

HPL Staff Picks

FICTION



The Dutch House by: Ann Patchett

This book is about family and the role a house vs. a “home” can play in keeping a family together or tearing them apart.

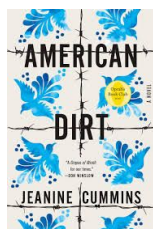
Elizabeth



Cilka's Journey by: Heather Morris

This is the follow-up to the Tattooist of Auschwitz. Based on a true one, this is a story of struggle and survival. A woman who survived Auschwitz only to find herself locked up again.

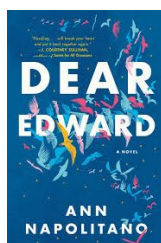
Elizabeth



American Dirt by: Jeanine Cummins

Set in Acapulco, Mexico, this book is fast paced and suspenseful. The story follows the effects the drug cartels have on the city. The writing is very descriptive and sometimes shocking.

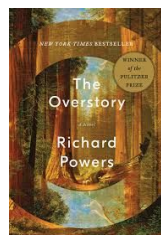
Elizabeth
Laura



Dear Edward by: Ann Napolitano

12-year-old Edward Adler is on a flight to Los Angeles with his family and 183 other passengers. Tragically the airplane crashes and he is the only survivor. This is his story and struggle moving forward.

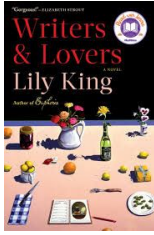
Ann



The Overstory by: Richard Powers

There is a world alongside ours, vast, slow, resourceful, and almost invisible to us. This is the story of a handful of people who learn how to see into that world.

Ann



Writers and Lovers by: Lily King

Following her mother's death and the end of a recent love affair, Casey Peabody lands in Massachusetts. She's working as a waitress in Harvard Square while trying to fulfill her dream of writing her first novel and leading a creative life. This is her journey to reach that goal.

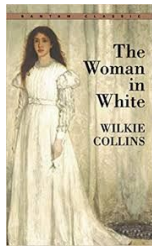
Laura



The Most Fun We Ever Had by: Claire Lombardo

This is a multigenerational novel about four radically different adult sisters of a happy and devoted Chicago couple. All four daughters are each in their own state of unrest as long buried secrets start to resurface.

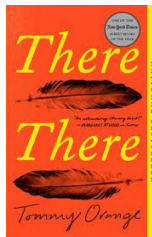
Cindy



The Woman in White by: Wilkie Collins

A classic thriller from 1859 set in Cumberland, London and Hampshire, England.

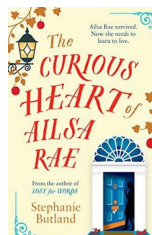
Terri



There, There by: Tommy Orange

This novel follows twelve characters from Native American communities along with their complex and painful histories. All are traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow and are connected to one another in ways they don't yet realize.

Siobhan

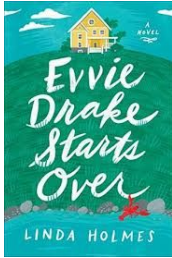


The Curious Heart of Alisa Rae by: Stephanie Butland

A few months past a heart transplant that saved her life, Alisa Rae, should be looking forward to a joyful adventurous life. But...

Siobhan

This is a fun, light beach read.

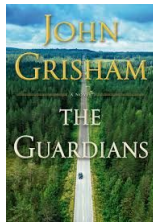


Evvie Drake Starts Over by: Linda Holmes

Set in small-town Maine, Evvie Drake, recently widowed, rarely leaves her house and is racked with grief. An unexpected friendship develops when a major-league pitcher, who is in a slump and can't figure out why, moves into an apartment at the back of Evvie's house.

This Is a fun, warm beach read.

Siobhan



The Guardians by John Grisham

In a small, north Florida town, a young black man is tried, convicted, and sent to prison for life for a crime he did not commit. After spending 22 years in prison, maintaining his innocence, he writes to Collen Post, a lawyer and Episcopal minister, who runs a small innocence group. Post travels the country fighting wrongful convictions. Based on a true story, this is their heroic journey to hopefully find justice for Quincy.

Nancy



Very Nice by Marcy Dermansky

A very clever, funny novel of bad behavior, featuring a wealthy divorcee, her college-aged daughter and the famous novelist who is seduced by both.

Jenn



Then She Was Gone by Lisa Jewell

It's been 10 years since Ellie went missing at age fifteen. Laurel, her mother, has never given up hope of finding her. But what happened to Ellie? Where did she go? Who still has secrets to hide? Laurel is determined to find out.

Laura

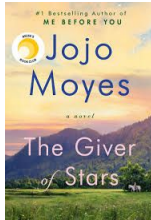
HISTORICAL FICTION



All the Ways We Said Goodbye by: Beatriz Williams,
Lauren Willig and
Karen White

France - 1914, 1942, and 1964. The story of three women, three eras, their lives at the Paris Ritz Hotel and how they are all tied together.

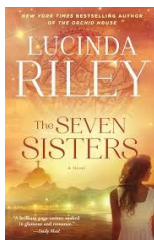
Nancy
Siobhan



The Giver of Stars by: JoJo Moyes

Set in depression-era America, this is the story of five extraordinary women and their journey through the mountains of Kentucky on horseback delivering library books to the poor.

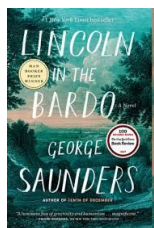
Nancy



The Seven Sisters by: Lucinda Riley

This is the first book in a series of seven. Six sisters travel to their childhood home when they have been told their father, who adopted them all as infants, has died. Each of them is handed a clue to her true heritage. These books are their adventures and family drama in their quests to find their family roots.

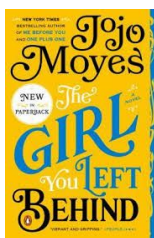
MaryEllen



Lincoln in the Bardo by: George Saunders

February, 1862 Two years into the Civil War. this story unfolds in a graveyard over the course of a single night. President Lincoln's 11-year old son has just been buried there and he is grief stricken. This is a story of familial love and loss.

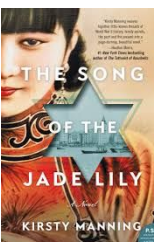
Ann



The Girl You Left Behind by: JoJo Moyes

This is a story of love and loss, alternating between the past in WWI and the present day. It's two sides of the same story revolving around a mysterious painting.

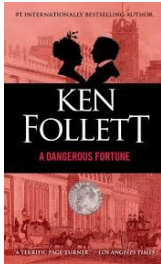
Carol



The Song of the Jade Lily by: Kirsty Manning

This is a beautiful story of friendship, love and motherhood. It follows the courageous path of Jewish refugees who fled Shanghai during WWII.

Siobhan



A Dangerous Fortune by Ken Follett

Set amid the wealthy in Victorian, England, a schoolboy drowns in a mysterious accident. This leads to a saga of love, power, revenge and murder.

Siobhan

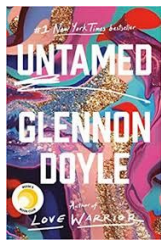


The Forgotten Letters of Esther Durrant by Kayte Nunn

Unsent love letters from the 1950's are found in a suitcase on a remote island. Rachel Parker, a marine scientist, is determined to track down the intended recipient. She has no idea of the far-reaching consequences her decision will bring.

Elizabeth

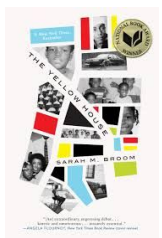
NON-FICTION



Untamed by: Glennon Doyle

A memoir - this book will liberate women emotionally, spiritually and physically.

Mary Beth
Abby



The Yellow House by: Sarah Broom

A memoir - This book travels 100 years with the author's family and their relationship with their home in a neglected neighborhood in New Orleans.

Madeline



On Flowers by: Amy Merrick

A journey into the mind of floral designer Amy Merrick. It's all about the beauty of nature and how to create elegant Arrangements.

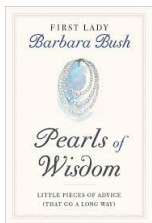
Laura



The Flower Fix: Modern Arrangements for a Daily Dose of Nature by: Anna Potter

Inspiration for modern arrangements with beautiful photography.

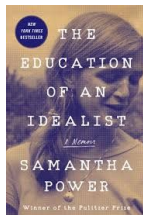
Laura



Pearls of Wisdom: Little Pieces of Advice (that go a long way) by: Barbara Bush

The best advice Barbara Bush offered her family, staff and close friends.

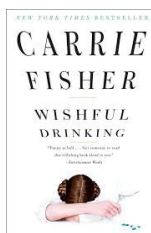
Terri



Education of an Idealist by: Samantha Power

This Pulitzer prize winning author is known as a relentless advocate for human rights. In her memoir she offers a response to the question "What can one person do?" and how we each have the opportunity to make a difference.

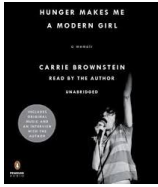
Madeline



Wishful Drinking by: Carrie Fisher

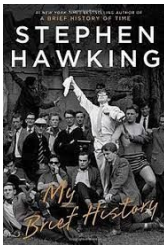
Carrie Fisher tells the story of her troubled life as the child born to two celebrity parents. Hold on, it is quite the rollercoaster ride.

Terri



Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl by: Carrie Brownstein
Having co-developed and starred in the TV comedy Portlandia, the author was already known for her role in the feminist punk band Sleater-Kinney. This book captures what it feels like to be a young woman in the rock 'n roll world during the 1990's to the present day.

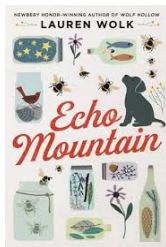
Michael



My Brief History by: Stephen Hawking
English Physicist Stephen Hawking was confined to a wheelchair, unable to speak, suffering from ALS. This book takes a look at his incredible life and journey exploring the mysteries of the universe.

Terri

CHILDREN/YOUNG ADULT



Echo Mountain by Lauren Wolk

This book is recommended for ages 10+

In depression-era Maine, Ellie and her family have nearly lost everything. They are trying to start a new life in the rough terrain of Echo Mountain. As everyone struggles, Ellie finds new strength and freedom in the natural world that surrounds them. When there is an accident that leaves Ellie's dad in a coma, she is determined to find help to save him. Ellie and her scruffy mutt make their way to the top of the mountain in search of healing secrets from a mountain woman known only as "the hag". This is their adventure.

Totsie

