



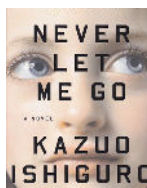
Reading Recommendations

Fiction, non-fiction and books in translation

Explore a wide range of stories and ideas, from contemporary fiction and classic novels to history, science and works from other languages. Page counts are approximate and vary by edition.

Fiction

26 selections



Never Let Me Go

Kazuo Ishiguro - 290 pages

A coming-of-age dystopia set around a school, exploring identity and what it means to be human.

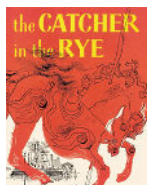
Further reading: *Klara and the Sun*



The Great Gatsby

F. Scott Fitzgerald - 180 pages

A Jazz Age novel about love, lavish parties and the American Dream.



The Catcher in the Rye

J. D. Salinger - 280 pages

A coming-of-age story about a teenager searching for meaning and connection.



The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo

Taylor Jenkins Reid - 390 pages

Historical fiction about fame, identity and a woman determined to shape her own story.

Further reading: *Daisy Jones & The Six*; *Carrie Soto Is Back*



The Handmaid's Tale

Margaret Atwood - 320 pages

A dystopian novel about control, language and women's autonomy.

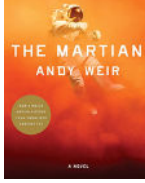
Further reading: *The Testaments*



Demon Copperhead

Barbara Kingsolver - 550 pages

A story of a boy growing up amid poverty and addiction in Appalachia, and of the place he calls home.



The Martian

Andy Weir - 370 pages

A witty survival story about an astronaut stranded on Mars.

Further reading: Project Hail Mary



Americanah

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie - 480 pages

A wide-ranging novel of love, migration, race and identity in America and Nigeria.



The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared

Jonas Jonasson - 396 pages

A comic adventure that begins when a centenarian escapes his care home.

Further reading: The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden



Moonrise

Sarah Crossan - 400 pages

A moving verse novel about family, forgiveness and saying goodbye.



Cleopatra and Frankenstein

Coco Mellors - 370 pages

A New York story about relationships, longing and the complexities of being loved.

Further reading: Blue Sisters



The Bell Jar

Sylvia Plath - 288 pages

An intimate portrait of a young woman struggling with mental illness and expectations.

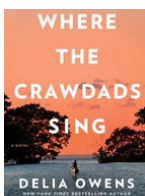
Further reading: Girl, Interrupted - Susanna Kaysen



I Who Have Never Known Men

Jacqueline Harpman - 170 pages

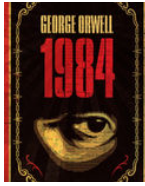
A haunting dystopia about women held captive and the unknown world they encounter beyond it.



Where the Crawdads Sing

Delia Owens - 380 pages

An atmospheric mystery about isolation, resilience and the natural world.

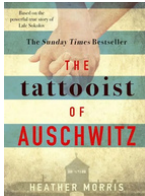


1984

George Orwell - 370 pages

A classic dystopia about surveillance, propaganda and totalitarian power.

Further reading: Animal Farm

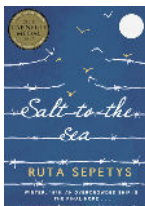


The Tattooist of Auschwitz

Heather Morris - 272 pages

A novel inspired by the story of a prisoner forced to tattoo identification numbers at Auschwitz, and the endurance of love.

Further reading: Cilka's Journey

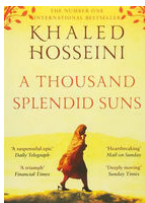


Salt to the Sea

Ruta Sepetys - 390 pages

Historical fiction following refugees during the Second World War and the sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff.

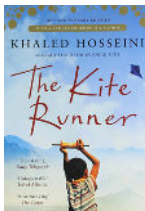
Further reading: Between Shades of Gray



A Thousand Splendid Suns

Khaled Hosseini - 380 pages

A powerful story of family, friendship and women's resilience in Afghanistan.



The Kite Runner

Khaled Hosseini - 370 pages

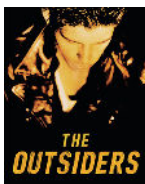
A novel about friendship, fathers and sons, guilt and redemption.



The Midnight Library

Matt Haig - 290 pages

A woman explores the lives she might have lived through a library between life and death.



The Outsiders

S. E. Hinton - 210 pages

A coming-of-age story about young men divided by class and searching for belonging.

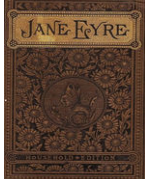
Further reading: The Perks of Being a Wallflower - Stephen Chbosky



Noughts & Crosses

Malorie Blackman - 480 pages

A reimagining of forbidden love in a society divided by race and power.

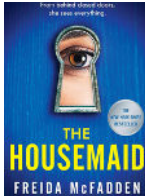


Jane Eyre

Charlotte Brontë - 532 pages

A classic novel about independence, equality, love and the choice between desire and principle.

Further reading: Wide Sargasso Sea - Jean Rhys



The Housemaid

Freida McFadden - 338 pages

A twist-filled psychological thriller about a housemaid whose new job conceals disturbing secrets.

Further reading: The Housemaid's Secret; Verity - Colleen Hoover



Ready Player One

Ernest Cline - 480 pages

A fast-paced adventure through a virtual world and a high-stakes digital treasure hunt.

Further reading: Ready Player Two; Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow - Gabrielle Zevin



Circe

Madeline Miller - 390 pages

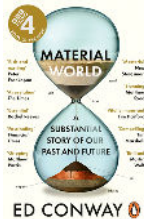
A lyrical retelling of the Greek myth of Circe.

Further reading: The Song of Achilles; The Odyssey - Stephen Fry



Non-fiction

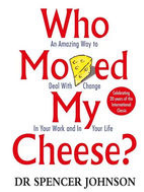
14 selections



Material World

Ed Conway - 512 pages

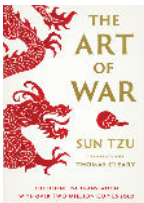
An exploration of the raw materials that shape our economies, technologies and environment.



Who Moved My Cheese?

Spencer Johnson - 96 pages

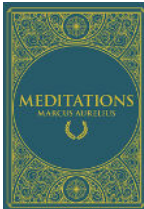
A short parable about responding to change.



The Art of War

Sun Tzu - 110 pages

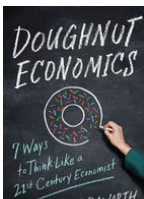
A classic work on strategy, conflict and the use of advantage.



Meditations

Marcus Aurelius - 280 pages

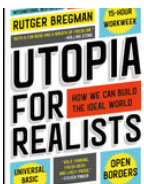
The Roman emperor's reflections on self-discipline, purpose and the world around him.



Doughnut Economics

Kate Raworth - 384 pages

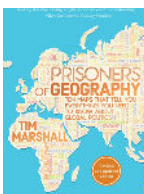
A framework for meeting human needs within the planet's ecological limits.



Utopia for Realists

Rutger Bregman - 336 pages

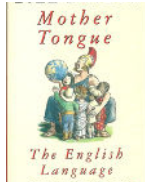
An argument for ambitious social and economic ideas that could improve everyday life.



Prisoners of Geography

Tim Marshall - 352 pages

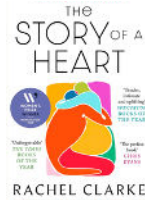
An introduction to geopolitics through ten maps and the histories behind them.



The Mother Tongue

Bill Bryson - 274 pages

An entertaining exploration of the English language and its history.



The Story of a Heart

Rachel Clarke - 288 pages

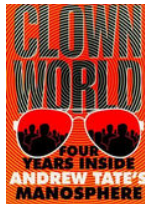
A true story of organ donation, transplantation and the people connected by one heart.



The Five

Hallie Rubenhold - 432 pages

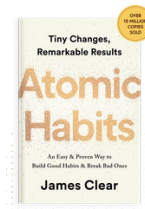
The lives of the five women murdered by Jack the Ripper, told beyond the crimes that made them known.



Clown World

Jamie Tahsin - 272 pages

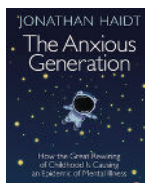
Investigative reporting on Andrew Tate and the online "manosphere".



Atomic Habits

James Clear - 320 pages

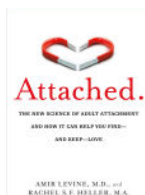
Practical ideas for forming useful habits and changing everyday behaviour.



The Anxious Generation

Jonathan Haidt - 385 pages

An argument about smartphones, social change and adolescent mental health.



Attached

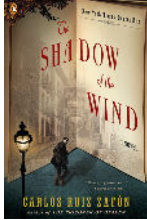
Amir Levine and Rachel Heller - 304 pages

An introduction to attachment styles and their influence on relationships.



Books in translation

10 selections



The Shadow of the Wind

Carlos Ruiz Zafón - 480 pages

A mystery of books, murder and lost love set in postwar Barcelona.

Original title: La sombra del viento



Why We Took the Car

Wolfgang Herrndorf - 255 pages

Two schoolboys set off on an unscripted road trip across Germany.

Original title: Tschick



Like Water for Chocolate

Laura Esquivel - 250 pages

A magical-realist story of family, food, rebellion and forbidden love in Mexico.

Original title: Como agua para chocolate



Violeta

Isabel Allende - 350 pages

A woman recounts a century of upheaval, love and change across Latin America.

Original title: Violeta

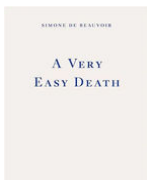


The House of Bernarda Alba

Federico García Lorca - 200 pages

A play about grief, forbidden love and the constraints of social expectation.

Original title: La casa de Bernarda Alba



A Very Easy Death

Simone de Beauvoir - 125 pages

A candid account of de Beauvoir's mother's final illness and death.

Original title: Une mort très douce



Swimming in the Dark

Tomasz Jedrowski - 240 pages

A love story between two men whose convictions diverge in communist Poland.

Original title: Płynąc w ciemnościach

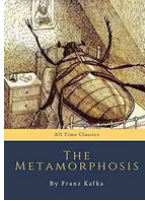


The Mycelium Dream

Gabija Grušaitė - 416 pages

A speculative story in which identity, dreams and reality blur.

Original title: Grybo sapnas

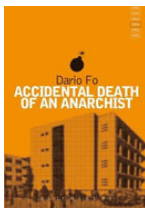


The Metamorphosis

Franz Kafka - 201 pages

A darkly comic story of a man who wakes to find himself transformed into an insect.

Original title: Die Verwandlung



Accidental Death of an Anarchist

Dario Fo - 140 pages

A satirical play about politics, evasive language and corruption.

Original title: Morte accidentale di un anarchico