

### **Rose Under Fire**

**by Elizabeth Wein** BRENNNA'S PICK (Fiction)  
Poignant and memorable, Wein's follow-up to *Code Name Verity* gives readers a look at World War II through the eyes of pilot Rose Justice. Captured by Nazis and sent to a concentration camp for women, Rose uses poetry to express herself and connect with other inmates.

### **Somewhere Inside**

**by Laura Ling** ANNALISE'S PICK (Non-Fic 365.45 LIN)  
In 2009, reporter Laura Ling traveled with a film crew to China. Momentarily crossing into North Korea, Ling and her editor/translator were captured. The women were beaten, held in isolation, tried for attempting to overthrow the government and sentenced to 12 years in a labor camp. A riveting story of captivity, faith, and determination.

### **Tigers in Red Weather**

**by Liza Klaussmann** LARISSA'S PICK (Fiction)  
Postwar marriage and motherhood are more complicated than cousins Nick and Helena expected in Klaussmann's smart, unsettling debut. Tiger House, Nick's family home on Martha's Vineyard, sees a turbulent summer in 1959 when Nick's daughter and Helena's son discover the corpse of a maid. The focus is on simmering tensions within and between the two families as the narrative moves into the 1960s.

### **Things a Brother Knows**

**by Dana Reinhardt** ROBIN'S PICK (Fiction)  
In a Boston suburb, Levi's older brother, Boaz, has just returned from fighting in some desert country half a world away. Reinhardt's poignant story of a soldier coping with survivor's guilt and trauma, and his Israeli American family's struggle to understand and help, is timely and honest. The clever, authentic dialogue beautifully captures the dynamics of the family, friends, and marines in the brothers' lives.

### **The View from Penthouse b**

**by Elinor Lipman** ANNALISE'S PICK (Fiction)  
After losing her divorce settlement in Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme, Margot settles into a new penthouse in Greenwich Village with her widowed, jobless sister, Gwen-Laura Schmidt, and Anthony Sarno, a gay, recently laid-off, 20-something financier. Lipman's evokes the lonely world of the mature, newly single woman with a sweet and comforting touch.

### **The Woman Upstairs**

**By Claire Messud** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)  
Nora Eldridge, a schoolteacher who dreams of being an artist, is angry, cynical, and quietly desperate. Then she meets the Shahid family. Nora believes she's found a vigorous self in the orbit of a dangerously charismatic family, but after freeing Nora from herself, the Shahids betray her.

### **The 5<sup>th</sup> Wave**

**by Richard Yancey** BRITTIN'S PICK (Science Fiction)  
Extraterrestrials unleash a plague that kills the majority of the world's population, including sixteen-year-old Cassie's mother. After her brother, Sammy, is bused to an alien camp Cassie realizes the aliens have been living among them for years. Cassie must place her trust in an alien-human hybrid whose motives are less than clear in this post-apocalyptic struggle.



### **Above All Things**

**by Tanis Rideout** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)  
Because it's there. George Mallory's famous reply to why he attempts to scale Mount Everest satisfies everyone but his wife, Ruth. Their passionate romance is strained by Mallory's insatiable need to crest a mountain that has vanquished him before. Rideout's vividly authentic historical novel is praise to the ability of love to conquer all but the highest mountains.

### **The Bean Trees**

**by Barbara Kingsolver** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)  
A warmhearted and highly entertaining first novel in which a poor but plucky Kentucky girl with a sharp tongue, soft heart and strong spirit sets out on a cross-country trip and arrives at surprising new meanings for love, friendship, and family--as well as overcoming the big and little fears that inhibit lives.

### **The Blackhouse**

**by Peter May** DEBORAH'S PICK (Mystery Fiction)  
Two bodies are found hanging from trees: one in Edinburgh, the other on the Isle of Lewis. Because of his ties with the region and his fluency in Gaelic, Edinburgh-based DI Fin Macleod is dispatched to Scotland's remote Isle of Lewis to compare two deaths. A gripping plot, pitch-perfect characterization, and an appropriately bleak setting drive this outstanding series debut.

### **The Blood of Flowers**

**by Anita Amirrezvani** KERRI'S PICK (Fiction)  
This first novel is narrated by a nameless teenager whose life in 17th-century Iran is derailed by misfortune following her father's death. With no means of support, she and her mother move to the city of Isfahan to live as servants and the young woman learns the art of carpet design. The story of the plucky narrator's rocky road toward independence is stirring.

### **Both Ways is the Only Way I Want It**

**by Maile Meloy** KERRI'S PICK (Fiction)  
Meloy hits some high notes in these stories of people juggling conflicting emotions. Marital tensions are at the heart of "O Tannenbaum". Other pieces focus on loneliness. Meloy's characters frequently leave each other or let each other down, and it is precisely their vulnerabilities, failures, and flaws that make them so wonderful to follow.

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## **The Burgess Boys**

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

Two squabbling brothers confront their demons, their crumbling love lives and a hate crime case that thrusts them back to their Maine roots. Jim and Bob Burgess are similar on the surface--lawyers, New Yorkers--but polar opposites emotionally.

## **Cold Sassy Tree**

**by Olive Ann Burns** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

A folksy, down-Georgia-way tale, with tangy 1906 dialect--all about the scandalizing that goes on in the town of Cold Sassy when one-armed Grandpa Blakeslee (a new widower) up and marries pretty milliner Miss Love Simpson. The narrator is 14-year-old Will Tweedy, who's on hand when his Grandpa announces the news about his upcoming wedding.

## **The Cuckoo's Calling**

**by Robert Galbraith** ANNALISE'S PICK (Fiction)

Working as a private investigator after losing his leg in Afghanistan, Cormoran Strike takes the case of a legendary supermodel's suspicious suicide and finds himself in a world of multi-millionaire beauties, rock star boyfriends, desperate designers, and hedonist pursuits. This is J. K. Rowling writing detective novels as Robert Galbraith.

## **Dept of Speculation**

**by Jenny Offill** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Popping prose and touching vignettes of marriage and motherhood fill Offill's (*Last Things*) slim second book of fiction. Clever, subtle, and rife with strokes of beauty, this book is both readable in a single sitting and far ranging in the emotions it raises.

## **The Divide: American injustice in the age of the wealth gap**

**by Matt Taibbi** DEBORAH'S PICK (Non-Fic 303.37 TAI)

This is a devastating account of the inequality in our justice, immigration and social service systems. Mixing case studies, interviews and anecdotes with comprehensive research on his topics, Taibbi deals with the frisk-and-stop campaign in New York City, the 2008 financial collapse, our persecution of people on food stamps and other public assistance, and more.

## **Fever**

**by Mary Beth Keane** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

In this compelling historical novel, the infamous Typhoid Mary is given great depth and humanity by the gifted Keane. Irish immigrant Mary Mallon is eager to better her station in life and unafraid of hard work. When she is finally made a head cook, she is hired by some of the best families in Manhattan but unwittingly leaves a trail of disease in her wake.

## **Flight Behavior**

**by Barbara Kingsolver** MARCIA'S PICK (Fiction)

Kingsolver delivers a passionate novel on the effects of global warming. Dellarobia Turnbow, on her way to a rendezvous, is waylaid by the sight of a forest ablaze with millions of butterflies. Their usual migratory route has been disrupted, and what looks to be a stunning view is really an ominous sign.

## **Flora**

**by Gail Godwin** ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Godwin examines the bonds of family and the enduring scars inflicted by loss. In the summer of 1945, 10-year-old Helen has just lost Nonie, the grandmother who raised her after her

mother died when she was three. Helen's father, the discontented, hard-drinking principal of the local high school needs someone to stay with her. The protagonists are surrounded by secondary characters just as fully and sensitively drawn.

## **The Golem and the Jinni**

**by Helene Wecker** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

Wecker has blended elements of Jewish and Arab folklore and mythology in this intriguing historical fantasy. What happens when a golem, a Polish woman made of clay, marooned in late-nineteenth-century New York, joins forces with jinni, a creature made of fire, accidentally released by a Syrian tinsmith in lower Manhattan? Wecker does not disappoint.

## **Jane and Prudence**

**by Barbara Pym** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Middle-aged Jane is the well-intentioned but far from perfect clergyman's wife and mother. Prudence, who at 29 is teetering at the edge of spinsterhood, is an attractive, educated working girl. The two best friends share memories of their carefree days at Oxford, leisurely lunches, and gossip, but their ultimate goal is to find a suitable mate for Prudence.

## **Love and Treasure**

**by Ayelet Waldman** DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Jack Wiseman, in the last throes of pancreatic cancer, entrusts an enamel locket to his granddaughter, imploring her to find the rightful owner. As Waldman takes us back to Hungary, first in the aftermath of the war, then to the years preceding it, she evokes what it feels like to have your identity and your community stripped from you and how impossibly foolish it can be to think your personal destiny is within your control.

## **The Light in the Ruins**

**by Chris Bohjalian** PAT'S PICK (Fiction)

In Florence in 1955, Francesca Rosati is murdered. A serial killer is at work, preying on the Rosati family. Serafina Bettini, Florence's only woman detective, wonders if the war has something to do with this gruesome vendetta. In extended flashbacks, we see Francesca and her children living in a lush Tuscany estate which has become a magnet for Nazis.

## **The Marriage Plot**

**By Jeffrey Eugenides** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

A stunning novel - erudite, compassionate and penetrating in its analysis of love relationships. Eugenides focuses primarily on three characters, who all graduate from Brown in 1982.

## **The Martian**

**by Andy Weir** MARCIA'S PICK (Fiction)

Six days ago, astronaut Mark Watney became one of the first people to walk on Mars. Now, he's sure he'll be the first person to die there. After a dust storm nearly kills him and forces his crew to evacuate while thinking him dead, Mark finds himself stranded and completely alone with no way to even signal Earth.

## **The Promise**

**by Ann Weisgarber** DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

At the turn of the 20th century, ostracized by society following a scandalous romantic affair, pianist Catherine Wainright knows she must leave Dayton. In desperation, she accepts a proposal of marriage from a childhood friend, Oscar Williams, now a farmer on the island of Galveston, Texas.