he grows into manhood and builds a new kind of family, he will find that while the darkness of his past may always shadow him, it will also show him what is necessary for good to triumph -- and give him strength to draw on when he once again must stand up and defend himself and the ones he loves.

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### Book 614 – Outback secrets by Rachael Johns

Liam Castle knows the secrets of everyone in Bunyip Bay. As the owner of the pub, he's heard it all – from marriage proposals and farming disasters to family rifts and everything in between. The locals love to confide in him, but no one knows he's hiding a tragic past. And he wants to keep it that way. Agricultural pilot Henrietta Forward lives for her job, choosing work over romance. But when an incident in the air brings Henri home to Bunyip Bay earlier than planned, she finds herself questioning everything she believes about herself. But Henri's secret isn't her only problem. Her mother will stop at nothing to have her settled down back in the Bay, and while Henri had always known domesticity wasn't the life for her, now she wonders what her future holds. So when Liam – always the first to lend a hand to those in need – agrees to play along with Henri's scheme to ward off her mother, she has mixed feelings. What happens when a pretend romance starts to feel like the real thing? Will Henri's demons and Liam's traumatic past prove too great a barrier to love?

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### Book 615 - Once burnt, twice shy by Karly Lane

Recently divorced mother-of-two Samantha Murphy agrees to house-sit for her parents for a few weeks, but when the house involves several hundred acres of farming and livestock, it's a little more involved than the usual job. Sam left the family farm years ago for a more glamorous life on the Sunshine Coast, but now that her kids have grown up and moved out, she's at a crossroads. Jack Cameron was in love with Sam when they were teenagers, and she broke his heart when she left town at 18. Their lives moved along similar paths - both marrying, having families and getting divorced - but in very different locations. Now that Sam is back, they begin to realise that there are unresolved feelings between them. As catastrophic fires roar through the local farming community, Sam has no choice but to evacuate her parents' farm. But worse is still to come: Jack is missing and Sam must prepare for the worst news.

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### Book 616 - Love me like you do by Aimee Brown

Parker is ready to marry the man of her dreams. But he isn't ready to marry her. When she's dumped moments before walking down the aisle, she didn't expect to run into the arms of a handsome stranger. The southern drawl, the dreamy eyes, she can't fall for another man after being left at the altar - can she? When Liam agreed to go on yet another blind date, he didn't expect his escape would lead him to the emergency room with a runaway bride. She might have just been left at the altar, but he's immediately drawn to her fiery spirit, kind heart and beautiful smile. Will these two strangers allow serendipity to force them together, or will their fears keep them apart?

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### Book 617 - Spring at the Cosy Cottage Cafe and A wedding at the Cosy Cottage Café by Rachel Griffiths

Artist Honey Blackwell is happy with her life. Well, almost. She lives in the picturesque village of Heatherlea, has three close friends and a soft spot for local supply teacher Dane Ackerman. If only she could put her past behind her and embrace the present. Dane is working hard to prove himself at the village primary school and doesn’t really have time for love, but he is drawn to Honey and hopes she feels the same. When a permanent teaching position is advertised in Heatherlea, he faces stiff competition to secure it. As Honey and Dane deal with the ups and downs of life, will they be able to find a way to be together or will they have to accept that sometimes love just isn’t enough?

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### Book 618 - Fancy meeting you here by Michelle Kalus

Evie Berry is a thirty-year-old wannabe screenwriter who spends her days managing a London cinema bar and making the podcast Pasta La Vista with her best friend Ben. She's also obsessed with Hugo Hearst. Have you heard of him? Of course you have. He's only one of the most influential and not to mention swoon-worthy bestselling writers of his generation. When Evie's not hooking up with her on-again, off-again booty call 'Ever-Ready Freddy' (and sometimes even when she is), she fantasises about what might have been if she'd met Hugo years ago, when he was just a struggling writer. After Evie interviews a psychic to the stars on her podcast, her life is catapulted ten years into the past. But the grass isn't quite as green as she remembers.

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### Book 619 - Taken by the border rebel by Blythe Gifford

As leader of his clan, Black Rob Brunson has earned every dark syllable of his name. But, having taken hostage his enemy's daughter in a fierce act of rebellion, he is tormented by feelings of guilt and torn apart with the growing need to protect her - and seduce her! Stella Storwick feels Rob's disdain from the first. Then slowly she starts to see behind his eyes to a man in turmoil. Something he has no words for, something that can only be captured in a heart-wrenching kiss.

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### Book 620 - Out of love by Hazel Hayes

As a young woman boxes up her ex-boyfriend's belongings and prepares to see him one last time, she wonders where it all went wrong, and whether it was ever right to begin with. Burdened with a broken heart, she asks herself the age-old question - is love really worth it?

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### Book 621 - The arc by Tory Henwood Hoen

35-year-old Ursula Byrne is successful, witty, smart, and single. She's tried all the dating apps, and let's just say: she's underwhelmed by her options. Enter The Arc - a mysterious, super-sophisticated matchmaking service that relies on a complex series of emotional, psychological and physiological assessments. The price tag is high, the promise ambitious - you get one match, and one match only. Because one is all you need for a partnership that will go the distance. Is this a date with destiny? Or with data? Ursula is paired with 42-year-old lawyer Rafael Banks, and from the start, this feels like the electric, lasting love they've each been seeking their whole adult lives. But as their relationship unfolds in unanticipated ways, the two begin to question The Arc's legitimacy. After all, the arc of a relationship is never predictable - even when it's fully optimized. Or is it?

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### Book 622 - The trouble with Jack by Annie Seaton

As the owner of the art gallery at Noosa Heads, Jack Montgomery comes strolling back into the life of sculptor Sienna Sacchi. Her plan to buy the gallery is ruined, yet Sienna refuses to let him interfere with the most important thing - her debut exhibition. But Jack's not only taking over her workplace. He's also intruding on her art studio, her home... and maybe even her heart. Jack Montgomery has few rules for his carefree life, but never mixing business with pleasure is one he is determined to keep. He'd planned on finally satisfying the tension between him and Sienna, but discovering he's her boss puts an immediate end to that. Unfortunately, having to share a tiny cottage by the lake with her is pushing them both to their limit...

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### Book 623 - A valley dream by Anna Jacobs

1935. At 36, Bella Porter is dependent on her abusive cousin, Thomas, acting as his unpaid servant. A kind relative leaves her a house in the village of Backshaw Moss. The house is on the edge of a slum and in a state of disrepair. As kind people help her find her feet, however, her confidence grows and when she meets struggling, widowed father-of-three Ryan, she begins to hope she may find the happy family she's always dreamed of. When Thomas follows her, not only is Bella's newfound happiness threatened but also her life. Can her new friends help her rid herself of her tormenter once and for all, and finally achieve her valley dream?

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### Book 624 - A valley secret by Anna Jacobs

Lancashire, 1930s. When her mother dies, leaving her an old sewing box and a clue to her father's identity, 22-year-old Maisie Bassett is determined to make a fresh start. Changing her name and moving to the small town of Rivenshaw, she finds a respectable job in a grocery store. But unwanted attentions from a man at her new church make life increasingly difficult - until the shy, handsome Gabriel Harte comes to her rescue. Then she receives an inheritance from a distant relative and her world is turned upside down. The home she's always dreamed of may finally be hers - if she can keep it safe from a grasping slum landlord. With Gabriel's help, can Maisie untangle the secrets of her past?

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### Book 625 - Marrying Simone by Anna Jacobs

In Australia Simone has been widowed for four years and is ready to make a more interesting life. Her friends are driving her mad introducing her to eligible men; her busy daughters are just the opposite, wanting her available for babysitting. When she is offered a house swap with a couple in the UK she takes it, not without some trepidation. In the UK, Russ has just taken possession of his new house and wants only peace and quiet after a few months of rehab following a serious injury. Can these two help one another avoid meddling friends and relatives, and build new lives?

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### Book 626 - Complications by Danielle Steel

Known for its luxury and discreet service, the Hotel Louis XVI in Paris has attracted an international clientele of the rich and famous for many decades. Now, after extensive renovation and under new management, an esteemed group of loyal returning guests is set to descend upon the hotel, joined by a group of new faces who have managed to secure coveted reservations. Anxiously awaiting the guests is the new manager, Olivier Bateau, and his assistant, Yvonne Philippe. Both strive to continue the hotel's tradition for excellence but even they were not prepared for what happened on that September evening. A successful art consultant arrives at the hotel for the first time since her brutal divorce, and is surprised to find new love—if she is willing to risk her heart again. A new guest contemplates ending his life, and saves a life instead. A couple finds their once-in-a-lifetime trip interrupted by a tragic medical emergency, leaving the idyllic future they’ve long waited for hanging in the balance. And one of the hotel’s most high-profile guests, a French politician and assumed presidential candidate, holds a mysterious meeting in his suite that will threaten his life and legacy. Rocked by the events of this one fateful night, guests and staff alike brace themselves for the aftershock, as it quickly becomes apparent that more dramas and misfortunes are still in store.

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### Book 627 - Nine lives by Danielle Steel

After a carefree childhood, Maggie Kelly came of age in the shadow of grief. Her father, a daredevil pilot, died when she was nine. Maggie saw her mother struggle to put their lives back together. As the family moved from one city to the next, her mother warned her about daredevil men and avoid risk at all cost. Following her mother's advice, and forgoing the magic of first love with a high school boyfriend who she thought too wild, Maggie married a good, dependable man. Together they had a son and found happiness in a conventional suburban life - until tragedy struck again. Now on her own, feeling a sense of adventure for the first time, Maggie decides to face her fears, setting off on a whirlwind trip from the US to Rome, Paris, London, and Monaco. When her travels reconnect her with an irresistible, thrill-seeking man she's spent thirty years to forget, Maggie is terrified that rushing into love and sharing his life may end in disaster.

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### Book 628 - The Woodlea novella collection by Alissa Callen

Romance in rural Australia, three Woodlea novellas from bestselling author Alissa Callen. -- The Purple Hills. When Sibylla Elliott's father suffers a stroke she returns to small-town Woodlea planning to only stay until he recovers. Single-dad Hugh Mason's whole world is his son, Riley. But when Hugh suffers a head injury on his farm, he is left no choice but to accept Sibylla's offer to move in with him and Riley to help. Will the wish of a motherless five-year-old be enough to make Sibylla's plans permanent? -- The Silver Creek. Bethany Galloway has one prerequisite when choosing a man. He must be someone her mother, Edna, disapproves of. Mac Barton ticks such a box. His and her family have been in a longstanding feud over a cattle trophy. But when Edna approves of the clandestine relationship, trouble hits. Can a woman desperate to be her own person, and a man who refuses to be manipulated, find their way back to each other? --Under the Christmas Stars. Small-town teacher Freya George is determined for make up for last year's disastrous Christmas. This year she will do anything to ensure that the close-knit Woodlea community have the best holiday season ever. But from the moment Freya meets farmer Drew Macgregor, her plans for a trouble-free Christmas unravel faster than red satin ribbon...

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### Book 629 - Together under the stars by Beryl Matthews

October 1943. Nancy Dalton, working at the RAF base at Scampton in Lincolnshire, has been holding vigil for the Lancaster bomber pilots whose missions seem endless. But her watchfulness has not prevented her own pilot brother from failing to return. In the midst of mourning him, fresh recruits arrive to continue the war effort, among them charismatic Canadian Steve Allard. The months ahead will be long and hard, with danger a constant companion, and although both Steve and Nancy never intend to complicate wartime life with romance, their attraction becomes impossible to ignore.

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### Book 630 - Last dance in Havana by Rosanna Ley

Cuba, 1958. Elisa is only 16 years old when she meets Duardo and she knows he's the love of her life from the moment they first dance the rumba together in downtown Havana. But Duardo is a rebel, determined to fight in Castro's army, and Elisa is forced to leave behind her homeland and rebuild her life in distant England. But how can she stop longing for the warmth of Havana, when the music of the rumba still calls to her? England, 2012. Grace has a troubled relationship with her father, whom she blames for her beloved mother's untimely death. Grace's career is in flux, she isn't sure she wants the baby her husband is so desperate to have and, worst of all, she's begun to develop feelings for their best friend Theo. Theo is a Cuban born magician but even he can't make Grace's problems disappear. Is the passion Grace feels for Theo enough to risk her family's happiness?

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### Book 631 - The mix-up by Holly McCulloch

Paige might bake wedding cakes for a living but that doesn't mean she's dreaming about her own perfect day. Far from it. Trusting people is hard after she was badly let down by her family and boyfriend just when she needed them most. And to make things worse, her ex has just walked into her bakery with his new fiance. Needing a little no-strings-attached fun, Paige goes to a party where her friend knows just the guy - the guy in the black top. There's just one problem. There are two men wearing black tops. Noah was meant to be her perfect distraction - instead, he wants more than just a bit of fun. But could the wrong guy turn out to be the right choice?

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### Book 632 - The house swap by Jo Lovett

When 30-somethings Cassie and James find each other on a home swap website, it feels meant to be. City hotshot James needs a bolthole after a relationship goes sour and Cassie needs to leave the comfort of her little island to research her new book. Soon, James is living in Cassie's cute but ramshackle beachside cottage, and Cassie's living in James's luxurious London apartment. But James didn't imagine he'd be sharing his home with 11 chickens and 3 alpacas, not to mention the unusually friendly neighbours. And Cassie is less than impressed when James's ex-girlfriend turns up at his door, demanding to know where he's gone. The more Cassie and James talk, the more the tension between them mounts. But as the insults fly so do the sparks, and when the time finally comes to swap back, Cassie and James find they aren't quite ready to give each other up.

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### Book 633 - A duke in shining armour by Loretta Chase

Bookish, brainy Lady Olympia Hightower should be elated she's marrying the 'catch' of several London seasons. Her large, spendthrift family certainly is! And yet, Olympia finds herself sneaking out the chapel window, in a mad, attempt to escape her glorious future as a duchess. Virtue was never a virtue for Hugh Philemon Ancaster, 7th Duke of Ripley, but even he can see his duty as best man requires him to recapture the fleeing bride, and return her to the bridegroom. But with every one of Olympia's clever turns, he's finding it harder to give her up. Surely something so temptingly wrong can't be so deliciously right?!

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### Book 634 - Christmas by the coast by Mandy Baggot

Harriet Cookson knows exactly what she wants from life. She has a plan, she has ambition and she knows she has to keep busy. But when her beloved Nana Lorna passes away, Harriet has to put everything on hold as she flies out to the Hamptons to say goodbye and be with her Grandfather. Whilst across the Atlantic, over a plate of canapes, Harriet's eyes connect with ex-soldier Mack's - the one that got away, the person she least expected to see - and everything begins to change. Mack is determined to win back Harriet's heart, and prove to her that Christmas, and a future, in the Hamptons could be just what she's looking for. He'll show her that the plan she's so carefully cultivated might not be what she wants.

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## SCIENCE

### Book 635 - Hacking the code of life by Nessa Carey

Just 45 years ago, the age of gene modification was born. Researchers could create glow-in-the-dark mice, farmyard animals producing drugs in their milk, and vitamin-enhanced rice that could prevent half a million people going blind every year. But now GM is rapidly being supplanted by a new system called CRISPR or 'gene editing'. Using this approach, scientists can manipulate the genes of almost any organism with a degree of precision, ease and speed that we could only dream of ten years ago. But is it ethical to change the genetic material of organisms in a way that might be passed on to future generations? If a person is suffering from a lethal genetic disease, is it even more unethical to deny them this option? Who controls the application of this technology, when it makes 'biohacking' - perhaps of one's own genome - a real possibility? Nessa Carey's book is a thrilling and timely snapshot of a technology that will radically alter our futures.

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### Book 636 - Astrobiology by Andrew May

The possibility of life elsewhere in the cosmos is one of the most profound subjects that human beings can ponder. Astrophysicist Andrew May gives an expert overview of our current state of knowledge, looking at how life started on Earth, the tell-tale 'signatures' it produces, and how such signatures might be detected elsewhere in the Solar System or on the many 'exoplanets' now being discovered by the Kepler and TESS missions. Along the way the book addresses key questions such as the riddle of Fermi's paradox ('Where is everybody?') and the crucial role of DNA and water - they're essential to 'life as we know it', but is the same true of alien life? And the really big question: when we eventually find extraterrestrials, will they be friendly or hostile?

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### Book 637 - Gravitational waves by Brian Clegg

On 14 September 2015, after 50 years of searching, gravitational waves were detected for the first time and astronomy changed for ever. Until then, investigation of the universe had depended on electromagnetic radiation: visible light, radio, X-rays and the rest. But gravitational waves – ripples in the fabric of space and time – are unrelenting, passing through barriers that stop light dead. At the two 4-kilometre long LIGO observatories in the US, scientists developed incredibly sensitive detectors, capable of spotting a movement 100 times smaller than the nucleus of an atom. In 2015 they spotted the ripples produced by two black holes spiralling into each other, setting spacetime quivering. This was the first time black holes had ever been directly detected – and it promises far more for the future of astronomy. Brian Clegg presents a compelling story of human technical endeavour and a new, powerful path to understand the workings of the universe.

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### Book 638 - Cosmic impact by Andrew May

As end-of-the-world scenarios go, an apocalyptic collision with an asteroid or comet is the new kid on the block, gaining respectability only in the last decade of the 20th century with the realisation that the dinosaurs had been wiped out by just such an impact. Now the science community is making up for lost time, with worldwide efforts to track the thousands of potentially hazardous near-Earth objects, and plans for high-tech hardware that could deflect an incoming object from a collision course - a procedure depicted, with little regard for scientific accuracy, in several Hollywood movies.

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### Book 639 - Bluffer’s guide to the quantum universe by Jack Klaff

Instantly acquire all the knowledge you need to pass as an expert in the world of quantum physics. Never again confuse a boson with a hadron, a fermion with a meson, or a photon with a lepton or an electron. If in doubt, always fall back on a bluffon. Written by experts and offering readers the opportunity to pass off appropriated knowledge as their own, the Bluffer's Guides provide hard fact masquerading as frivolous observation in one witty, easy listen.

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### Book 640 - CERN and the Higgs Boson by James Gillies

The Higgs boson is the rock star of fundamental particles, catapulting CERN, the laboratory where it was found, into the global spotlight. But what is it, why does it matter, and what exactly is CERN? In the late 1940s, a handful of visionaries were working to steer Europe towards a more peaceful future through science, and CERN, the European particle physics laboratory, was duly born. James Gillies tells the gripping story of particle physics, from the original atomists of ancient Greece, through the people who made the crucial breakthroughs, to CERN itself, one of the most ambitious scientific undertakings of our time, and its eventual confirmation of the Higgs boson.

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### Book 641 - Mind shift by John Parrington

What makes human consciousness unique? John Parrington draws on early Russian ideas and the latest neuroscience to argue that humans went through a 'mind shift' when we developed language, and words and the shared cultural world they enabled altered our brains, and have shaped them ever since.

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### Book 642 - Notes from deep time by Helen Gordon

From the secret fossils of London to the 3-billion-year-old rocks of the Scottish Highlands, and from state-of-the-art Californian laboratories to one of the world's most dangerous volcanic complexes hidden beneath the green hills of western Naples, set out on an adventure to those parts of the world where the Earth's life-story is written into the landscape. Helen Gordon turns a novelist's eye on the extraordinary scientists who are piecing together this planetary drama. She gets to grips with the theory that explains how it all works - plate tectonics, a breakthrough as significant in its way as evolution or quantum mechanics, but much younger than either, and still with many secrets to reveal.

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### Book 643 - Meltdown by Joel Levy

'Meltdown' investigates and recreates the dramatic events behind the most notorious nuclear accidents in history, as well as those shrouded in secrecy. Combining human tragedy with intriguing science, each account reveals new aspects of humanity's complex relationship with nuclear power and the ongoing struggle to harness and control it. From the pioneers of Los Alamos who got up close and personal with the cores of atomic bombs, to the hapless engineers in Soviet fuel-processing plants who unwittingly mixed up a disaster in a bucket, and from the terrifying impact of a tsunami at Fukushima to the mystery of the recent Russian incident, 'Meltdown' explores the past and future of this extraordinary and potentially lethal source of infinite power.

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### Book 644 - Once upon a time I lived on Mars by Kate Greene

In 2013 Kate Greene moved to Mars. On NASA's first HI-SEAS simulated Mars mission in Hawaii, she lived for four months in an isolated geodesic dome with her crewmates, gaining incredible insight into human behaviour in tight quarters, as well as the nature of boredom, dreams and isolation that arise amidst the promise of scientific progress and glory. Greene draws on her experience to contemplate what makes an astronaut, the challenges of freeze-dried eggs and time-lagged correspondence, the cost of shooting for a Planet B. The result is a story of space and life, of the slippage between dreams and reality, of bodies in space, and of humanity's incredible impulse to explore.

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### Book 645 - The physics of climate change by Lawrence Krauss

The news is full of hotly debated divergent claims about the impacts and risks of climate change. Lawrence Krauss, one of the world's most respected physicists and science populizers, cuts through the confusion by succinctly presenting the underlying science of climate change. The book provides a clear, accurate and easily accessible perspective of climate science and the risks of global inaction.

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### Book 646 - Origins of the universe by Keith Cooper

Nearly 60 years ago, Nobel Prize-winners Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson stumbled across a mysterious hiss of faint radio static that was interfering with their observations. They had found the key to unravelling the story of the Big Bang and the origin of our universe. That signal was the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB), the earliest light in the universe, released 379,000 years after the Big Bang. It contains secrets about what happened during the very first tiny increments of time, which had consequences that have rippled throughout cosmic history, leading to the universe of stars and galaxies that we live in today. This is the enthralling story of the quest to understand the CMB radiation and what it can tell us of the origins of time and space, from bubble universes to a cyclical cosmos - and possibly leading to the elusive theory of quantum gravity itself.

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### Book 647 - Future rising (a journey from the past to the edge of tomorrow) by Andrew Maynard

Over the course of 14 billion years, humanity has gained the ability not only to imagine the future, but to design and engineer it. Entertaining and profound, 'Future Rising' by Dr Andrew Maynard, provides a highly original perspective on our relationship with the future. Written to be easy to pick up and hard to put down, the text starts at the Big Bang and traces a pathway along the emergence of intelligent life, through what makes humans uniquely capable of creating different futures, to the profound responsibilities that this comes with.

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### Book 648 - 10 short lessons in time travel by Brian Clegg

Brian Clegg takes us on a fascinating and up-to-date tour of the workings of the universe that suggest the possibility of journeying back and forth through time. Einstein's special theory of relativity made time travel to the future a possibility, and later his general theory of relativity showed us that loops in spacetime could exist, meaning that we might be able to bend time backwards, too. But what are the practicalities of making time travel possible? What do we still need to know? How do we deal with any paradoxical twists in time - and could quantum physics hold the answer?

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## SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

### Book 649 - Dune: House Atreides by Brian Herbert

It is the year 10,154 of the Imperial Calendar, and for four decades the planet Arrakis - called Dune by its inhabitants - has been ruled by the Harkonnen family. But the seeds of change have been sown. On Arrakis, an idealistic young planetologist, Pardot Kynes, goes out into the desert to learn the secrets of its giant sandworms and the priceless Spice they create. And on another planet, Caledon, young Leto Atreides is nearly ready to become duke. The blood feud between House Atreides and House Harkonnen is about to begin.

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### Book 650 - This virtual night by C.S. Friedman

A suicide assault has destroyed the life support system of a major waystation. All that is known about the young men responsible is that in their last living moments they were receiving messages from an uninhabited sector of space, and were playing a virtual reality game. Two unlikely allies have joined forces to investigate the incident: Ru Gaya, a mercenary explorer with a taste for high risk ventures, and game designer Micah Bello, who must find the parties responsible for the attack in order to clear his name. From the corridors of a derelict station lost to madness to an outlaw stronghold in the depths of uncharted space, the two now follow the trail of a foe who can twist human minds to their purpose, and whose plans will bring about the collapse of outworld civilisation.

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### Book 651 - The raven’s tale by Cat Winters

Seventeen-year-old Edgar Poe counts down the days until he can escape his foster family - the wealthy Allans of Richmond, Virginia. He hungers for his upcoming life as a student at the prestigious new university, almost as much as he longs to marry his beloved Elmira Royster. However, on the brink of his departure, all his plans go awry when a macabre Muse named Lenore appears to him. Muses are frightful creatures that lead Artists down a path of ruin and disgrace, and no respectable person could possibly understand or accept them. But Lenore steps out of the shadows with one request: "Let them see me!"

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### Book 652 - The cure for dreaming by Cat Winters

Olivia Mead is a headstrong, independent girl-a suffragist-in an age that prefers its girls to be docile. It's 1900 in Oregon, and Olivia's father, concerned that she's headed for trouble, convinces a stage mesmerist to try to hypnotize the rebellion out of her. But the hypnotist, an intriguing young man named Henri Reverie, gives her a terrible gift instead: she's able to see people's true natures, manifesting as visions of darkness and goodness, while also unable to speak her true thoughts out loud. These supernatural challenges only make Olivia more determined to speak her mind, and so she's drawn into a dangerous relationship with the hypnotist and his mysterious motives, all while secretly fighting for the rights of women. Winters breathes new life into history once again with an atmospheric, vividly real story, including archival photos and art from the period throughout.

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### Book 653 - Seven endless forests by April Genevieve Tucholke

Torvi and Morgunn must learn to survive on their own after a devastating plague sweeps through their steading. Upon hearing rumors of Uthera flame-loving Fremish wolf-priest and her band of desperate, starving girls who move hungrily through Vorseland searching for recruits, they decide to leave their home and hunt down a mythical sword lost in the depths of the Green Wild Forest. If found and pulled from the stone tree, the sword could catapult the first woman to a throne in generations. But when Uther captures Morgunn, Torvi must embark on a quest to save her sister instead, taking with her a shaven-skulled druid and a band of roaming Elsh artists called the Butcher Bards. Along the way, Torvi faces brutal, bone-grinding Salvation monks, barters with a handsome young wizard, attends a magical Night Market, and seeks a prophecy from an eerie Pig Witch. The blood bond between sisters runs deep, and Torvi will save Morgunnor or die trying.

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### Book 654 - The boneless mercies by April Genevieve Tucholke

Won in a major six-house auction! Frey, Ovie, Juniper, and Runa are the Boneless Mercies - girls hired to kill quickly, quietly, and mercifully. But Frey is weary of the death trade and, having been raised on the heroic sagas of her people, dreams of a bigger life. When she hears of an unstoppable monster ravaging a nearby town, Frey decides this is the Mercies' one chance out. The fame and fortune of bringing down such a beast would ensure a new future for all the Mercies. In fact, her actions may change the story arc of women everywhere.

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### Book 655– The betrayals by Bridget Collins

At Montverre, an exclusive academy tucked away in the mountains, the best and brightest are trained for excellence in the grand jeu: an arcane and mysterious contest. Leo Martin was once a student there, but lost his passion for the grand jeu following a violent tragedy. Now he returns in disgrace, exiled to his old place of learning with his political career in tatters. Montverre has changed since he studied there, even allowing a woman, Claire Dryden, to serve in the grand jeu's highest office of Magister Ludi. When Leo first sees Claire he senses an odd connection with her, though he's sure they have never met before. Both Leo and Claire have built their lives on lies. And as the legendary Midsummer Game, the climax of the year, draws closer, secrets are whispering in the walls.

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### Book 656 – Galilee by Clive Barker

One of America's wealthiest and most influential families since the Civil War, the Gearys harbor terrible secrets. The Barbarossa family's roots are far more ancient and ethereal, but they are bound to the Gearys by a shared history of murder, insanity, and adultery. When Rachel Geary and Galilee, the seductive prince of the Barbarossa clan, fall in love, they unleash powerful enmities that could destroy both dynasties.

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### Book 657 – The new wilderness by Diane Cook

Bea's five-year-old daughter, Agnes, is slowly wasting away. The smog and pollution of the overdeveloped, overpopulated metropolis they call home is ravaging her lungs. Bea knows she cannot stay in the City, but there is only one alternative: The Wilderness State. Mankind has never been allowed to venture into this vast expanse of untamed land. Until now. Bea and Agnes join eighteen other volunteers who agree to take part in a radical experiment. They must slowly learn how to live in the unpredictable, often dangerous Wilderness, leaving no trace on their surroundings in their quest to survive. But as Agnes embraces this new existence, Bea realises that saving her daughter's life might mean losing her in ways she hadn't foreseen.

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### Book 658 – Ashes of the sun by Django Wexler

Four hundred years ago, a cataclysmic war cracked the world open. Amid the ashes, the Dawn Republic now stands guard over lands littered with eldritch relics and cursed by plaguespawn outbreaks. But a new conflict is looming and brother and sister Gyre and Maya have found themselves on opposite sides of it. At the age of five, Maya was taken by the Twilight Order and trained to be a centarch, wielding forbidden arcana to enforce the Dawn Republic's rule. On that day, her brother, Gyre, swore to destroy the Order that stole his sister... whatever the cost. Twelve years later, brother and sister are two very different people: she is the Twilight Order's brightest prodigy; he is a thief, bandit and revolutionary. Together, the siblings will discover that not even ties of blood will keep them from splitting the world in two.

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### Book 659 – Noose by Eric Red

In the cutthroat world of bounty hunters, Joe Noose is as honest as they come. Which isn't saying much. Just look at his less-than-honest colleagues. They framed Joe for a murder they committed. They made sure Joe's face wound up on a wanted poster. Now they're gonna hunt Joe down and collect the reward money. There's just one problem: Joe Noose thinks it's his bounty. It's his reward. And it's their funeral.

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### Book 660 – The Alexander inheritance by Eric Flint

Twice before, mysterious cosmic catastrophes have sent portions of the Earth across space and back in timefirst, with the Grantville Disaster in West Virginia, and then again with a maximum security prison in southern Illinois. Now, the planet is struck with yet another such cataclysm, whose direct impact falls upon the Queen of the Sea, a cruise ship in the Caribbean. When the convulsions subside, the crew and passengers of the ship discover that they have arrived in a new and frightening world. They are in the Mediterranean now, not the Caribbean. Still worse, they discover that the disaster has sent them more than two thousand years back in time. Following the advice of an historian among the passengers, Marie Easley, they sail to Egyptor, at least, where they hope Egypt will be. Sure enough, Egypt is thereruled over by Ptolemy, the founder of the Ptolemaic dynasty and one of Alexander the Great's chief generals. Alexander the Great, it turns out, died just two years ago. The western world has just entered what would become known as the Hellenistic Period of history, during which time Greek civilization would spread around the Mediterranean and beyond. But the first fifty years of the Hellenistic Period was the Age of Diadochithe Time of the Successors - when Alexander's empire would collapse into chaos. By the time the Successors finished their strife, every single member of Alexander's dynasty would be murdered and only three of the generals who began that civil war would still be alive. That is the new world in which the Queen of the Sea finds itself. Can Marie Easley and Captain Lars Flodden guide the crew and passengers through this cataclysm? Fortunately, they have some help: a young Norwegian ships officer who forms an attachment to Alexander's widow; a French officer who is a champion pistol marksman; a canny congressman from Utahand, most of all, many people of the time who are drawn to a vision of the better world of the future.

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### Book 661 – An oblique approach by Eric Flint and David Drake

In northern India the Malwa have created an empire of unexampled evil. Guided or possessed by an intelligence from beyond time, with new weapons, old treachery, and an implacable will to power, the Malwa will sweep over the whole Earth. Only three things stand between the Malwa and their plan of eternal domination: the empire of Rome in the East, Byzantium; a crystal with vision; and a man named Belisarius, the greatest commander Earth has ever known…

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### Book 652 – In the heart of darkness by Eric Flint and David Drake

The Malwa Empire has conquered 6th century India and is forging the subcontinent's vast population into an invincible weapon of tyranny. Belisarius, the finest general of his age, must save the world. Guided by visions from a future that may never be, he and a band of comrades penetrate the Malwa heartland, seeking the core of the enemy's power. And when Belisarius leads the forces of good, only a fool would side with evil.

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### Book 653 – Destiny's shield by Eric Flint and David Drake

The Malwa Empire squats like a toad across 6th century India, commanded by ruthless men with depraved appetites. The thing from the distant future that commands them is far worse. Those who oppose the purulent Hell the Malwa will make of Earth have sent a crystal, Aide, to halt their advance. Aide holds all human knowledge-but he cannot act by himself. Count Belisarius, the greatest general of the age and perhaps of all ages, must outwit the evil empire - and then, when there is no longer room to maneuver, to meet it sword-edge to sword-edge, because, no matter what it costs, evil cannot be allowed to rule men.

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| Book 654 – Fortune's Stroke by Eric Flint and David DrakeAide, a human soul embodied in a jewel, journeys back in time to join forces with Belisarius, the greatest general of the sixth century, to stop Link, an evil supercomputer that is using its vast powers to rewrite history to create the powerful, technologically advance Malwa Empire.[**https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4640495?format=DAISY\_2\_AUDIO&previous-title=Search**](https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4640495?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search)Book 655 – The tide of victory by Eric Flint and David DrakeWith lancers and breech-loading rifles, with steamships and with galleys, Belisarius is marching into the Malwa heartland. In a world aflame with treachery, assassination, and slaughter beyond anything save the battles of mythology, he and his companions know only one sure thing: if they fail, their whole world is doomed to living Hell - for all time![**https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4638667?format=DAISY\_2\_AUDIO&previous-title=Search**](https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4638667?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search) |

### Book 656 – Bear head by Adrian Tchaikovsky

Mars. The red planet. A new frontier for humanity: a civilization where humans can live in peace, lord and master of all they survey. But this isn't Space City from those old science-fiction books. It's more like Hell City, built into and from a huge crater. There's a big silk canopy over it, feeding out atmosphere as we generate it, little by little, because we can't breathe the air here. I guess it's a perfect place to live, if you want to live on Mars. At some point I must have wanted to live on Mars, because here I am. The money was supposed to be good, and how else was a working Joe like me going to get off-planet exactly? But I remember the videos they showed us - guys, not even in suits, watching robots and bees and Bioforms doing all the work - and they didn't quite get it right... In a sequel to 'Dogs of War', Honey the genetically engineered bear takes a ride in Jimmy the Martian's head and starts a revolution on the Red Planet.

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### Book 657 – Hold up the sky by Cixin Liu

From the author of 'The Three-Body Problem', a collection of award-winning SF short stories. Liu's writing takes the reader to the edge of the universe and the end of time, to meet stranger fates than we could have ever imagined. With a melancholic and keen understanding of human nature, Liu's stories show humanity's attempts to reason, navigate and, above all, survive in a desolate cosmos.

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### Book 658 – Fortuitas by George Mann

The search for Dayna takes the Liberator to Solace, a former galactic tourist trap fallen on hard times. When he loses a second member of his crew, Avon is forced to investigate a series of mysterious disappearances. As Orac and Del Grant track a radical new movement that is campaigning for the purity of Solace, a deadly trap begins to tighten. The future is Fortuitas. The future is now.

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### Book 659 – Vagabonds by Hao Jingfang

A century ago, the Martian colonies rebelled against the rule of Earth. Having declared an independent Martian Republic, the two planets evolved along separate trajectories, becoming two incompatible worlds vastly different in their scale, economy, socio-political system, and mostly importantly of all, ideals. Inhabitants of the two planets have come to view each other with suspicion and even hatred. Five years ago, with the apparent goal of reconciliation, the Martian government sent a group of students to Earth to study humanity's home planet and act as goodwill ambassadors from the Red Planet. Now the students have returned to Mars, accompanied by a group of prominent Earth delegates, to see if the two worlds can learn to co-exist in peace and friendship. Almost immediately, negotiations break down and old enmities erupt.

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### Book 670 – The Andromeda strain by Michael Crichton

A military satellite launched to collect organisms in the upper atmosphere comes down in Arizona. Within a few hours, almost everyone in a nearby town is dead. A team of scientists is assembled to investigate.

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### Book 671 – Homeworld by Harry Harrison

Jan Kulozik is one of earth's privilieged elite. A brilliant engineer, he enjoys all the blessings of a 23rd-century civilization which survived global collapse & conquered the stars. Then he meets Sara, the beautiful, desirable agent of a rebel underground dedicated to smashing the iron rule of Earth's masters. She shows him a sordid world he never dreamed existed! And suddenly Jan has to choose--between slaves & masters. His choice plunges him into a web of intrigue, assassination & betrayal that will lead him to death - or to the stars.

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### Book 672 – Wheelworld by Harry Harrison

An unforgiving planet where the sun is about to rise and will not set for another four years; where an ancient peasant hierarchy still rules a society equipped with the highest technology; where the people are as dependent on visiting ships as they are on the very air that they breathe; home for some, but for Jan Kulozik it is an eternal prison. And when the ships don't come, Jan finds himself at the centre of an epic struggle for power...and survival. Extract: Jan turned to face them. 'I am going to tell you some facts, facts you cannot argue with. First, the ships are late. Four weeks late. In all the years, the ships have been coming they have never been this late...

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### Book 673 – Starworld by Harry Harrison

The stars are afire with rebellion against the tyranny of Earth. Jan Kulozik, rebel in exile, returns home as a prisoner on a ship bearing a cargo of death. But Kulozik escapes his captors and ignites the flames of revolt across half a world. With the aid of Dvora, a lovely but lethal comrade-in-arms, Jan races toward a rendezvous with destiny and a reckoning with a treacherous double agent who holds the fate of the human race in his hands.

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### Book 674 – West of Eden by Harry Harrison

When dinosaurs ruled the earth ... The evolution of the dinosaurs continued, climaxing with the Yilane, the most intelligent and advanced race on the Earth. But the onset of the new Ice Age forces them to cross the ocean they encounter a new savage breed of mammals. Mammals that walk erect, hunt and use crude stone tools - and weapons...

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### Book 675 – Winter in Eden by Harry Harrison

On the Earth where the descendants of dinosaurs are still the dominant species, human beings have only their ingenuity to pit against the terrifying biological technology of the Yilane. Kerrick grew up as their slave-pet: now he must rescue his embattled people.

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| Book 676 – Return to Eden by Harry HarrisonAfter Kerrick rescues his people from the warlike Yilane, they find a safe haven on an island and there begin to rebuild their shattered lives. But with fierce predators stalking the forests, how long can these unarmed human outeasts hope to survive? And, of course, Kerrick cannot forget Vainte, his implacable Yilane enemy. She's been cast out from her kind, under sentence of death, but how long will her banishment last? For her strange attraction to Kerrick has turned into a halred even more powerful than her instinets - an obsession that compels her to hunt down Kerrick and kill him.[**https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4727177?format=DAISY\_2\_AUDIO&previous-title=Search**](https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4727177?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search) |

### Book 677 – The hammer and the cross by Harry Harrison

In an alternate history, Britain in 865 is faced with a conflict between the invading Vikings and the native kings, between the followers of the Norse gods and the Church.

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### Book 678 – One king's way by Harry Harrison

Continues the story of Shef Sigvarthsson, god-chosen warrior and mystic. It is AD 867, and from the Vikings of the North Sea to the scheming priests of Germany, from the frozen north to the Finnish tundra, Shef fights his way towards kingship.

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### Book 679 – King and emperor by Harry Harrison

Continues the story of Shef Sigvarthsson, god-chosen warrior and mystic. It is AD 867, and from the Vikings of the North Sea to the scheming priests of Germany, from the frozen north to the Finnish tundra, Shef fights his way towards kingship.

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### Book 680 – Montezuma's revenge by Harry Harrison

When the voice of authority calls, Tony Hawkin assumes there is a glitch. After all, why would the nation possibly require the services of a man who runs the gift shop in the FBI building? But there's no mistake, and soon Tony finds himself in the middle of Mexico, pursued by a ruthless killer, and hot on the trail of a priceless work of art. He has to find the painting, determine its authenticity, and return it safely to Washington. There's only one problem: everybody wants this particular painting. Now Tony must summon all his wits and courage to outsmart the forces of international espionage--tracking down the painting was easy, escaping the clutches of the KGB, the Mafia and Mossad is more than he bargained for. And then there's the man, the one with a predilection for guns and sharp knives. Suddenly, all Tony can think of is the warm comfort of his shop in DC, and the sound of small voices: "Hey, mister, how much for the chocolate handcuffs?" Will he ever see those little faces....

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### Book 681 – Queen Victoria's revenge by Harry Harrison

Tony Hawkin wasn't really made for the FBI. He rarely hit what he aimed at, forgot his own code name, and had a tendency to panic at the slightest hint of trouble. Now he's gotten himself handcuffed to an attaché case with $2 million inside and stuffed aboard a hijacked DC-10 bound for Scotland, where he's chased through the countryside by the hijackers, Scots patriots, a crazy Cuban colonel, and half the police force. All of them want only two things—the money and Tony's head in a noose. Once again Special Agent Tony Hawkin must rely on his own brand of expertise to outwit and confound a nefarious array of foes. Tony's plan is simple: lead them all back to London, like the Pied Piper of Hamelin, and deposit them at the gates of Scotland Yard. There is just one small problem: London is 500 miles away, and Tony has no idea which way that is....

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### Book 682 – The Stainless Steel Rat by Harry Harrison

Meet slippery Jim diGriz cosmic criminal, the smoothest, sneakiest con man in the known universe. He can take any bank in the Galaxy, con a captain out of his ship, start a war or stop one whichever pays the most. So when the law finally catches up with the stainless steel rat there was only one thing to do - make him a cop. Turn him loose on a villainous lady who was building her own battleship.

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### Book 683 – The Stainless Steel Rat’s revenge by Harry Harrison

The Stainless Steel rat is facing his greatest challenge yet - Angelina has co-erced the rat into marriage. But getting a marriage means revealing their whereabouts and that means bringing down a whole heap of trouble from above.

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### **Book 684 – The Stainless Steel Rat saves the world by** Harry Harrison

Someone was tampering with time, altering the past to eliminate the present, fading people, especially members of the Special Corps, into a timeless limbo. When the victims include the lovely Angelina and his twin sons, its time for the Rat to the rescue! The time being the ancient past, the year 1984, the destination somewhere called the United States of America.

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### Book 685 – The Stainless Steel Rat wants you! by Harry Harrison

Slippery Jim diGriz, the future's master criminal tumed super-spy, is recruiting for an all-out interstellar war! Loathsome, mind sucking creatures from an unknown star are closing in on Earth. Once again it's up to the Stainless Steel Rat to save humanity. In a daring caper packed with action and laughs, the Rat goes undercover to stop the invasion-disguised as a hideous, bug-eyed extraterrestrial!

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### Book 686 – The Stainless Steel Rat for president by Harry Harrison

The Stainless Steel rat is back! Slippery Jim diGriz, the future's most lovable, laughable, larcenous conman tumed counterspy, retums for yet another high-tension mission. This time the Special Corps has given the Rat a daring assignment - liberate a backward tourist planet from the clutches of an aging dictator. With his lovely but lethal wife, Angelina, and his two stalwart sons, James and Bolivar, diGriz pits ballots against bullets in the fight for freedom. He's vowed to restore truth, justice, and democracy to the world of Parisio-Aqui, if he has to lie, cheat, and steal to do it.

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### Book 687 – The Stainless Steel Rat is born by Harry Harrison

A chronicle of the life and times of the Stainless Steel Rat traces the rise of "Slippery Jim" diGriz from his humble origins as a shoplifter, through his schooling in arts of crime with the Bishop, to the heights of crime as an intergalactic con-man.

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### **Book 688 – The Stainless Steel Rat gets drafted by Harry** Harrison

The 25th century's most outrageous outlaw is back--and this time it means war! "Slippery Jim" diGriz, better known as the Stainless Steel Rat, is seeking revenge for the murder of his mentor-in-crime. But to do so, he must join an army and oppose its iron-fisted dictator--and keep a planet from being enslaved.

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### Book 689 – The Stainless Steel Rat sings the blues by Harry Harrison

The Stainless Steel Rat--the 25th century's most canny criminal--is handed an unusual sentence in exchange for his life: journey to a prison in order to retrieve a legendary alien artifact.

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### Book 690 – The Stainless Steel Rat goes to hell by Harry Harrison

The anti-hero is taking it easy, as only he knows how,on the fabulously glitzy, fabuluosly expensive, resort planet Lussouso. While herests, Angelina his oh so sexy, oh so cunning wife, cavorts with her friends as only he knows how. But her pals at the Temple of Eternal Truth have been bamboozled into believing that at last they can buy thier way into Heaven and when Angelina asks one pertinent question too many Slipper Jim suddenly finds himself without a wife. Within the Temple of Eternal Truth lie the doors to Heaven and Hell-to find Angelina, Jim and his twin sons will have to break down those doors and explore the worlds behind them.

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### **Book 691 – The Stainless Steel Rat joins the circus by** Harry Harrison

Imperetrix Von Kaiser-Czarski is the richest man in the universe, and someone is systematically robbing all of his banks. He decides that the best course of action is to set a thief to catch a thief, and the best thief of them all is one Slippery Jim diGriz. Sceptical at first, Jim is soon won over by the promise of four million credits a day, plus expenses. Jim and Angelina enlist the help of their twin sons, James and Bolivar, and James' computers soon find the common link between all of the robberies: every time a bank was hit, there was a circus in town. The same circus. What better way to find out about the goings on among circus-folk than to become one of them? And so Slippery Jim becomes master magician Mighty Marvell, and soon discovers that, just like him, everyone isn't quite what they seem.

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### **Book 692 – The Stainless Steel Rat returns by Harry Harrison**

James Bolivar "Slippery Jim" DiGriz, Special Corps agent, master con man, interstellar criminal (retired), is living high on the hog on the planet of Moolaplenty when a long-lost cousin and a shipful of swine arrive to drain his bank account and send him and his lovely wife, Angelina, wandering the stars on the wildest journey since Gulliver's Travels. In this darkly satiric work, Harry Harrison bring his most famous character out of retirement for a grand tour of the galaxy. The Stainless Steel Rat rides again: a cocktail in his hand, a smile on his lips, and larceny in his heart, in search of adventure, gravitons, and a way to get rid of the pigs.

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### **Book 693 – Make room, make room! by Harry Harrison**

The world is crowded. Far too crowded. Its starving billions live on lentils, soya beans, and if they're lucky, the odd starving rat. In a New York City groaning under the burden of 35 million inhabitants, detective Andy Rusch is engaged in a desperate and lonely hunt for a killer everyone has forgotten. For even in a world such as this, a policeman can find himself utterly alone?

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### **Book 694 – Leviathan Falls by James S. A. Corey**

The Laconian Empire has fallen, setting the thirteen hundred solar systems free from the rule of Winston Duarte. But the ancient enemy that killed the gate builders is awake, and the war against our universe has begun again. In the dead system of Adro, Elvi Okoye leads a desperate scientific mission to understand what the gate builders were and what destroyed them, even if it means compromising herself and the half-alien children who bear the weight of her investigation. Through the wide-flung systems of humanity, Colonel Aliana Tanaka hunts for Duarte’s missing daughter. . . and the shattered emperor himself. And on the Rocinante, James Holden and his crew struggle to build a future for humanity out of the shards and ruins of all that has come before. As nearly unimaginable forces prepare to annihilate all human life, Holden and a group of unlikely allies discover a last, desperate chance to unite all of humanity, with the promise of a vast galactic civilization free from wars, factions, lies, and secrets if they win.

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### **Book 695 – Mindstar rising by Peter F. Hamilton**

Greg Mandel, late of the Mindstar Battalion, has been many things in his life. Commando. Freedom fighter. Assassin. Now he's a freelance operative with a very special edge: telepathy. In the high-tech, hard-edged world of tomorrow, Mandel is the man to call when things get rough, but this time he may have bitten off more than he can chew.... Decades of global warming have changed the geography of the world, altered climates, and wreaked havoc on lives and economies. Now, after decades of hardship and turmoil, the world is beginning to pull itself back together, thanks in large part to the efforts of one man: Philip Evans. A visionary industrialist, Evans is the head of Event Horizon, an organization on the cutting edge of everything from zero-gravity manufacturing to artificial intelligence. But now someone is trying to sabotage Event Horizon - and kill Philip Evans.

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### **Book 696 – A quantum murder by Peter F. Hamilton**

Dr Edward Kitchener, a brilliant researcher into quantum cosmology for the Event Horizon conglomerate ...but no good to anybody now, lying dead with his lungs spread out on either side of his open chest. The security system at Launde Abbey was premier-grade, yet a mercenary could still have got through, and plenty of people anxious to stop Kitchener's work would pay the killer's fee. But why would a professional waste time in ritually slaughtering the target? Event Horizon needs to know fast, so Greg Mandel, psi-boosted ex-private eye, is enticed out of retirement to launch himself on a convoluted trail involving confrontation with a past which -- according to Kitchener's theories -- might never have happened.

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| **Book 697 - The nano flower by Peter F. Hamilton** |
| Julia Evans, billionaire owner of Event Horizon, is in trouble. For fifteen years she's been the power behind England's economic renaissance, but this won't help her now. Her husband is missing and rival companies claim to have acquired an incredible new technology something impossibly superior to what has come before. So she has no time to notice a single flower, delivered anonymously. But this flower possesses genes millions of years in advance of any terrestrial DNA. Is it a cryptic alien message, or a poignant farewell token from her husband? One man could discover its origins, but Greg Mandel won't be alone in this desperate search. And as Greg and Julia discover, being first in the race won't be enough when the Nano Flower starts to bloom.[**https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4744447?format=DAISY\_2\_AUDIO&previous-title=Search**](https://my.visionaustralia.org/library/detail/book/4744447?format=DAISY_2_AUDIO&previous-title=Search) |

### Book 698 - Mordew by Alex Pheby

God is dead, his corpse hidden in the catacombs beneath Mordew. In the slums of the sea-battered city, a young boy called Nathan Treeves lives with his parents, eking out a meagre existence by picking treasures from the Living Mud and the half-formed, short-lived creatures it spawns. Until one day his desperate mother sells him to the mysterious Master of Mordew. The Master derives his magical power from feeding on the corpse of God. But Nathan, despite his fear and lowly station, has his own strength—and it is greater than the Master has ever known. Great enough to destroy everything the Master has built. If only Nathan can discover how to use it. So it is that the Master begins to scheme against him—and Nathan has to fight his way through the betrayals, secrets, and vendettas of the city where God was murdered, and darkness reigns.

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### Book 699 - The nobody people by Bob Proehl

Avi Hirsch has always known his daughter was different. But when others with incredible, otherworldly gifts reveal themselves to the world, Avi realizes that her oddness is something more—that she is something more. With this, he has a terrifying revelation: Emmeline is now entering a society where her unique abilities unfairly mark her as a potential threat. And even though he is her father, Avi cannot keep her safe forever. Emmeline soon meets others just like her: Carrie Norris, a teenage girl who can turn invisible . . . but just wants to be seen. Fahima Deeb, a woman with an uncanny knack for machinery . . . but it’s her Muslim faith that makes the U.S. government suspicious of her. They are the nobody people—ordinary individuals with extraordinary gifts who want one only thing: to live as equals in an America that is gripped by fear and hatred. But the government is passing discriminatory laws. Violent mobs are taking to the streets. And one of their own—an angry young man seething with self-loathing—has used his power in an act of mass violence that has put a new target on the community. The nobody people must now stand together and fight for their future, or risk falling apart.

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### Book 700 - House Harkonnen by Brian Herbert

As Shaddam sits at last on the Golden Lion Throne, Baron Vladimir Harkonnen plots against the new Emperor and House Atreides - and against the mysterious Sisterhood of the Bene Gesserit. For Leto Atreides, grown complacent and comfortable as ruler of his House, it is a time of momentous choice: between friendship and duty, safety and destiny. But for the survival of House Atreides, there is just one choice - strive for greatness or be crushed.

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### Book 701 - Killing Adam by Earik Beann

A science fiction title related to Brain-Computer interfaces, and technological moves forward into an interesting, inviting, but also incredibly temperamental new age of connectivity and connection.

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### Book 702 - The road to Dune by Frank Herbert

A compilation of material celebrating - and adding to - the epic 'Dune' novels. It includes out-takes from the original 'Dune' by Frank Herbert, correspondence with Frank Herbert relating to the original 'Dune' and short stories by Brian Herbert and Kevin Anderson.

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### Book 703 - Roadmarks by Roger Zelazny

The Road runs from the unimaginable past to the far future, and those who travel it have access to the turnoffs leading to all times and places - even to the alternate time-streams of histories that never happened. Why the Dragons of Bel'kwinith made the Road - or who they are - no one knows. But the Road has always been there and for those who know how to find it, it always will be!

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### Book 704 - Winders by Ryan O'Nan

The power of Winding can fix mistakes and prevent disasters. Or, in the wrong hands, it can be used as a weapon against the world. Juniper Trask is a prodigy, raised under the Council's strict Code, which allows Winders to exist in secret among average humans. After the murder of her mentor, she is chosen to take his seat on the Council. But as Juniper settles into her new role, cracks of dissension are forming around her, and she uncovers the dark truth behind their power. Juniper has just become a pawn in a game no one knows is being played, and as she begins to question the Code for the first time, her life spirals into a world of danger. Charlie Ryan always knew he was different, ever since he saved his mother from a car wreck that no one but him remembers. After meeting a man who claims he has the same ability, Charlie leaves home to chase him for answers. Charlie's powers are special, and there are those who would kill to get their hands on him. Now, Juniper and Charlie need each other if they are going to survive the future.

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### Book 705 - Reset by S. Spencer Baker

Take the most sophisticated A.I. designed mind that has ever existed, encase it in over fifty million cubic kilometres of diamond nano-rods and send it off on a twenty-thousand-year odyssey towards the centre of the galaxy. Then screw it all up by allowing thirty-two million humans to go along for the ride...

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### Book 706 - Dammit by S. Spencer Baker

There’s a billion-kilometre-wide stop sign in Slab’s path but the interns in SlabCouncil insist on sitting on their hands. Louie Drago doesn’t do hand-sitting so he gives council the benefit of his mind and makes plans to save his photonic skin. Dielle, freshly reset and oblivious to the threat, gets busy having fun with his new old friends until he’s diverted in ways he couldn’t have expected, but Kiki is more than happy to exploit. Meanwhile, the Cosmic Tit delivers an exiled version of Louie to the site of a four-hundred-year-old Earth mystery. It’s only when parts of a nearby solar system start disappearing that council are forced to do something they will deny until the end of the universe (or tea-time, depending on your asynchronology).

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### Book 707 - Reboot by S. Spencer Baker

Slab is three hundred and fifty years into its voyage home when the lights—and everything else—go out. With zero chance of rescue and no possibility that an alternative power source can be invented and deployed in time, most of the thirty-two million SlabCitizens choose to enter cryo suspension in the fragile hope that if and when they are defrosted, there will still be a slab worth living in. To make matters worse, Council have no option but to elevate self-proclaimed business gurulla Louie Drago to the presidency and leave him hypothetically in charge of a small band of suspiciously gifted people tasked with saving Slab. Not everyone volunteers for the deep freeze. Several million escape in micro-form and the rest are herded into the one place they might survive in for more than a few days, while, as time-to-failure races erratically towards zero, the NAHs desperately seek help from the most improbable of places. Louie only wants to save himself, but Dielle, who still can’t accept he is Louie’s reset, is on a mission to save his only Hope by making promises he’s pretty sure he can’t keep. Meanwhile, but not meanwhen, the Cosmic Tit accidentally saves a space-bound life-form that eats moons for breakfast, and things are getting tense in California where, even though it’s been displaced into a virtually time-free discontinuity, there may be only a few ten to the trillion years left—and that might not be enough.

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### Book 708 - The winds of Dune by Brian Herbert

Paul Atreides is the man who overthrew a corrupt empire and then launched a terrible jihad across the galaxy, shedding the blood of trillions. The now-hated tyrant, the blind emperor Paul Muad'Dib, has walked off into the endless desert of the planet Arrakis, known as Dune, leaving his turbulent empire without guidance. It's up to his mother Jessica, with her daughter Alia, the brave troubadour-warrior Gurney Halleck, the resurrected Duncan Idaho, the Fremen leader Stilgar, as well as Paul's wife-in-name and biographer, Princess Irulan, to try and hold an empire together even as it tears itself apart from within and without.

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### Book 709 - Mentats of Dune by Brian Herbert

Gilbertus Albans has founded the Mentat School, a place where humans can learn the efficient techniques of thinking machines. But Gilbertus walks an uneasy line between his own convictions and compromises in order to survive the Butlerian fanatics, led by the madman Manford Torondo and his Swordmaster Anari Idaho. Mother Superior Raquella attempts to rebuild her Sisterhood School on Wallach IX, with her most talented and ambitious student, Valya Harkonnen, who also has another goal—to exact revenge on Vorian Atreides, the legendary hero of the Jihad, whom she blames for her family's downfall. Meanwhile, Josef Venport conducts his own war against the Butlerians. VenHold Spacing Fleet controls nearly all commerce thanks to the superior mutated Navigators that Venport has created, and he places a ruthless embargo on any planet that accepts Manford Torondo's anti-technology pledge, hoping to starve them into submission. But fanatics rarely surrender easily…

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### Book 710 - The gauntlet and the fist beneath by Ian Green

The endless rotstorm rages over the ruins of the Ferron Empire. Floré would never let the slavers of the Empire rise again. As a warrior of the Stormguard Commandos, she wrought horrors in the rotstorm to protect her people. She did her duty and left the bloodshed behind. Floré's peace is shattered when blazing orbs of light cut through the night sky and descend on her village. Her daughter is abducted and Floré is forced into a chase across a land of twisted monsters and ancient gods. She must pursue the mysterious orbs, whose presence could herald the return of the Empire she spent her entire life fighting. Now, Floré must take up the role she swore to put aside and become the weapon the Stormguard trained her to be, to save not only her daughter, but her people.

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### Book 711 - Vicious by V.E. Schwab

Victor and Eli started out as college roommates - brilliant, arrogant, lonely boys who recognised the same ambition in each other. A shared interest in adrenaline, near-death experiences, and seemingly supernatural events reveals an intriguing possibility: that under the right conditions, someone could develop extraordinary abilities. But when their thesis moves from the academic to the experimental, things go horribly wrong. Ten years later, Victor breaks out of prison, determined to catch up to his old friend. Meanwhile, Eli is on a mission to eradicate every other super-powered person that he can find - aside from his sidekick, an enigmatic woman with an unbreakable will. Armed with terrible power on both sides, driven by the memory of betrayal and loss, the arch-nemeses have set a course for revenge - but who will be left alive?

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### Book 712 - Moths by Jane Hennigan

Out they came, away from natural predators, nesting in damp corners and in the tops of trees, crossbreeding with common cousins and laying thousands upon thousands of eggs. Then… the eggs hatched and an army of hungry caterpillars spread their tiny toxic threads on every breath of wind. The threads spell doom for humanity – half of it, at least. All around the world, men are dying in their sleep or turning into rage-fuelled killers. The world as we know it, ends. However, humanity adapts and society moves on. Many years later, very few even remember what life was like before the change. Mary does, though, and when an opportunity presents itself, she is faced with soul-searching decisions to make. Will she cling to the only strand of the past she has left or will she risk it all in the name of equality?

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### Book 713 - A clockwork river by J.S. Emery

A sister searches for her missing brother as a new power rises amid the splendour and the squalor of a once great city. Lower Rhumbsford is a city far removed from its glory days. On the banks of the great river Rhumb, its founding fathers channelled the river's mighty flow into a subterranean labyrinth of pipes, valves and sluices, a feat of hydraulic prowess that would come to power an empire. But a thousand years have passed since then, and something is wrong. The pipes are leaking, the valves stuck, the sluices silted. The erstwhile mighty Rhumb is sluggish and about to freeze over for the first time in memory. In a once fashionable quarter of the once great city, in the once grand ancestral home of a family once wealthy and well-known, live the last descendants of the city's most distinguished engineer, siblings Samuel and Briony Locke.

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### Book 714 - Osama by Lavie Tidhar

In an alternate world without global terrorism Joe, a private detective, is hired by a mysterious woman to find a man: the obscure author of pulp fiction novels featuring one Osama Bin Laden: Vigilante...Joe's quest to find the man takes him across the world, from the backwaters of Asia to the European Capitals of Paris and London, and as the mystery deepens around him there is one question he is trying hard not to ask: who is he, really, and how much of the books are fiction? Chased by unknown assailants, Joe's identity slowly fragments as he discovers the shadowy world of the refugees, ghostly entities haunting the world in which he lives. Where do they come from? And what do they want? Joe knows how the story should end, but even he is not ready for the truths he'll find in New York and, finally, on top a quiet hill above Kabul - nor for the choice he will at last have to make...

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### Book 715 - The hood by Lavie Tidhar

God bless you, England, on this glorious Year of Our Lord, 1145. Don't cross the Templars. Everybody knows that. But Will Scarlet, back from the crusades, hopped up on khat and cider, did. Stabbed thrice in the belly but somehow still alive, he's heading home to Nottingham. And things are not right in Nottingham. It's the wood, you see. Sherwood. Ice-age ancient, impenetrable, hiding a dark and secret heart. As the ancient sages say, If you go into the woods today, you may not come out tomorrow, and the person who comes out may not be you... The Hood is Lavie Tidhar's narcotic remix of an ancient English myth, a tale knotted from legends lost to time, shredded and restitched for each passing century. A tale for today.

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### Book 716 - The actuality by Paul Braddon

"She belongs to me – property rights will prevail." Evie is a near-perfect bioengineered human. In a broken-down future England where her kind has been outlawed, her ‘husband’ Matthew keeps her safe but hidden. When her existence is revealed, she must take her chances on the dark and hostile streets where more than one predator is on the hunt.

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### Book 717 - The Earthling's brother by Earik Beann

Sam never knew his parents. In fact, he's never met another human-or seen a sunrise, smelled a flower, or eaten a regular meal. All of that is about to change. It's night in the desert, but he doesn't feel the cold. There is a building ahead. Other people will be inside. His heart skips a beat as he takes a step forward, the rocks crunching under his bare feet. He has dreamed of this moment for as long as he can remember. But that which can be found can just as easily be lost again. It would have been better had Sam's arrival gone unnoticed. But the artificial life form known only as the Authority is not one to miss such things. Nearly as old as time, and almost as powerful, the Authority was built by an ancient civilization as both an enforcer and a war machine, the destroyer of worlds. It has been watching Sam his entire life. Watching, and waiting, and judging. And now, it has decided that it's time to act.

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### Book 718 - The city of Dr Moreau by Johnathon Barnes

In H.G. Wells' 1896 novel 'The Island of Dr Moreau' a shipwrecked traveller finds himself alone on an island ruled by a mad doctor and inhabited by creatures who are at once both beast and human. He escapes to civilisation only after the scientist is dead and the beast-men have taken absolute control. Yet this is not the end of the matter. The peoples of the island are not done with humanity. Now the conflict between the two has begun in earnest. 'The City of Dr Moreau' presents a sprawling history of the islanders, and an alternative vision of our own times. Spanning more than a century, criss-crossing across numerous places and many lives, we witness the growth of Moreau's legacy, from gothic experiments to an event which changes the world.

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### Book 719 - Kings of a dead world by Jamie Mollart

The Earth's resources are dwindling. The solution is periods of hibernation imposed on those who remain. In the sleeping city, elderly Ben struggles with limited waking time and the disease stealing his wife from him. Outside, lonely Janitor Peruzzi craves the family he never knew. Everywhere, dissatisfaction is growing. The city is about to wake.The Earth's resources are dwindling. The solution is periods of hibernation imposed on those who remain. In the sleeping city, elderly Ben struggles with limited waking time and the disease stealing his wife from him. Outside, lonely Janitor Peruzzi craves the family he never knew. Everywhere, dissatisfaction is growing. The city is about to wake.

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## SOCIAL STUDIES

### Book 720 - The yes woman by Grace Jennings-Edquist

In a world that teaches girls to become Yes Women, learning to say 'no' is a radical feat. For most of her life, Australian journalist Grace Jennings-Edquist had been keen to please. From school to career, in her appearance, friendships, and even everyday interactions, she was always anxious not to disappoint. Becoming a mother finally tipped her over the edge and she wound up in a psych ward. Grace could no longer avoid the truth: she was chronically addicted to saying yes. And she was not alone. Grace discovered that, in a phenomenon that crosses class, culture and sexuality, Yes Women are everywhere and there's a bit of Yes Woman in just about everyone. Interviewing scores of people in Australia and overseas, both ordinary women and experts, Grace gained a deeper understanding of the patriarchal origins of the Yes Woman, and developed a plan to seize control of her own life.

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## SOCIOLOGY

### Book 721 – You goddess!: lessons in being legendary from amazing immortals by Elizabeth Foley

Why settle for mere mortal excellence when you could be living like a goddess? This title takes us on a colourful tour of ancient deities and legends through the prism of female power, sharing the mythical stories of 25 goddesses from every corner of the globe. From famous divas like Athena to less familiar heroines such as the Japanese dawn goddess Uzume, the Mayan 'jaguar goddess of midwifery' Ixchel and the African mermaid spirit Mami Wata, E. Foley and B. Coates show how the tales of these deities have been depicted by men over the centuries, revealing the ancient roots of toxic female stereotypes (the damsel in distress, the selfless mother, the tempting harlot).

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### Book 722 - Dalvi: six years in the Arctic tundra by Laura Galloway

A DNA test suggesting she shared some genetics with the Sami people, the indigenous inhabitants of the Arctic tundra, tapped into Laura Galloway's wanderlust. An affair with a Sami reindeer herder led her to abandon her high-flying New York life for a fresh start in the tiny town of Kautokeino. When her new boyfriend left her unexpectedly after six months, it would have been easy, and perhaps prudent, to return home. But she stayed for six years. Dálvi is the story of Laura's time in a reindeer-herding village in Arctic Norway, forging a solitary existence as one of the few Westerners living among one of the most remote cultures on earth. Both a heart-rending memoir and a love letter to the singular landscape of the region, Dálvi explores with great warmth and humility what it means to truly belong.

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### Book 723 - A fatal thing happened on the way to the Forum by Emma Southon

In ancient Rome all the best stories have one thing in common - murder. Romulus killed Remus to found the city; Caesar was assassinated to save the Republic. Caligula was butchered in the theatre, Claudius was poisoned at dinner and Galba was beheaded in the forum. In one fifty-year period, twenty-six emperors were murdered. But what did killing mean in a city where gladiators fought to the death for the pleasure of a crowd? Emma Southon examines real-life homicides from Roman history to explore how perpetrator, victim and the act itself were regarded by ordinary people. Inside ancient Rome's unique culture of crime and punishment, we see how the Romans viewed life, death, and what it means to be human.

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### Book 724 - The case for rage by Myisha Cherry

This work presents a philosophical defense of anger at racial injustice. It shows that this type of anger - what author Myisha Cherry calls Lordean rage, honouring Audre Lorde - can inspire us to change the world. For that reason, we should seek to cultivate it, rather than push it down. Crossing the terrain of moral psychology, philosophy, and current affairs, the book shows how anger at racism is an appropriate and even necessary way of valuing others, how anger can motivate those who are outraged to engage in productive action, and how anger strengthens us to become the heroes that we have been waiting for. Beyond laying out the theory behind her case for rage, Cherry shows racially marginalised people and their allies how to better manage and channel anti-racist anger in order to affect lasting, long-awaited change.

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### Book 725 - Of fear and strangers by George Makari

Over the last few years, it has been impossible to ignore the steady resurgence of xenophobia. The European migrant crisis and immigration from Central America to the United States have placed Western advocates of globalization on the defensive, and a 'New Xenophobia' seems to have emerged out of nowhere. In this fascinating study, George Makari traces the history of xenophobia from its origins to the present day. Often perceived as an ancient word for a timeless problem, 'xenophobia' was in fact only coined a century ago, tied to heated and formative Western debates over nationalism, globalization, race and immigration. From Richard Wright to Sigmund Freud, Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir, writers and thinkers have long grappled with this most dangerous of phobias. Drawing on their work, Makari demonstrates how we can better understand the problem that is so crucial to our troubled times.

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## SPORTS

### Book 726 - Twelve summers by Adam Zwar

Cricket fans, where were you during the disaster that was the 2013 Ashes? Adam Zwar was making a documentary about bodyline and filming a stunt that involved Brett Lee bowling bouncers to him while he wasn't wearing a helmet. Matthew Hayden warned him not do it. But the cameras were set up. What was he going to do - say no? How about when Australia A nearly upset Australia in the 1995 World Series Cup and the players were rebelling against officials? Adam was working as a driver for an escort agency in Melbourne. Or Australia v India in 2001? That was when Adam was stuck in a hotel with AC/DC. For all the significant moments in Adam's life, cricket was in the background - or foreground. And you don't need to be a fan of cricket to be able to relate, because we all remember where we were when something important happened, whether that's a cricket test, an album release or a TV show ending...

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## TRAVEL

### Book 727 - From snow to ash by Anthony Sharwood

At the start of the hellish, fiery Australian summer of 2019/20, Walkley Award-winning journalist and suburban dad Anthony Sharwood set off on a journey. Abandoning his post on a busy news website to clear his mind, he solo-trekked the Australian Alps Walking Track, Australia's most gruelling and breathtakingly beautiful mainland hiking trail, which traverses the entirety of the legendary High Country from Gippsland in Victoria to the outskirts of Canberra.The journey started in a blizzard and ended in a blaze. Along the way, this lifelong lover of the mountains came to realise that nothing would ever be the same - either for him or for the imperilled Australian Alps, a landscape as fragile and sensitive to the changing climate as the Great Barrier Reef.

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### Book 728 - Dear Bill Bryson by Ben Aitken

In 2013, travel writer Ben Aitken decided to follow in the footsteps of his hero - literally - and started a journey around the UK, tracing the trip taken by Bill Bryson in his classic tribute to the British Isles, 'Notes from a Small Island.' Staying at the same hotels, ordering the same food, and even spending the same amount of time in the bath, Aitken's homage is filled with wit, insight, and humour.

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**Book 729 - Mad travelers by Dave Seminara**

A brilliant, young con artist offered to help the world's most traveled people reach the planet's last untouched frontiers; instead, they were taken for a wild ride that turned into a costly lesson on the perils of wanderlust. At twenty-three, William Simon Baekeland was well on his way to becoming the world's best traveled person. The 'billionaire' heir to a great plastics fortune had already visited 163 countries, but his real passion was finding ways to visit the world's most challenging destinations--war torn cities, disputed territories, and remote or officially off-limits islands at the margins of the map. He earned rock-star status in the world of extreme travel by finding ingenious ways to bring the world's most widely traveled people to difficult-to-reach and forbidden places. But when his story began to unravel, an eccentric group of hyper-well-traveled country collectors were left wondering how they had allowed their obsession to blind them to the warning signs that William Baekeland wasn't who they thought he was. This book delves deep inside the subculture of country collecting, taking readers to danger zones like Mogadishu and geographical oddities like Norway's nearly impossible-to-reach Bouvet Island. Along the way, this raucous tale of adventure and international intrigue illuminates the perils and pleasures of wanderlust while examining a fundamental question: why are some people compelled to travel, while others are content to stay home? Mad Travelers is a perceptive and at times hilarious account of how the pursuit of everywhere put the world's greatest travelers at the mercy of a brilliant young con man.

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**Book 730 - Slow road to San Francisco by David Reynolds**

From Ocean City, Maryland to San Francisco, Reynolds traverses the back roads and small towns of the continent, taking the pulse of Trump's America as he goes. With remarkable honesty and insight, not to mention a humorous and sometimes sceptical eye, he observes the US today. As he moseys from east to west, driving slowly, stopping frequently he meets Trump's countrymen and women - white, black, Hispanic, Asian, native American; Christian, Muslim, atheist, Mormon, Mennonite; rich, middling, poor. They talk about everything from slavery, Indian reservations, fracking and forest fires to baseball, beer, the blues, Butch Cassidy, and Marilyn Monroe.

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**Book 731 - The gran tour: travels with my elders by Ben Aitken**

When Ben Aitken heard that his gran had enjoyed a four-night holiday, including four three-course dinners, four cooked breakfasts, four games of bingo, a pair of excursions, 16 pints of lager and luxury return coach travel, all for $100 pounds, he thought, that's the life, and signed himself up. Six times over. Good value aside, what Ben was really after was the company of his elders - those with more chapters under their belt, with the wisdom granted by experience, the candour gifted by time, and the hard-earned ability to live each day like it's nearly their last. A series of coach holidays ensued - from Scarborough to St Ives, Killarney to Lake Como - during which Ben attempts to shake off his 30-something blues by getting old as soon as possible.

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