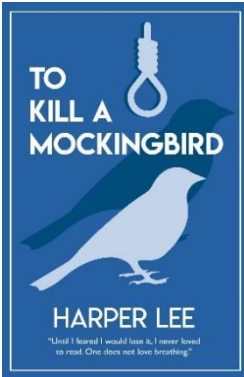


YEARS 10 & 11
SUGGESTIONS FOR READING



"WE READ TO KNOW WE'RE NOT ALONE."

WILLIAM NICHOLSON

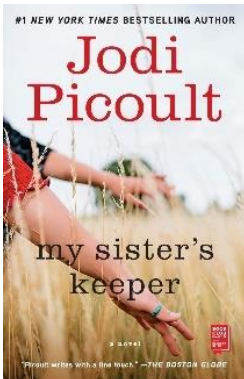


TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

HARPER LEE

'Shoot all the bluejays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird.'

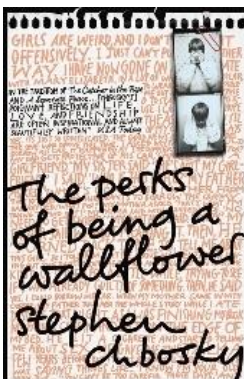
A lawyer's advice to his children as he defends a black man falsely charged with the rape of a white girl. Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores how the conscience of a town steeped in prejudice, violence and hypocrisy is pricked by the stamina of one man's struggle for justice. But the weight of history will only tolerate so much.



MY SISTER'S KEEPER

JODI PICOULT

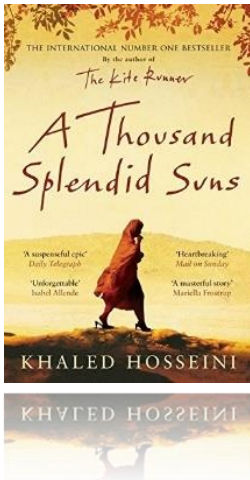
Anna Fitzgerald doesn't want her sister to die. But she's sick of helping her to live. Anna was born to be a perfect genetic match for Kate, who at just two years old was diagnosed with a rare form of leukaemia. For thirteen years, she has acted as donor to her sister. Now, Kate needs a kidney, and nobody is asking Anna how she feels about it – they're just assuming she will donate. Until the Sheriff serves the papers that will rock their family's world: Anna is suing her parents for the rights to her own body.



THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER

STEPHEN CHBOSKY

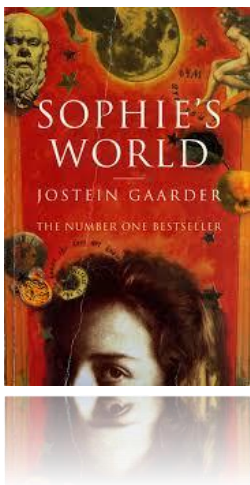
Meet Charlie, a smart, shy, and unpopular high school freshman, who eventually makes friends and gets involved at school. Then, secrets from his past threaten the happiness he has managed to create.



A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS

KHALED HOSSEINI

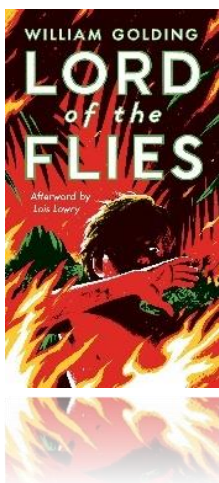
Mariam is only fifteen when she is sent to Kabul to marry Rasheed. Nearly two decades later, a friendship grows between Mariam and a local teenager, Laila, as strong as the ties between mother and daughter. When the Taliban take over, life becomes a desperate struggle against starvation, brutality and fear.



SOPHIE'S WORLD

JOSTEIN GAARDER

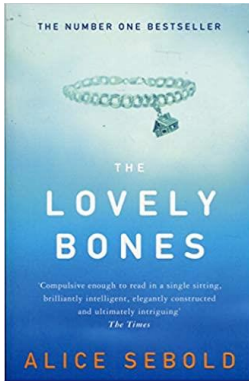
One day fourteen-year-old Sophie Amundsen comes home from school to find in her mailbox two notes, with one question on each: "Who are you?" and "Where does the world come from?" From that irresistible beginning, Sophie becomes obsessed with questions that take her far beyond what she knows of her Norwegian village.



LORD OF THE FLIES

WILLIAM GOLDING

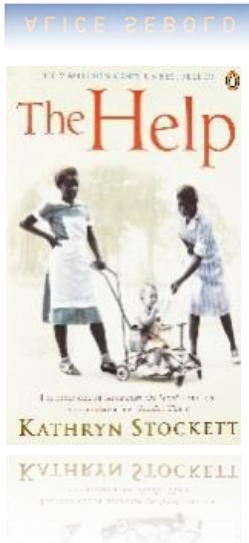
A plane crashes on a desert island. The only survivors are a group of schoolboys. By day, they discover fantastic wildlife and dazzling beaches, learning to survive; at night, they are haunted by nightmares of a primitive beast. Orphaned by society, it isn't long before their innocent childhood games devolve into a savage, murderous hunt.



THE LOVELY BONES

ALICE SEBOLD

Susie was fourteen when she was murdered on December 6, 1973 by a man from her neighbourhood. Over the years, her friends and siblings grow up, fall in love, do all the things she never had the chance to do herself. But life is not quite finished with Susie yet...



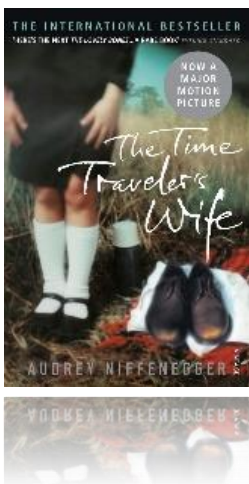
THE HELP

KATHRYN STOCKETT

Enter a vanished and unjust world: Jackson, Mississippi, 1962. Where black maids raise white children, but aren't trusted not to steal the silver...

There's Aibileen, raising her seventeenth white child and nursing the hurt caused by her own son's tragic death; Minny, whose cooking is nearly as sassy as her tongue; and white Miss Skeeter, home from College, who wants to know why her beloved maid has disappeared.

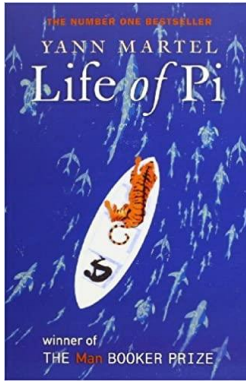
Skeeter, Aibileen and Minny. No one would believe they'd be friends; fewer still would tolerate it. But as each woman finds the courage to cross boundaries, they come to depend and rely upon one another. Each is in a search of a truth. And together they have an extraordinary story to tell...



THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE

AUDREY NIFFENEGGER

This is the extraordinary love story of Clare and Henry who met when Clare was six and Henry was thirty-six, and were married when Clare was twenty-two and Henry thirty. Impossible but true, because Henry suffers from a rare condition where his genetic clock periodically resets and he finds himself pulled suddenly into his past or future. In the face of this force they can neither prevent nor control, Henry and Clare's struggle to lead normal lives is both intensely moving and entirely unforgettable.



THE LIFE OF PI

YANN MARTEL

One boy, one boat, one tiger...

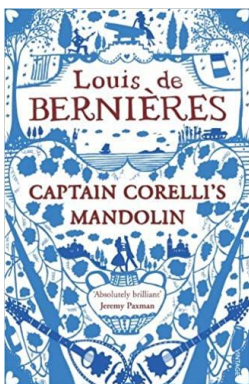
After the tragic sinking of a cargo ship, a solitary lifeboat remains bobbing on the wild, blue Pacific. The only survivors from the wreck are a sixteen-year-old boy named Pi, a hyena, a zebra (with a broken leg), a female orangutan – and a 450-pound Royal Bengal tiger. The scene is set for an epic journey of adventure, discovery, and self-discovery.



WHALE RIDER

WITI IHIMAERA

Eight-year-old Kahu, a member of the Maori tribe of Whangara, New Zealand, fights to prove her love, her leadership, and her destiny. In every generation since Kahutia, a male heir has inherited the title of chief – and Maori tradition has no use for a girl. But when hundreds of whales beach themselves and threaten the future of the Maori tribe, Kahu will do anything to save them – even the impossible.

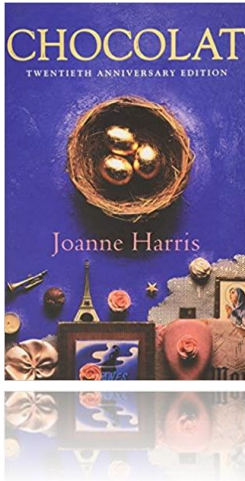


CAPTAIN CORELLI'S MANDOLIN

LOUIS DE BERNIÈRES

It is 1941 and Captain Antonio Corelli, a young Italian officer, is posted to the Greek island of Cephallonia as part of the occupying forces. At first he is ostracised by the locals but over time he proves himself to be civilised, humorous – and a consummate musician.

When Pelagia, the local doctor's daughter, finds her letters to her fiancé go unanswered, Antonio and Pelagia draw close and the working of the eternal triangle seems inevitable. But can this fragile love survive as a war of bestial savagery gets closer and the lines are drawn between invader and defender?

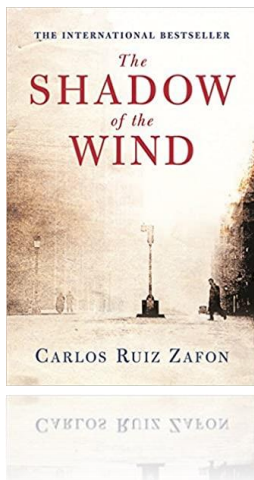


CHOCOLAT

JOANNE HARRIS

In the small French village of Lansquenet, nothing much has changed in a hundred years. Then an exotic stranger, Vianne Rocher, blows in on the changing wind with her young daughter, and opens a chocolate boutique directly opposite the church. Soon the villagers cannot keep away, for Vianne can divine their most hidden desires.

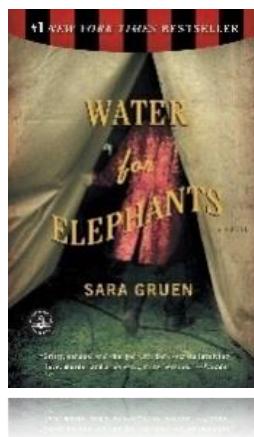
But it's the beginning of Lent, the season of abstinence, and Father Reynaud denounces her as a serious moral danger to his flock. Perhaps even a witch. If Vianne's chocolaterie is to survive, it will take kindness, courage and a little bit of magic...



THE SHADOW OF THE WIND

CARLOS RUIZ ZAFON

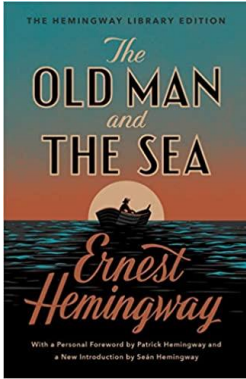
Ten-year-old Daniel is taken to the 'cemetery of lost books', hidden in the heart of the old city of Barcelona. He is allowed to choose one book from the shelves and pulls out 'La Sombra del Viento' by Julian Carax. Many years later, Daniel is approached by one of the characters in the book. What begins as a case of literary curiosity turns into a race to find out the truth behind the life and death of Julian Carax and to save those he left behind.



WATER FOR ELEPHANTS

SARA GRUEN

When Jacob Jankowski, recently orphaned and suddenly adrift, jumps onto a passing train, he enters a world of freaks, drifters, and misfits, a second-rate circus. An atmospheric, gritty, and compelling novel of star-crossed lovers, set in the circus world circa 1932.

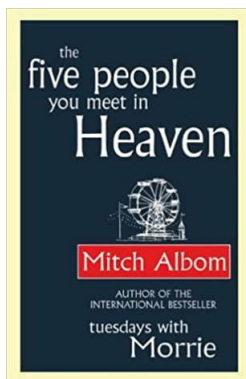


THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA

ERNEST HEMINGWAY

The last novel Ernest Hemingway saw published, The Old Man and the Sea has proved itself to be one of the enduring works of American fiction. It is the story of an old Cuban fisherman, down on his luck, and his supreme ordeal: a relentless, agonising battle with a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream.

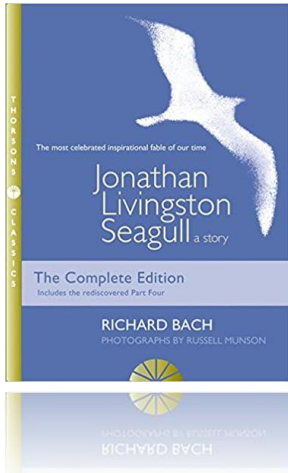
Using the simple, powerful language of a fable, Hemingway takes the timeless themes of courage in the face of defeat and personal triumph won from loss and transforms them into a magnificent twentieth-century classic.



THE FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN

MITCH ALBOM

The Five People You Meet In Heaven is a moving fable that addresses the meaning of life and life after death. The novel's protagonist is an elderly amusement park maintenance worker named Eddie who, while operating a ride called the 'Free Fall', dies while trying to save a young girl who gets in the way of a falling cart that hurtles to earth. Eddie goes to heaven, where he meets five people who were unexpectedly instrumental in some way in his life. While each guide takes him through heaven, Eddie learns a little bit more about what his time on earth meant, what he was supposed to have learned, and what his true purpose on earth was.



JONATHAN LIVINGSTON SEAGULL

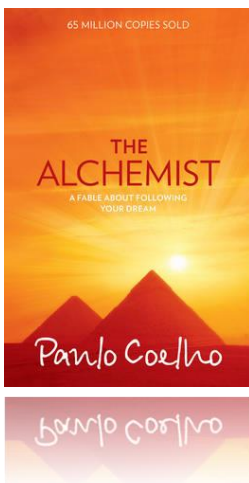
RICHARD BACH

Jonathan Livingston Seagull, *the most celebrated inspirational fable of our time, tells the story of a bird determined to be more than ordinary.*

'Most gulls don't bother to learn more than the simplest facts of flight – how to get from shore to food and back again,' writes author Richard Bach in this allegory about a unique bird named Jonathan Livingston Seagull. 'For most gulls it is not flying that matters, but eating. For this gull, though, it was not eating that mattered, but flight.' Flight is indeed the metaphor that makes this story soar.

This bestselling modern classic is a fable about seeking a higher purpose in life, even if your flock, tribe or neighbourhood finds your ambition threatening (at one point our beloved gull is even banished from his flock). By not compromising his higher vision, Jonathan learns the meaning of love and kindness and gets the ultimate payoff – transcendence.

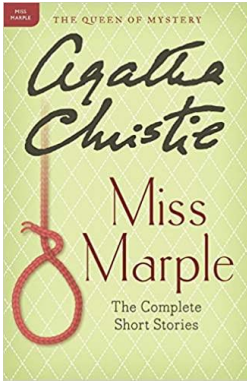
The dreamy illustrations by Russell Munson provide just the right illustrations for this spirituality classic that has inspired thousands of readers to follow their own path in life and so fulfill their true potential.



THE ALCHEMIST

PAULO COELHO

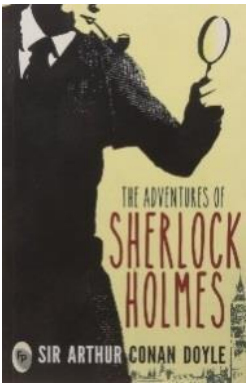
Santiago, a young shepherd living in the hills of Andalusia, feels that there is more to life than his humble home and his flock. One day he finds the courage to follow his dreams into distant lands, each step galvanised by the knowledge that he is following the right path: his own destiny. The people he meets along the way, the things he sees and the wisdom he learns are life-changing.



MISS MARPLE

AGATHA CHRISTIE

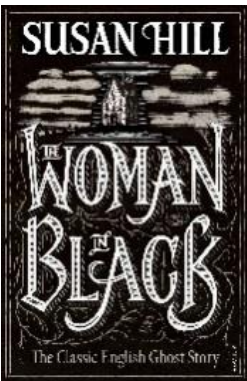
Described by her friend Dolly Bantry as 'the typical old maid of fiction', Miss Marple has lived almost her entire life in the sleepy hamlet of St Mary Mead. Yet, by observing village life she has gained an unparalleled insight into human nature – and used it to devastating effect. As her friend Sir Henry Clithering, the ex-Commissioner of Scotland Yard has been heard to say: 'She's just the finest detective God ever made.' – and many Agatha Christie fans would agree.



THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

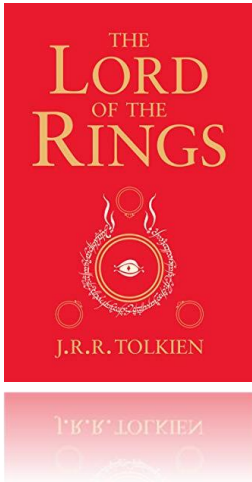
Sherlock Holmes is a private detective who has keen powers of observation. He lives at 221b Baker Street in London. He notices things that others simply don't and then he draws accurate conclusions about what he sees. He experiences strong mood swings, plays the violin, and is a master of deductive reasoning.



THE WOMAN IN BLACK

SUSAN HILL

When Mr Kipps spends a night in Eel Marsh House to sort out the affairs of a recently deceased recluse, he expects a boring evening alone sorting out paperwork. But when the high tide pens him in, what he finds – or rather what finds him – is something else entirely.



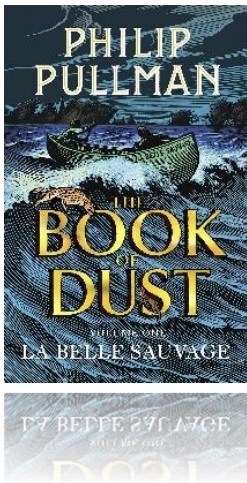
THE LORD OF THE RINGS

J R R TOLKIEN

Sauron, the Dark Lord, has gathered to him all the Rings of Power – the means by which he intends to rule Middle-earth. All he lacks in his plans for dominion is the One Ring – the ring that rules them all – which has fallen into the hands of the hobbit, Bilbo Baggins.

In a sleepy village in the Shire, young Frodo Baggins finds himself faced with an immense task, as the Ring is entrusted to his care. He must leave his home and make a perilous journey across the realms of Middle-earth to the Crack of Doom, deep inside the territories of the Dark Lord. There he must destroy the Ring forever and foil the Dark Lord in his evil purpose.

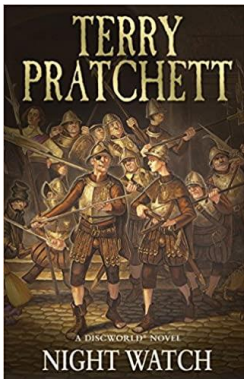
Since it was first published in 1954, The Lord of the Rings has been a book people have treasured. Steeped in unrivalled magic and otherworldliness, its sweeping fantasy has touched the hearts of young and old alike.



LA BELLE SAUVAGE

PHILIP PULLMAN

Malcolm, an 11-year-old boy whose prize possession is a canoe called La Belle Sauvage, stumbles into the service of an underground group working to subvert the Magisterium, the church's ruling body. He has a proprietary concern for a six-month-old baby Lyra in the care of the nuns at a nearby priory. The Magisterium wants her, and so does a disgraced and possibly deranged physicist with a hideously deformed hyena dæmon.



ERAGON

CHRISTOPHER PAOLINI

When Eragon finds a polished blue stone in the forest, he thinks it is the lucky discovery of a poor farm boy; perhaps it will buy his family meat for the winter. But when the stone brings a dragon hatchling, Eragon soon realises he has stumbled upon a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself.

NIGHT WATCH

TERRY PRATCHETT

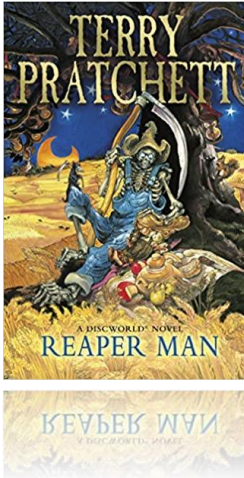
The Discworld is very much like our own – if our own were to consist of a flat planet balanced on the back of four elephants which stand on the back of a giant turtle, that is...

'Don't put your trust in revolutions. They always come round again. That's why they're called revolutions. People die, and nothing changes.'

For a policeman, there can be few things worse than a serial killer loose in your city. Except, perhaps, a serial killer who targets coppers, and a city on the brink of bloody revolution.

For Commander Sam Vimes, it all feels horribly familiar. Caught on the roof of a very magical building during a storm, he's found himself back in his own rough, tough past without even the clothes he was standing up in when the lightning struck. Living in the past is hard, especially when your time travel companion is a serial killer who knows where you live. But he must survive, because he has a job to do: track down the murderer and change the outcome of the rebellion.

The problem is: if he wins, he's got no wife, no child, no future...



REAPER MAN

TERRY PRATCHETT

The Discworld is very much like our own - if our own were to consist of a flat planet balanced on the back of four elephants which stand on the back of a giant turtle, that is...

'Death has to happen. That's what bein' alive is all about. You're alive, and then you're dead. It can't just stop happening.'

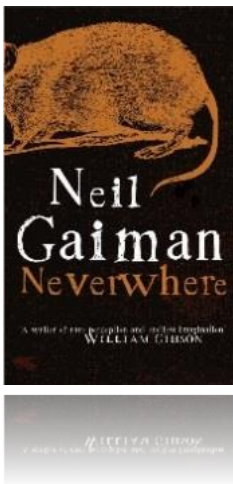
But it can. And it has.

Death is missing – presumed gone.

Which leads to the kind of chaos you always get when an important public service is withdrawn. If Death doesn't come for you, then what are you supposed to do in the meantime?

You can't have the undead wandering about like lost souls – there's no telling what might happen!

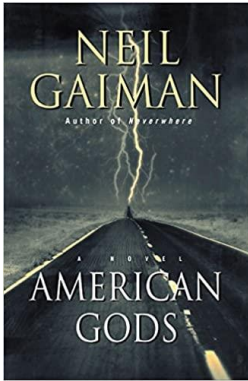
Particularly when they discover that life really is only for the living...



NEVERWHERE

NEIL GAIMAN

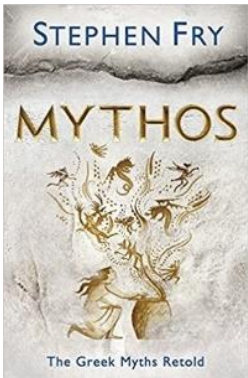
One night Richard Mayhew stumbles across a girl bleeding on the sidewalk. He stops to help her – and the life he knows vanishes like smoke. He has become invisible, and inexplicably consigned to a London of shadows and darkness – a city of monsters and saints, murderers and angels, that exists entirely in a subterranean labyrinth of sewer canals and abandoned subway stations: Neverwhere.



AMERICAN GODS

NEIL GAIMAN

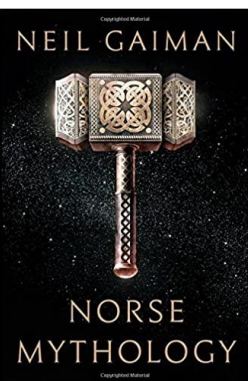
Released from prison, Shadow finds his world turned upside down. His wife has been killed; a mysterious stranger offers him a job. But Mr. Wednesday, who knows more about Shadow than is possible, warns that a storm is coming – a battle for the very soul of America... and they are in its direct path.



MYTHOS

STEPHEN FRY

No one loves and quarrels, desires and deceives as boldly or brilliantly as Greek gods and goddesses. In Stephen Fry's vivid retelling, we gaze in wonder as wise Athena is born from the cracking open of the great head of Zeus and follow doomed Persephone into the dark and lonely realm of the Underworld. Mythos captures these extraordinary myths for our modern age – in all their dazzling and deeply human relevance.

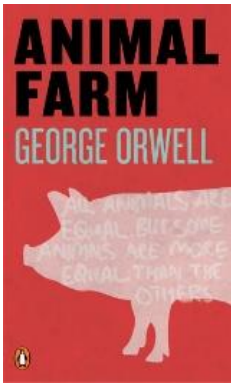


NORSE MYTHOLOGY

NEIL GAIMAN

A bravura rendition of the Norse gods and their world from their origin though their upheaval in Ragnarok. This retelling stays true to the myths in envisioning the major Norse pantheon: Odin, the highest of the high, wise, daring, and cunning; Thor, Odin's son, incredibly strong yet not the wisest of gods; and Loki – son of a giant – blood brother to Odin and a trickster and unsurpassable manipulator.

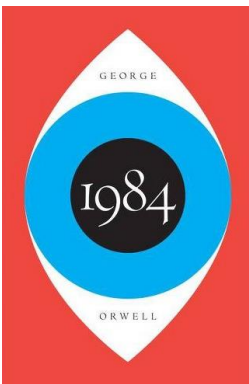




ANIMAL FARM

GEORGE ORWELL

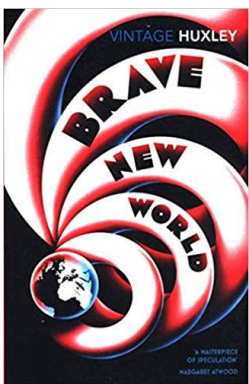
When the downtrodden animals of Manor Farm overthrow their master Mr Jones and take over the farm themselves, they imagine it is the beginning of a life of freedom and equality. But gradually a cunning, ruthless élite among them, masterminded by the pigs Napoleon and Snowball, starts to take control.



NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR

GEORGE ORWELL

Hidden away in the Record Department of the sprawling Ministry of Truth, Winston Smith skilfully rewrites the past to suit the needs of the Party. Yet he inwardly rebels against the totalitarian world he lives in, which demands absolute obedience and controls him through the all-seeing telescreens and the watchful eye of Big Brother, symbolic head of the Party. In his longing for truth and liberty, Smith begins a secret love affair but soon discovers the true price of freedom.



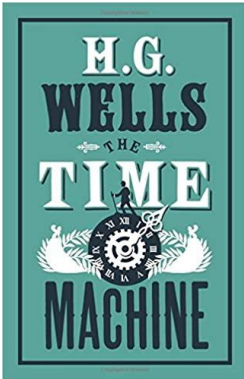
BRAVE NEW WORLD

ALDOUS HUXLEY

Welcome to New London. Everybody is happy here. Our perfect society achieved peace and stability through the prohibition of monogamy, privacy, money, family and history itself. Now everyone belongs.

You can be happy too. All you need to do is take your Soma pills.

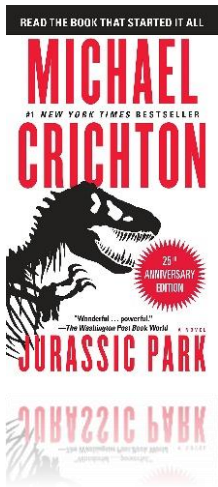
Discover the brave new world of Aldous Huxley's classic novel, written in 1932, which prophesied a society which expects maximum pleasure and accepts complete surveillance – no matter what the cost.



THE TIME MACHINE

H G WELLS

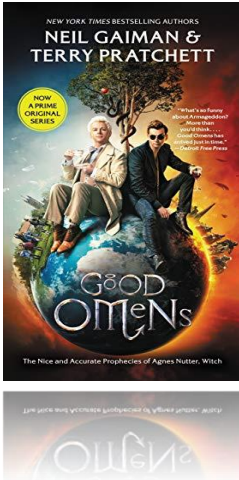
A young scientist builds a machine that transports him 800,000 years into the future. He finds that the earth is decaying, and humanity has evolved into two distinct species: the brutal Morlocks and the gentle Eloi. The scientist befriends the Eloi, who consume a diet of fruit and play during the day. At night, the Morlocks emerge...



JURASSIC PARK

MICHAEL CRICHTON

An island off Costa Rica will soon be the world's most ambitious theme park – a dinosaur preserve. A visionary financier's biotechnology company has succeeded in cloning these extinct reptiles. Fifteen different species, presumably incapable of breeding, are now placidly roaming around, but Jurassic Park's resident mathematician, an expert in chaos theory, predicts that the animals' behaviour is inherently unstable. When a rival genetics firm attempts to steal frozen dinosaur embryos, things go haywire.

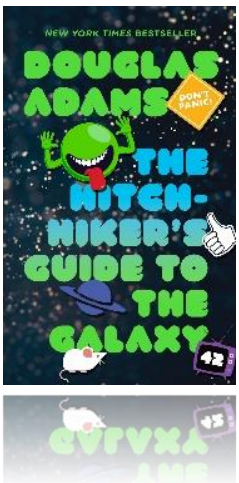


GOOD OMENS

NEIL GAIMAN & TERRY PRATCHETT

There is a distinct hint of Armageddon in the air. The world will end on a Saturday. Next Saturday, in fact. So the armies of Good and Evil are amassing, the Four Bikers of the Apocalypse are revving up their mighty hogs and hitting the road, and the world's last two remaining witch-finders are getting ready to fight the good fight, armed with awkwardly antiquated instructions and stick pins. Atlantis is rising, frogs are falling, tempers are flaring... Right. Everything appears to be going according to Divine Plan.

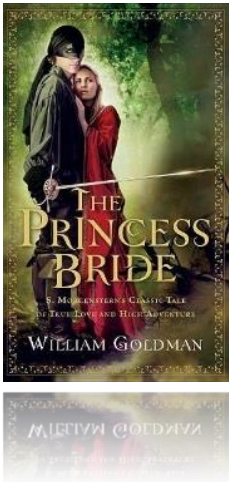
Except that a somewhat fussy angel and a fast-living demon – each of whom has lived among Earth's mortals for many millennia and has grown rather fond of the lifestyle – are not particularly looking forward to the coming Rapture. If Crowley and Aziraphale are going to stop it from happening, they've got to find and kill the Antichrist (which is a shame, as he's a really nice kid). There's just one glitch: someone seems to have misplaced him...



THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY

DOUGLAS ADAMS

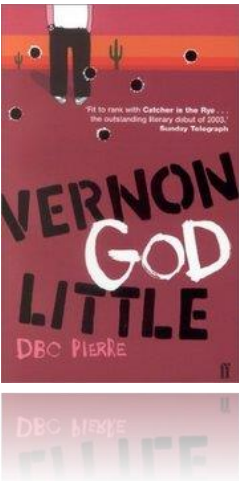
Seconds before the Earth is demolished, Arthur Dent is plucked off the planet by his friend Ford Prefect, a researcher for the revised edition of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. Together this dynamic pair begin a journey through space and a galaxy-full of fellow travellers.



THE PRINCESS BRIDE

WILLIAM GOLDMAN

The story centres on Buttercup, a former farm girl who still laments the death of her one true love, Westley, five years ago. Now she is engaged to Prince Humperdinck of Florian although she does not love him. However, before the wedding can take place, she is kidnapped by a Spaniard, a giant and a Sicilian, attacked by Shrieking Eels and chased by the Dread Pirate Roberts himself...



VERNON GOD LITTLE

DBC PIERRE

When sixteen kids are shot on high school grounds, everyone looks for someone to blame. Vernon Little, under arrest at the sheriff's office, a teenager wearing nothing but yesterday's underwear and his prized logo sneakers, is pinned as an accomplice. Out for revenge are the townspeople, the cable news networks, and Deputy Vaine Gurie, a woman whose zeal for the Pritikin diet is eclipsed only by her appetite for barbecued ribs from the Bar-B-Chew Barn. So Vernon does what any red-blooded American teenager would do: he takes off for Mexico.



GREAT EXPECTATIONS

CHARLES DICKENS

Regarded as one of Charles Dickens's masterpieces, this is the story of the orphan Pip and his growth to adulthood. Supported by a mysterious anonymous benefactor, Pip travels to London to be educated as a gentleman and make himself worthy of the hand of the beautiful Estella, the ward of the reclusive Miss Havisham. But Pip finds out that his future prospects are very different from his 'great expectations'.



DAVID COPPERFIELD

CHARLES DICKENS

'Whether I shall turn out to be the hero of my own life, or whether that station will be held by anybody else, these pages must show. To begin my life with the beginning of my life, I record that I was born (as I have been informed and believe) on a Friday, at twelve o'clock at night. It was remarked that the clock began to strike, and I began to cry, simultaneously.'

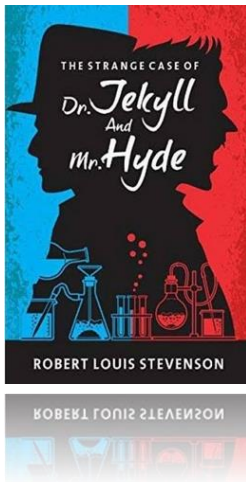
David Copperfield is the story of a young man's adventures on his journey from an unhappy and impoverished childhood to the discovery of his vocation as a successful novelist. Dickens drew revealingly on his own experiences to create one of the most exuberant and enduringly popular works, filled with tragedy and comedy in equal measure.



THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

GASTON LEROUX

A riveting story that revolves around the young, Swedish Christine Daaé. Her father, a famous musician, dies, and she is raised in the Paris Opera House with his dying promise of a protective angel of music to guide her. After a time at the opera house, she begins hearing a mysterious voice...



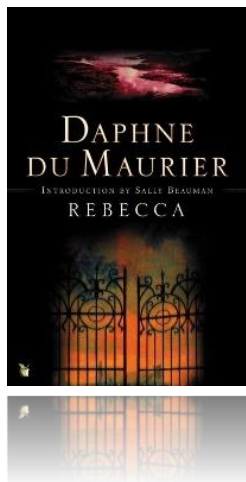
THE STRANGE CASE OF DR JEKYLL AND MR HYDE

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

'He put the glass to his lips, and drank at one gulp. A cry followed; he reeled, staggered, clutched at the table and held on, staring with injected eyes, gasping with open mouth; and as I looked there came, I thought, a change...'

A series of brutal incidents – a murder, the trampling of a child – leads lawyer Mr Utterson to try to find out more about the repulsive perpetrator Mr Hyde. More importantly, he begins to question how Hyde is connected to Utterson's old friend, the respectable Dr Jekyll.

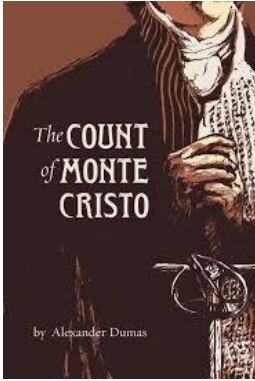
Robert Louis Stevenson's 1886 novel, with its concern with doubles and the 'dual nature of man', takes the reader into the darker regions of late Victorian London, as Utterson begins to unravel the mystery and confront the horror of Hyde's true identity.



REBECCA

DAPHNE DU MAURIER

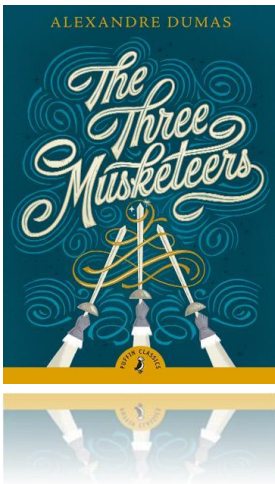
Working as a lady's companion, the orphaned heroine learns her place. Life begins to look very bleak until, on a trip to the South of France, she meets Maxim de Winter, a handsome widower whose sudden proposal of marriage takes her by surprise. Whisked from glamorous Monte Carlo to his brooding estate, Manderley, on the Cornish Coast, the new Mrs de Winter finds Max a changed man. And the memory of his dead wife Rebecca is forever kept alive by the forbidding Mrs Danvers.



THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

ALEXANDER DUMAS

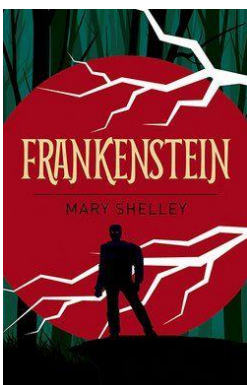
A tale of love and revenge in the post-Napoleonic era. Edmond Dantes, a nineteen-year-old sailor from Marseilles, is soon to be captain of his own ship and to marry his beloved, the beautiful Mercedes. But spiteful enemies provoke his arrest on his wedding day, and he is condemned to life in prison.



THE THREE MUSKETEERS

ALEXANDER DUMAS

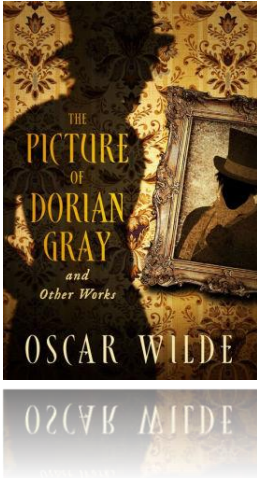
The novel recounts the adventures of a young man named after he leaves home to travel to Paris, hoping to join the Musketeers of the Guard. Although d'Artagnan is not able to join this élite corps immediately, he is befriended by three of the most formidable musketeers of the age – Athos, Porthos and Aramis, "the three inseparables" – and becomes involved in the intrigues and affairs of state at court.



FRANKENSTEIN

MARY SHELLEY

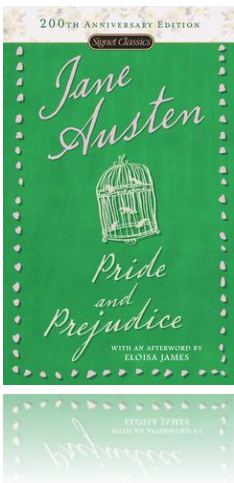
The tale begins with letters from Captain Walton as he journeys northward to undiscovered lands. There, in the frozen wastelands of the North, Walton encounters Victor Frankenstein and there hears the strange sequence of events that lead the poor Doctor Frankenstein to those remote reaches of the earth. The Doctor's tale is strange indeed, and explores the limitations of human knowledge while showing, through Frankenstein's Monster, the way in which evil is created and how knowledge we're unprepared for can destroy us.



THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY

OSCAR WILDE

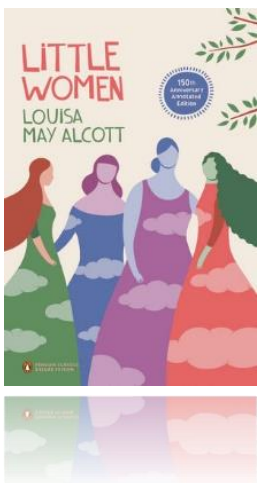
Enthralled by his own exquisite portrait, Dorian Gray exchanges his soul for eternal youth and beauty. Influenced by his friend Lord Henry Wotton, he is drawn into a corrupt double life: indulging his desires in secret while remaining a gentleman in the eyes of polite society. Only his portrait bears the traces of his decadence.



PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

JANE AUSTEN

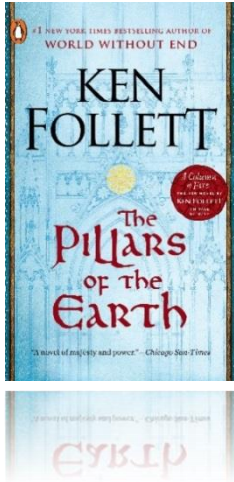
Set in England in the late 18th century, Pride and Prejudice tells the story of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet's five unmarried daughters after two gentlemen have moved into their neighbourhood: the rich and eligible Mr. Bingley, and his status-conscious friend, the even more rich and eligible Mr. Darcy. While Bingley takes an immediate liking to the eldest Bennet daughter, Jane, Darcy is disdainful of local society and repeatedly clashes with the Bennets' lively second daughter, Elizabeth.



LITTLE WOMEN

LOUISA MAY ALCOTT

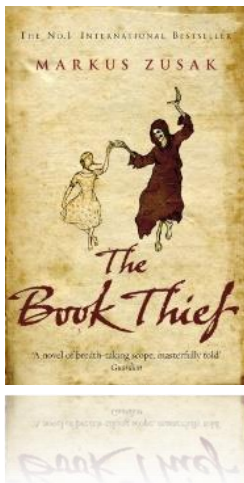
Jo, Meg, Beth, and Amy March are four sisters living with their mother in New England. Their father is away serving in the Civil War, and the sisters struggle to support themselves and keep their household running. In the process, they become close friends with their wealthy neighbour, Theodore Laurence, known as "Laurie". As the girls grow older, each faces her own personal demons and moral challenges.



THE PILLARS OF THE EARTH

KEN FOLLETT

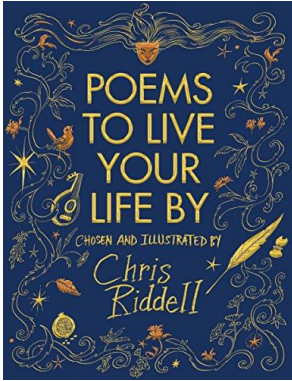
Against this richly imagined and intricately interwoven backdrop of Medieval England, filled with the ravages of war and the rhythms of daily life, the reader is drawn irresistibly into the intertwined lives of his characters into their dreams, their labours, and their loves: Tom, the master builder; Aliena, the ravishingly beautiful noblewoman; Philip, the prior of Kingsbridge; Jack, the artist in stone; and Ellen, the woman of the forest who casts a terrifying curse. The building of the cathedral, with the almost eerie artistry of the unschooled stonemasons, is the centre of the drama. Around the site of the construction, Follett weaves a story of betrayal, revenge, and love.



THE BOOK THIEF

MARKUS ZUSAK

1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier. Liesel, a nine-year-old girl, is living with a foster family on Himmel Street. Her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp. Liesel steals books. This is her story and the story of the inhabitants of her street when the bombs begin to fall.



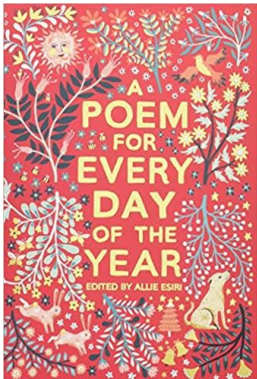
POEMS TO LIVE YOUR LIFE BY

SELECTED POETS

In Poems to Live Your Life By, Chris Riddell, political cartoonist for the Observer, has selected his very favourite classic and modern poems about life, death and everything in between.

This gorgeously illustrated collection includes forty-six poems and is divided into sections covering: musings, youth, family, love, imaginings, nature, war and endings. Chris Riddell brings them to life with his exquisite, intricate artwork in this beautiful anthology.

This perfect gift features famous poems, old and new, and a few surprises. Classic verses from William Shakespeare, Lewis Carroll, W B Yeats and Christina Rossetti sit alongside poems from Nick Cave, Leonard Cohen, Carol Ann Duffy, Neil Gaiman and Roger McGough to create the ultimate collection.

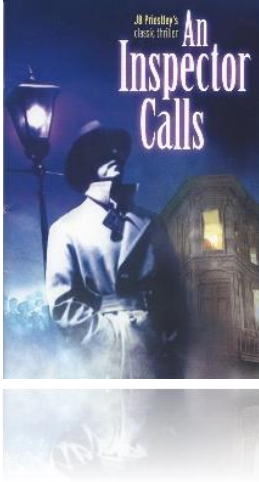


A POEM FOR EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR

SELECTED POETS

A Poem For Every Day of the Year is a magnificent collection of 366 poems compiled by Allie Esiri, one to share on every day of the year. Reflecting the changing seasons and linking to events on key dates – funny for April Fool's Day, festive for Christmas – these poems are thoughtful, inspiring, humbling, informative, quiet, loud, small, epic, peaceful, energetic, upbeat, motivating, and empowering!

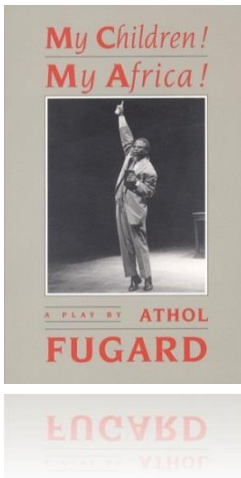
Perfect for reading aloud and sharing with all the family, it is bursting at the seams with familiar favourites and exciting new discoveries. T S Eliot, John Betjeman, Lewis Carroll, William Shakespeare and Christina Rossetti sit alongside Seamus Heaney, Ted Hughes, Carol Ann Duffy, and Kate Tempest. This soul-enhancing book is the perfect gift that will last the whole year, with a little bit of magic to read every day.



AN INSPECTOR CALLS

J B PRIESTLEY

The action of the play occurs in an English industrial city, where a young girl commits suicide and an eminently respectable British family is subject to a routine inquiry in connection with the death. An inspector calls to interrogate the family, and during the course of his questioning the links between the family's abuse of their privilege and power and the girl's tragic undoing become devastatingly clear.

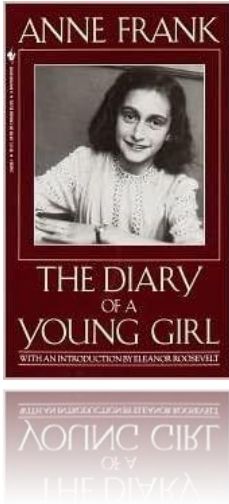


MY CHILDREN! MY AFRICA!

ATHOL FUGARD

In My Children! My Africa!, generational conflict over the most effective means for ending the oppressive racist system of apartheid in South Africa leads to an explosive confrontation between a gifted but impatient black township youth and his devoted but "old-fashioned" black teacher. The unexpected involvement of a young white woman who befriends and learns from both men strips away the political trappings to reveal the human trauma at the heart of South Africa's tragedy.

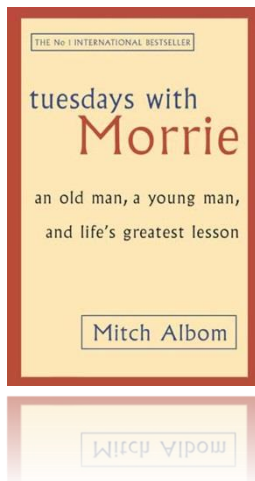
Fugard tells a powerful story which not only addresses the racially charged South Africa of his birth but race relations the world over, and which has at its heart the message that differences between people are only ever skin-deep and the barriers we erect false.



THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

ANNE FRANK

In 1942, with the Nazis occupying Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family flee their home in Amsterdam and go into hiding. For the next two years, the Franks and another family lived cloistered in the “Secret Annex” of an old office building. Cut off from the outside world, they faced hunger, boredom, the constant cruelties of living in confined quarters, and the ever-present threat of discovery and death. In her diary Anne Frank recorded vivid impressions of her experiences during this period.



TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE

MITCH ALBOM

Maybe it was a grandparent, a teacher or a colleague. Someone older, patient and wise, who understood you when you were young and impassioned, helped you to see the world as a more profound place, and gave you sound advice to guide your way through it. For Mitch Albom, it was Morrie Schwartz, the college professor who had taught him nearly twenty years before.

Perhaps, like Mitch, you lost track of this mentor as the years passed, the insights faded, and the world seemed colder. Wouldn't you like to see that person again, to ask the bigger questions that still haunt you, and receive wisdom for your busy life the way you once did when you were younger?

Mitch Albom got that second chance, rediscovering Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying of ALS – or motor neurone disease – Mitch visited Morrie in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final 'class': lessons in how to live. Tuesdays with Morrie is a magical chronicle of their time together, through which Mitch shares Morrie's lasting gift with the world.

