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## The Mammy

**by Brendan O'Carroll** KERRI'S PICK (Fiction)

The story begins with Agnes and her best friend, Marion, in the public waiting room of the Department of Social Welfare on the day of Agnes's husband's untimely death. Wit, humor, and resourcefulness guide Agnes in her role as mother, father, and best friend. *The Mammy* contains a colorful cast of characters, and O'Carroll's depiction of 1960s working-class Irish life is animated and entertaining.

## Citizens of London: the Americans who stood with Britain in its darkest, finest hour.

**By Lynne Olson** PAT'S PICK (Non-Fic 940.532 OLS)

In early 1941, Britain was perilously close to being forced to surrender to Germany. Former White House correspondent Olson re-creates the dramatic interplay of personalities and politics, from the relationship between Winston Churchill and FDR to the successful efforts of a small group of Americans living in London who played a vital role in forming an important alliance: Edward R. Murrow, John Winant, and Averill Harriman.

## Between Shades of Gray

**by Ruta Sepetys** BRITTIN'S PICK (Fiction)

In 1941, fifteen-year-old Lina, her mother, and brother are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life, vowing to honor her family and the thousands like hers by burying her story in a jar on Lithuanian soil. Based on the author's family, includes a historical note.

## M Train

**by Patti Smith** ROBIN'S PICK (Bio SMITH)

This unusual memoir is a blend of adventures, the everyday, travels, dreams, and reflections on creativity and life. Singer-songwriter Smith comes to realize that the "writer is a conductor"-and she is indeed a phenomenal conductor along these tours of the haunting places in her life, where anyone might stumble upon momentary but life-altering wisdom.

## Man at the Helm

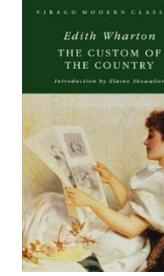
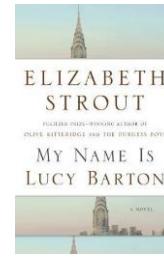
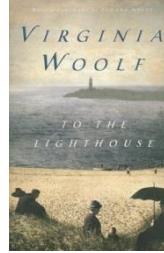
**by Nina Stibbe** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

The lives of nine-year-old Lizzie and her family are changed after her father's affair. Mother and children are forced to move from their posh London digs to a small English village. Tranquil country living disappears as the locals shun the entire family for being a single-parent household.

## My Name is Lucy Barton

**by Elizabeth Strout** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Despite its slim length, Strout's tender and moving novel should be read slowly, to savor the depths beneath what at first seems a simple story of a mother-daughter reconciliation. Lucy Barton is shocked when her mother, from whom she's been estranged for years, flies to be at Lucy's hospital bedside in New York. This masterly novel's message is that sometimes in order to express love, one has to forgive.



## The Arrangement

**by Ashley Warlick** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Blending fact and fiction, this historical novel covers nine eventful years in the life of legendary food writer M.F.K. Fisher. All the ingredients for a lively, literate page-turner are here: a beautiful, talented protagonist; lush settings; illicit sex; mouthwatering food.

## Custom of the Country

**by Edith Wharton** DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Wharton's critical eye leaves no social class unscathed in a cutting commentary on America's nouveaux riches, their upward-yearning aspirations and their eventual downfalls. Through her heroine, the beautiful and ruthless Undine Spragg, Wharton presents a startling, satiric vision of social behavior in all its greedy glory from America's heartland to Manhattan, and then to Paris.

## To the Lighthouse

**by Virginia Woolf** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

The serene and maternal Mrs. Ramsay, the tragic yet absurd Mr. Ramsay, and their children and guests are on holiday on the Isle of Skye. From the seemingly trivial postponement of a visit to a nearby lighthouse, Woolf constructs a remarkable, moving examination of the complex tensions and allegiances of family life and the conflict between men and women.

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# STAFF PICKS

**Winter 2016**

## The Tears of Dark Water

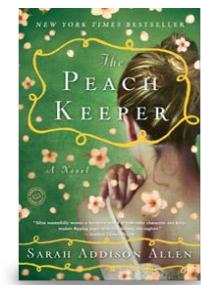
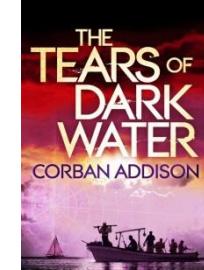
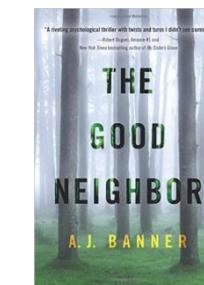
**by Corban Addison** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

Somali pirates hijack a sailboat in the Indian Ocean and take Americans Daniel Parker and his teenaged son as hostages. A tense standoff is orchestrated by top US negotiator Paul Derrick. Ismail, identified as the leader, says little, fearing the truth will endanger his sister, Yasmin.

## The Peach Keeper

**by Sarah Addison Allen** ANNALISE'S PICK (Fiction)

At 30, Willa Jackson returns to her small hometown, Walls of Water, N.C., in the wake of a failed marriage to her college sweetheart. She's determined now to lead the quiet life she believes her father wants her to have, but is soon derailed by the wealthy and powerful Osgoods. The Jacksons were also wealthy once, until the logging industry failed.



## The Good Neighbor

**by A.J. Banner** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

This book will forever change the way you look at the people closest to you. Shadow Cove, Washington, is the kind of town everyone dreams about--quaint streets, lush forests, good neighbors. That's what Sarah thinks as she settles into life with her new husband, Dr. Johnny McDonald. But all too soon she discovers an undercurrent of deception. And one October evening, sudden tragedy destroys Sarah's happiness.

## A Long Way Gone: memoirs of a boy soldier

*by Ismael Beah* DEBORAH'S PICK (Biog BEAH )

The survivor of war in Africa recounts his transition from 12-year-old orphan to killing machine. He emerges from Sierra Leone's civil conflict and eventually graduates from college in the U.S. His memoir seeks to illuminate the process that created, and continues to create, one of the most feared products of modern warfare: the boy soldier.



## House of Thieves

*by Charles Belfoure* DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

A man does what he must to save his family, with unimaginable consequences, in this historical thriller set in the New York of 1886. Architect John Cross' only option to save the life of his son, who's run up a massive gambling debt, is to join Kent's Gents, a powerful mob whose members dress like society gentlemen and plan heists.

## In the Unlikely Event

*by Judy Blume* BRENNNA'S PICK (Fiction)

The three fatal plane crashes that hit Elizabeth, N.J., during the winter of 1951-52 are the inspiration for Blume's latest adult novel in which young and old alike must learn to come to terms with technological disaster and social change. The main character, 15-year-old Miri Ammerman, lives in Elizabeth with her single mother. Like many family stories, this one is not without its life-changing secrets and surprises.

## Spinster

*by Kate Bolick* KERRI'S PICK (Biog BOLICK)

In this thoroughly entertaining exploration of modern spinsterhood, Bolick blends memoir and historical research to expound upon the lives of five literary women who had a profound impact on her: Maeve Brennan, Neith Boyce, Edith Wharton, Edna St. Vincent Millay, and Charlotte Perkins Gilman. These so-called awakeners came to her in different periods of her life and directed her down a path both inspiring and unnerving.

## The Last Kingdom

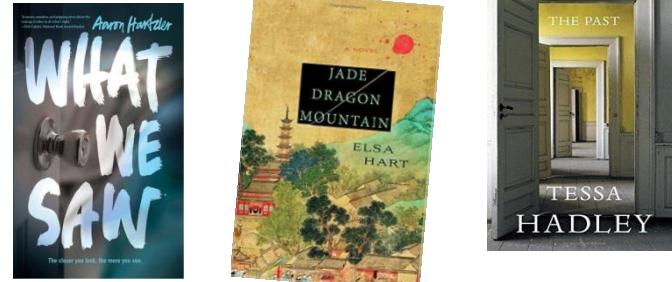
*by Bernard Cornwell* CLAIRE'S PICK (Fiction)

An acknowledged master of rousing battlefield fiction, Cornwell also deserves praise for his mesmerizing narrative and his authentic historical detailing. Here he introduces a new multivolume saga set in medieval England when Northumbria is invaded by the fearless Danes.

## Presence: bringing your boldest self to your biggest challenges

*by Amy Cuddy* ROBERTA'S PICK (Non-Fic 158.1 CUD)

Cuddy discusses self-affirmation, the role hormones play in confidence, mood enhancement via facial expression, and reinterpreting anxiety as excitement. Further inspiration is provided by interviews with actress Julianne Moore about presence on film sets, Rev. Jeffrey Brown on his work reigning in gang violence through active listening, and author Neil Gaiman on overcoming "impostorism."



## Skin and Other Stories

*by Roald Dahl* KERRI'S PICK (Fiction)

These stories selected from Dahl's adult anthologies include a macabre tale of a murderous wife, a page-turner about a missing diamond, and a funny entry about a pair of hapless pheasant poachers. The majority of these selections feature adult protagonists with adult concerns.

## Hyacinth Girls

*by Lauren Frankel* DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

When a bully turns into a target, it's hard to know whom to blame and whom to believe. As this twisty debut demonstrates, murder and suicide don't make for an auspicious entre into motherhood, but that's how Rebecca becomes the caretaker of her late best friend's daughter, Callie.

## The Past

*by Tessa Hadley* ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Assembling at their country house one final time before it is sold, four siblings and their children share past memories, hidden passions, and devastating secrets that threaten to overwhelm them.

## Snow in August

*by Pete Hamill* PAT'S PICK (Fiction)

In Brooklyn, 1947, Michael Devlin, an 11-year-old Irish kid who spends his days reading Captain Marvel and anticipating the arrival of Jackie Robinson, makes the acquaintance of an Orthodox rabbi. In exchange for lessons in English and baseball, Rabbi Hirsch teaches him Yiddish and tells him of Jewish life in old Prague. Anti-Semitism soon rears its head in the form of a gang of young Irish toughs out to rule the neighborhood.

## Jade Dragon Mountain

*by Elsa Hart* ANNALISE'S PICK (Fiction)

Hart's well-researched mystery debut is set in eighteenth-century China. Disgraced librarian Li Du arrives in the city of Dayan at an inauspicious time: the emperor's visit is scheduled in a few days -the emperor who exiled him. When the magistrate's guest is poisoned, the culprit, any culprit, must be quickly found and executed, to prevent embarrassment.

## What We Saw

*by Hartzler* DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

The story of a town torn apart by the events surrounding the rape of a drunk girl at a house party, from the perspective of the partygoers who witnessed it. Debut-novelist Hartzler pulls no punches in his depiction of rape culture. A stirring, important read.

## Remember Me Like This

*by Bret Anthony Johnston* DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

In Johnston's strong debut, it's been four years since young Justin disappeared, and the Campbell family in southern Texas has been slowly crumbling under the strain of their grief. But when Justin, now a teenager, is miraculously returned and his abductor set to stand trial, the entire family must join together and help him recover the years he has lost.

## Ghettoside

*by Jill Leovy* DEBORAH'S PICK (Non-Fic 364.152 LEO)

Leovy, an LA Times reporter and editor, offers an unsettling view of black homicides in the U.S. According to Leovy, blacks are the number-one murder-victim population in the U.S. And their killers are largely other black men and boys. These facts underlie Leovy's major theme, which is that the plague of black homicides results from the systemic failure of the legal institutions to effectively catch and punish killers.

## After You

*by JoJo Moyes* ROBIN'S PICK (Fiction)

This sequel to "Me Before You" reveals what happened to Louisa Clark after that book's heart-wrenching finale. Eighteen months after those events, a terrible accident sends Lou home to her family. Forced to take stock of her life after Will, she realizes it's not what he had hoped for her. So she begins to struggle up out of her grief.

## We Were the Mulvaneys

*by Joyce Carol Oates* ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Primarily from the point of view of the youngest boy, Judd, readers learn how each of the Mulvaneys struggles with 16-year-old Marianne's date rape and her father's fierce reaction to it. Mike Mulvaney bans his daughter from the house, ostensibly because she will not name her rapist.



## The Secret of Raven Point

**by Jennifer Vanderbes** SARAH'S PICK (Fiction)

When her beloved brother is declared missing in action, smart, flinty Juliet Dufresne, training to be a nurse, goes to Italy to find him, in an empathetic, take on the layers of damage done during war. Part mystery, part coming-of-age tale, part World War II novel, Vanderbes' moving latest is written from the perspective of a bright Southern teenager who is forced to become an adult too soon.

## If You Follow Me

**By Malena Watrous** ANNALISE'S PICK (Fiction)

In Watrous's proficient debut, 22-year-old Marina and her girlfriend Carolyn are new residents in a quirky Japanese town where they teach English. Small town Shika is a welcome respite for Marina, who grapples with her father's suicide and although she hopes to move past his death during her year in Japan, he begins to feel more alive to her, as if his presence made the trip as well. Meanwhile, the peculiar absurdities of being a stranger in a strange land abound.

## The Incarnations

**by Susan Barker** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

Barker produces a page-turning reincarnation fantasy. In modern-day Beijing, Driver Wang receives anonymous letters from a source claiming to have known him in five previous lifetimes over the past 1,000 years. Lush historical detail exhibits Barker's extensive research. These two "souls" have inhabited many rich characters (eunuch, prostitute, slave, concubine, pirate, Red Guard) and have been friends, enemies, parents, and lovers. Every new incarnation reverses their power dynamic, giving one the opportunity to betray the other. Not for the squeamish.

## The Evening Spider

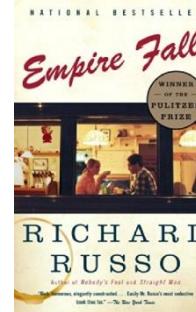
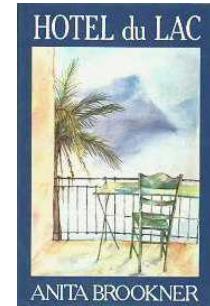
**by Emily Arsenault** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

From the opening pages, it's clear that this will be a haunting novel. A newspaper account of an 1878 murder is followed by a horrible discovery by Abby Bernacki in her college dorm room in 1998. The mystery grows when Abby now the mother of five-month-old Lucy is awakened by strange sounds coming from the baby's room in her home. This leads Abby to research the nineteenth-century Barnett family house that she and her husband, Chad, recently bought.

## Hotel du Lac

**by Anita Brookner** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

This novel tells the story of Edith Hope, 40, unmarried and distraught over a failed love, who is persuaded by friends to go to the quiet, respectable Hotel du Lac in Switzerland. A writer of romantic fiction, Hope becomes enmeshed in the lives of the other guests. Poignantly moving.



## Everyone Brave is Forgiven

**by Chris Cleave** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Loosely based on his grandparents' WWII-era lives, Cleave's intensely felt new novel follows the soul-plumbing journeys of four young Londoners fighting their own personal battles as their world breaks apart. They include aristocratic Mary North, her friend Hilda, Tom, Mary's middle-class supervisor and lover, and his roommate, Alistair. Among all the recent fictions about the war, Cleave's novel is a surprising standout, with irresistibly engaging characters who sharply illuminate issues of class, race, and wartime morality.

## Empire Falls

**by Richard Russo** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

In a warmhearted novel of sweeping scope, Russo animates the dead-end small town of Empire Falls, Maine, long abandoned by the logging and textile industries that provided its citizens with their livelihood. Miles Roby surveys his hometown with regret from the Empire Grill, owned by a local magnate but run by him ever since he was called home from college to take care of his ailing mother. His daily parade of customers provides him with ample evidence of both the restrictions and forced intimacy of small-town life

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# STAFF PICKS

Spring-Summer 2016

## Couple Mechanics

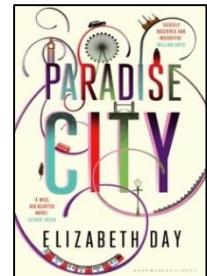
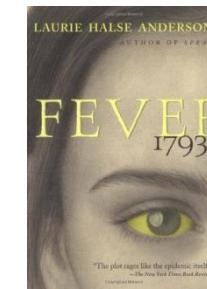
**by Nelly Alard** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

This novel packs a surprising emotional wallop, raising questions about the natures of passion and marriage. Juliette and her husband, Olivier, are the Parisian equivalents of Brooklynites, raising their two adored children in a formerly rough but gentrifying Parisian neighborhood where they are surrounded by a circle of like-minded, urbane friends.

## Fever, 1793

**by Laurie Halse Anderson** BRENNA'S PICK (Fiction)

In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.



## Paradise City

**by Elizabeth Bell** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

Journalist and author Day connects the lives of four Londoners in this tale of grief, hardship, and hope. Howard Pink is a multimillionaire who rose from humble origins but has since lost his way. Beatrice Kizza is one of his maids, a refugee from Uganda. Esme Reade is a young reporter who has not yet lost her empathy for her subjects and Carol Hetherington is a widow, slowly learning to live her life without her husband.

## **The Swans of Fifth Avenue**

**by Melanie Benjamin** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

The dazzling world of the elite in 1950s-1960s New York is the setting for this fourth novel by best-selling historical fiction author Benjamin. Truman Capote delights in the company of his "swans," a circle of wealthy married women attracted to both his impish charisma and his love of good gossip. Fans of vintage New York glamour will relish this chance to experience vicariously the lives (and fashion choices!) of the city's rich and famous.

## **Notorious RBG: the life and times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg**

**by Irin Carmon** ROBIN'S PICK (Biography BADER)

Carmon brings a fresh, appropriately irreverent perspective to scholarship about the justice. Taking its chapter headings from the lyrics of late rapper Notorious B.I.G., it provides a bare-bones biographical narrative and excerpts from a selection of Ginsburg's seminal opinions, while inserting cartoons, photos, poetry, and even opera lyrics.

## **The Gilded Hour**

**by Sara Donati** SARAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Popular historical novelist Donati turns to 1883 NYC to tell the story of female surgeons Anna and Sophie Savard, descendants of her previous books' characters. The two women battle ignorance while pursuing their medical work. They face particular difficulties in light of Postal Inspector Anthony Comstock's passionate crusade against birth control.

## **Jane Steele**

**by Lyndsay Faye** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Set in Victorian England, this intriguing tribute to Jane Eyre reimagines Charlotte Brontë's heroine as a killer. "Of all my many murders, committed for love and for better reasons, the first was the most important," the eponymous narrator notes in the captivating opening.

## **The Great American Whatever**

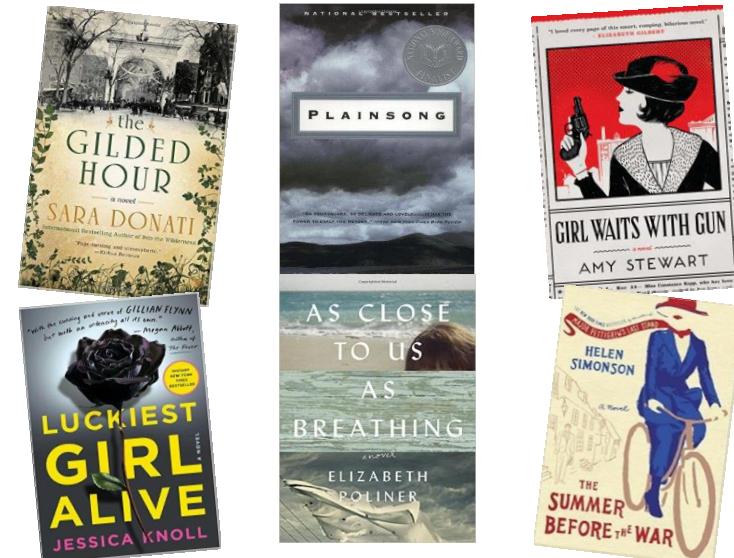
**by Tim Federle** ASHLEY'S PICK (Fiction)

Sixteen-year-old Quinn is suffering from both the second week of record-high temperatures and the sixth straight month of record-breaking lows. The temperature is due to meteorology; the lows to the death of his older sister in an automobile accident the day before Christmas break. While it has its serious aspects, it is whimsical, wry, and unfailingly funny - a refreshing change from the often dour nature of much LGBTQ literature.

## **Plain Song**

**by Kent Haruf** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

Two bachelor farmer brothers, a pregnant high school girl, two young brothers, and two devoted high school teachers is the interesting group of people, some related by blood but most not, featured in the award-winning Haruf's touching new novel. Set in the plains of Colorado, east of Denver, the novel comprises several story lines that flow into one.



## **The Luckiest Girl Alive**

**by Jessica Knoll** ROBIN'S PICK (Fiction)

This riveting debut novel follows a young woman striving to create the perfect life- husband, home, career -until a violent incident from her past threatens to unravel everything and expose her most shocking secret.

## **We Are Water**

**by Wally Lamb** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

Anna Oh, a middle-age wife, mother, and artist, after twenty-seven years of marriage, divorces her husband to marry Vivica, the Manhattan art dealer who orchestrated her professional success. Lamb excels at delivering unexpected blows to his characters, ratcheting up the suspense to the final page.

## **The Dive from Clausen's Pier**

**by Ann Packer** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

Packer's first novel is a sensitive exploration of the line between selfishness and self-preservation. Carrie Bell, 23, is engaged to her boyfriend of eight years and will likely live and die in the same town where she grew up and attended college. Lately, the prospect of such a life has left her feeling unsatisfied and yearning for something different.

## **Church of Marvels**

**by Leslie Parry** PAT'S PICK (Fiction)

Discovering an abandoned newborn while working behind the tenement houses of late 19th century New York, Sylvan finds his life intertwined with that of a sideshow performer's daughter and a woman wrongly trapped in a lunatic asylum. The novel's compelling mystery takes place among the city's grimy waterfronts, opium dens, and other lowlife regions.

## **As Close to Us As Breathing**

**by Elizabeth Poliner** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Tragedies define lives, and Poliner demonstrates how a tragic accident shatters the extended Syrin and Liebritsky families during an idyllic summer at a Connecticut beach.

## **The Violet Hour**

**by Katie Roiphe** LORRI'S PICK (Non-Fic 809 ROI)

In this absorbing and affecting book, Roiphe chronicles how Susan Sontag, Sigmund Freud, John Updike, Dylan Thomas, and Maurice Sendak dealt with what Freud called the "painful riddle of death." Never overly sentimental, this is a poignant and elegant inquiry into mortality.

## **One More Day**

**by Kelly Simmons** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

A grieving mother confronts her past in Simmons's strange, wrenching ghost story. It's been over a year since Carrie Morgan's two-year-old son, Ben, disappeared, and she and her husband, John, are no closer to healing. When Ben suddenly reappears in his crib, they're overjoyed, but puzzled that he hasn't appeared to have grown an inch or gained an ounce while he's been gone.

## **The Summer Before the War**

**by Helen Simonson** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Simonson's follow-up to *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* focuses on gender, class, and social mores in the town of Rye in Sussex, England, at the dawn of World War I. Following the death of her father, who raised her to be intelligent and worldly, writer Beatrice Nash looks forward to tutoring three boys in Latin before she begins her position at school in the fall.

## **The Song of Hartgrove Hall**

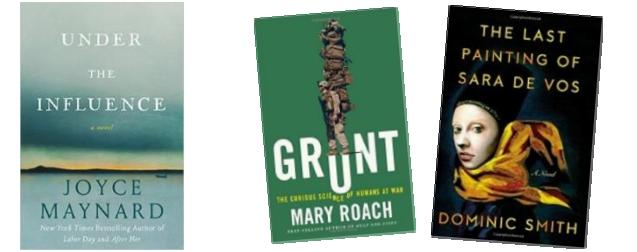
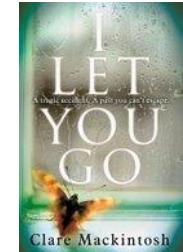
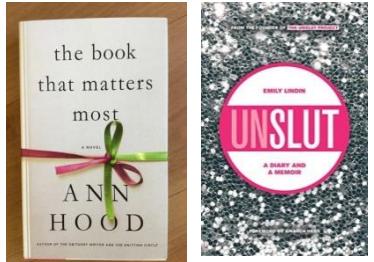
**by Natasha Solomons** DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Solomons' engaging novel is the story of the three Fox-Talbot brothers, who return to their ancestral home after World War II to find their world in flux. They are determined to save the manor and bring back better times but with little money, they are forced to do most of the work themselves.

## **Girl Waits With Gun**

**by Amy Stewart** PAT'S PICK (Fiction)

Hardened criminals are no match for spinster Constance Kopp and her sisters in this tale of suspense, mystery, and wry humor set in 1914 in Paterson and Wyckoff N.J. A crash between the Kopp sisters' horse and buggy and an automobile driven by arrogant factory owner Henry Kaufman begins a disturbing cycle of menacing behavior. Interesting local historical fiction.



## The Book That Matters Most

**by Ann Hood** SUSAN'S PICK (Fiction)

A year after being left by her husband, Ava joins a book club where each member must choose a book that matters most to them for the group to discuss. She suggests a long-forgotten book that helped her through a difficult childhood but now has her questioning the secrets surrounding the deaths of her sister and mother.

## You Should Have Known

**by Jean Hanff Korelitz** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

A successful therapist, Grace, is married to an oncologist who loves her, has a son who adores her, and lives in a great apartment in Manhattan. Grace attends a planning meeting with several moms she already knows plus a new member, Malaga. Imagine the moms' shock when a few days later, Malaga is found brutally murdered in her apartment.

## The Children

**by Ann Leary** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Leary writes about nutty, pedigreed New Englanders in this noirish comedy in which financial wrangling and emotional secrets are kept under wraps within a well-born Connecticut family until the arrival of an interloper from west of the Rockies.

## Unslut: a diary and a memoir

**by Emily Lindin** LARISSA'S PICK (Non-Fic 302.3 LIN)

In 2013, Lindin created The UnSlut Project, an online community in which she posted entries from the diary she kept between sixth and eighth grade detailing her experiences being bullied because of untrue rumors about her sexual conduct. As a result of the positive feedback she received, she published her diary entries. A sometimes tender, sometimes caustic look at the stigmas that surround girls growing up.

## I Let You Go

**by Clare Mackintosh** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

When a 5-year-old boy is killed in a hit-and-run accident, the police find themselves with a sensational case and one woman discovers an emptiness that she may never fill. Memorable characters, a compelling portrayal of the eccentricities of small-town life, and the author's skill in the way she incorporates jaw-dropping, yet plausible, plot twists into the already complex storyline make this an accomplished debut novel.

## Under the Influence

**by Joyce Maynard** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

A recovering alcoholic still mourning the misstep that cost her custody of her young son, Helen is working odd jobs when she encounters Ava and Swift Havilland at a gallery show. Ava takes an immediate shine to Helen and invites the younger woman over to the beautiful house she shares with Swift. They help Helen reconnect with her son, and she falls more deeply under their spell until a devastating accident changes everything.

## Grunt

**by Mary Roach** KERI'S PICK (Non-fic 355.07 ROA)

Roach's latest exploration of the science behind ordinary things is an insightful look into the lives of soldiers - not the stories in the news but untold tales. Traveling from proving ground to lab to expensive, realistic fake battle settings, the author recounts and often participates as researchers search for better ways to protect soldiers from bullets, burns, explosions, noise, heat, sharks, insomnia, drowning, and disease. Though these topics seem wide-ranging, Roach strings them together in a cohesive narrative that is delightful and quick.

## The Last Painting of Sara de Vos

**by Dominic Smith** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Smith's latest novel is a rich and detailed story that connects a 17th-century Dutch painting to its 20th-century American owner and the lonely but fervent art student who makes the life-changing decision to forge it. Rich in historical detail, the novel explores the immense challenges faced by women in the arts (past and present).

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**STAFF PICKS**

*Fall 2016*

## Carry Me

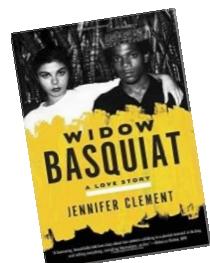
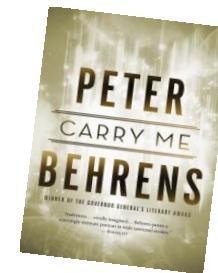
**by Peter Behrens** DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Behrens grounds his bittersweet escape-from-the-Nazis love story in seascapes, landscapes, and cityscapes, showing how culture and geography shape lives and determine character. As an international crisis looms, the ties that bind childhood friends Billy Lange, the German Irish son of a racing skipper, and Karin von Weinbrenner, the free-spirited daughter of a German Jewish baron, deepen.

## Watching Edie

**by Camilla Way** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Edie and Heather were an unlikely pair in high school. Edie was the beautiful girl who attracted people like moths to a flame, while Heather was an outsider. This is a tale of betrayal and obsession, alternating between Edie's viewpoint in the present and Heather's in the past, culminating in a psychological thriller that is impossible to set down.



## Widow Basquiat: a love story

**by Jennifer Clement** ROBIN'S PICK (Biography Basquiat)

A stunning portrait of Suzanne Mallouk, the wife of painter Jean-Michel Basquiat, that is original, insightful, and engrossing. The author was a close friend of both Mallouk and Basquiat. Narrating Suzanne's childhood in Canada and her troubled relationship with the avant-garde street artist up until his death, the brief passages alternate between Clement's poetic voice and Mallouk's plainspoken accounts.

## March: Book One

*by Andrew Aydin* LARISSA'S PICK (Graphic Novel)

The groundbreaking graphic novel memoir of a living legend of the civil rights movement, MARCH: BOOK ONE has swiftly become an iconic work. Created by Congressman John Lewis, Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell, this #1 New York Times bestseller is also a Coretta Scott King Honor book, a required text in classrooms across America, and the first graphic novel to win a Robert F. Kennedy Book Award.

## The History of Loneliness

*by John Boyle* DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

A Chaplain at a Dublin boys' school since his ordination, Fr. Yates lives an uncomplicated life. After 28 years of quiet stability, however, Yates is forced by the archbishop to take a parish position, substituting for a priest accused of long-term, systematic sexual abuse. The riveting narrative of an honorable Irish priest who finds the church collapsing around him at a pivotal moment in its history.

## The Sun and the Moon and the Rolling Stones

*by Rick Cohen* ROBIN'S PICK (Non-Fic 782.421 COH)

For Cohen, the Rolling Stones have been a profound influence. The author worshipped the band in his youth, met and wrote about them as a journalist, and formed relationships with group members many fans would covet. Here Cohen interweaves his personal experiences with a history of the Stones.

## The Time in Between

*by Maria Duenas* PAT'S PICK (Fiction)

On the eve of the Spanish Civil War, Sira Quiroga, a young seamstress from Madrid, is abandoned in Morocco by her lover. Sira sets about opening a dress shop to make money from the only trade she knows. Packed with engaging characters (many of whom were actual players in 1930s European politics), flawlessly researched, and breathlessly paced, this debut novel captures the beauty and decadence of pre-WWII Europe.

## Siracusa

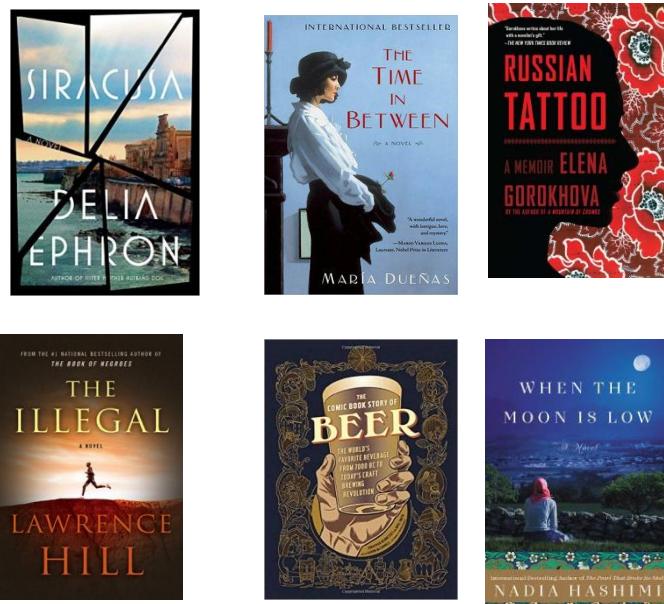
*by Delia Ephron* ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

An electrifying novel about marriage and deceit from bestselling author Delia Ephron that follows two couples on vacation in Siracusa, a town on the coast of Sicily, where the secrets they have hidden from each other are exposed and relationships are unraveled.

## My American Friend

*by Michele Halberstadt* LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Film producer and prize-winning novelist Halberstadt offers the portrait of a friendship upended by medical catastrophe. There are interesting themes of friendship and guilt in this slim volume. Halberstadt's approach ultimately reveals that friendships are mirrors, and when bonds break, we have to reckon with sides of ourselves we may not like.



## Russian Tattoo: a memoir

*by Elena Gorokhova* SARAH'S PICK (Biog GOROKHOVA)

An exquisite portrait of mothers and daughters that reaches from Cold War Russia to modern-day New Jersey, from the author of *A Mountain of Crumbs*. Elena learns that the journey of an immigrant is filled with everyday mistakes, small humiliations, and a loss of dignity. *Russian Tattoo* is a poignant memoir of three generations of strong women with very different cultural values, all living under the same roof

## The Nightingale

*by Kristin Hannah* PAT'S PICK (Fiction)

Engrossing homage to the extraordinary courage and endurance of Frenchwomen during the German occupation in WW II. Through Viann we learn how life was disrupted when husbands and fathers were forced to enlist while the Germans took over their towns. Viann's younger sister, Isabelle, always rebellious, joins the resistance in Paris.

## Eventide

*by Kent Haruf* VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

Haruf's follow-up to the bestselling *Plainsong* is as lovely and accomplished as its predecessor. Haruf does a marvelous job of bridging the generations, giving new meaning to words such as friendship and family in this moving exploration of small town lives in rural Holt, Colorado.

## The Bad-ass Librarians of Timbuktu: and their race to save the world's most precious manuscripts

*by Joshua Hammer* ROBBIN'S PICK (Non-Fic 025.82 HAM)

Abdel Kader Haidara is a Timbuktu native who became an expert on Timbuktu's ancient manuscripts embodying centuries of Islamic history. After 2008, when a brutal group of militants threatened the records, Haidara was involved in the ingenious rescue of the records, transporting them more than 400 miles across the Sahara and on the Niger River to safekeeping in Bamako, Mali's capital.

## When the Moon is Low

*by Nadia Hashimi* PAT'S PICK (Fiction)

When her middle-class life in Afghanistan is shattered by the rise of the Taliban and her husband's murder by fundamentalists, former schoolteacher Fereiba embarks on a high-risk effort to escape to England with her three children. With grace and sensitivity, Hashimi illuminates the numerous dangers refugees contend with in their quest for a haven.

## The Comic Book Story of Beer

*by Jonathan Hennessey & Mike Smith* LARISSA'S PICK (663.42 HEN)

Taking us from ancient fermentation processes to today's craft breweries, we are presented with an engaging look at the importance of beer in our cultural history. The authors open the readers' minds to the possibility that beer helped shape the course of civilization, showing how, in each age, beer played a significant role in helping shape human affairs.

## The Things We Keep

*by Sally Hepworth* DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

Anna Forster, in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease at only thirty-eight years old, knows that her family is doing what they believe to be best when they take her to Rosalind House, an assisted living facility. She also knows there's just one another resident her age, Luke. What she does not expect is the love that blossoms between her and Luke.

## The Illegal

*by Lawrence Hill* ROBIN'S PICK (Fiction)

Marathon runner Keita Ali is forced to leave his country, Zantoland, following his father's assassination. He flees to the ironically named Freedom State, where he becomes another undocumented alien subject to racism and exploitation. When his sister, a Harvard graduate, is held for ransom, he must turn his dreams of becoming a champion runner into reality so that he can earn the money to secure her freedom. Although these nations are fictional, Hill draws on real issues in Africa, from which people have fled in fear of their lives, and worldwide, as nations struggle with a flood of refugees.