



Burnside Library Book Discussion Group

Booklist

Updated to 30 September 2024

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indicates books added since the previous Booklist.










indicates Australian author.


Abulhawa, Susan <i>Mornings in Jenin</i>	In 1948 the Abulheja family are forcibly removed from their ancestral home in Ein Hod and sent to live in a refugee camp in Jenin. Through Amal, the bright granddaughter of the patriarch, we witness the stories of her brothers: one, a stolen boy who becomes an Israeli soldier; the other who in sacrificing everything for the Palestinian cause will become his enemy. Amal's own dramatic story threads its way through six decades of Palestinian-Israeli tension, eventually taking her into exile in Pennsylvania in America. Amal's is a story of love and loss...(Discussion questions at back of book)	10	2010 <i>325 pages</i> Historical fiction
Adiga, Aravind <i>The White Tiger</i>	<i>Winner of 2008 Booker Prize for Fiction</i> - Meet Balram Halwai, the 'White Tiger': servant, philosopher, entrepreneur, murderer. Born in a village in heartland India, the son of a rickshaw puller, Balram is taken out of school by his family and put to work in a teashop. As he crushes coals and wipes tables, he nurses a dream of escape - of breaking away from the banks of Mother Ganga, into whose depths have seeped the remains of a hundred generations. Balram's journey from darkness of village life to the light of entrepreneurial success is utterly amoral, brilliantly irreverent, deeply endearing and altogether unforgettable.	10	2008 <i>321 pages</i> India
Akhtar, Ayad <i>Homeland Elegies</i>	Blending fact and fiction to tell an epic story of longing and dispossession. This is part family drama and part social essay, at it's heart it is a story of a father and a son and the country they call home.	10	2020 <i>343 pages</i> Domestic America
Allende, Isabel <i>In the midst of winter</i>	Amid the biggest Brooklyn snowstorm in living memory, an unexpected friendship blossoms between three people thrown together by circumstance. Richard Bowmaster, a lonely university professor in his sixties, hits the car driven by Evelyn Ortega, a young, undocumented migrant from Guatemala. But what at first seems an inconvenience takes an unforeseen and darker turn when Evelyn comes to him and his neighbour Lucia Maraz, desperately seeking help. Sweeping from present-day Brooklyn to Guatemala to turbulent 1970s Chile and Brazil, and woven with Isabel Allende's trademark humanity, passion and storytelling verve, <i>In the Midst of Winter</i> is a mesmerizing and unforgettable tale.	10	2017 <i>340 pages</i> Historical fiction
Allende, Isabel <i>The Japanese Lover</i>	In 1939, as Poland falls under the shadow of the Nazis, young Alma Belasco's parents send her overseas to live with an aunt and uncle in their opulent San Francisco mansion. There she meets Ichimei Fukuda, the son of the family's Japanese gardener, and between them a tender love blossoms, but following Pearl Harbor the two are cruelly pulled apart. Throughout their lifetimes, Alma and Ichimei reunite again and again, but theirs is a love they are forever forced to hide from the world. Decades later, Alma is nearing the end of her long and eventful life. Irina Bazili, a care worker struggling to reconcile her own troubled past, meets the older woman and her grandson, Seth at Lark House nursing home. As Irina and Seth forge a friendship, they become intrigued by a series of mysterious gifts and letters sent to Alma, and learn about Ichimei and this extraordinary secret passion that has endured for nearly seventy years.	10	2015 <i>322 pages</i> Historical Fiction / Romance
Allende, Isabel <i>My Invented Country: a memoir</i>	Isabel Allende evokes the magnificent landscapes of her country; a charming, idiosyncratic Chilean people with a violent history and an indomitable spirit, and the politics, religion, myth and magic of her homeland, that she carries with her even today.	10	2003 <i>224 pages</i> Non Fiction Chile
Anderson, Jessica <i>Tirra Lirra by the River</i> 	Nora Porteous, a witty, ambitious woman from Brisbane, returns to her childhood home at age 70. Her life has taken her from a failed marriage in Sydney to freedom in London. She forged a modest career as a seamstress and lived with two dear friends through the happiest years of her adult life. At home, the neighborhood children she remembers have grown into compassionate adults. They help to nurse her back from pneumonia, and slowly let her in on the dark secrets of the neighborhood in the years that have lapsed. With grace and humor, Nora recounts her desire to escape, the way her marriage went wrong, the vanity that drove her to get a facelift, and one romantic sea voyage that has kept her afloat during her dark years.	10	1978 <i>181 pages</i> Australia Women

Andersson, Per J. <i>Amazing Story of the Man Who Cycled from India to Europe for Love</i>	PK was born into a poor, untouchable family in a remote village on the edge of the jungle in eastern India. All his life he has kept a palm leaf bearing an astrologer's prophecy: "You will marry a girl who is not from the village, not from the district, not even from our country; she will be musical, own a jungle and be born under the sign of the ox." But not until PK attends art school in New Delhi do his stars begin to align. One evening, while drawing portraits in a park, he meets Lotta who change the courses of their lives forever. This is a true story of how a young Indian man armed with nothing more than a handful of paintbrushes and a second-hand Raleigh bicycle made his way across Asia and Europe in search of the woman he loves.	10	2017 304 pages Non Fiction Biography
Appleyard, Meredith <i>The Country Practice</i> 	Meghan Kimble is taking control of her life. Newly single, she's returned to Australia to follow her dream of working as a GP. And her first stop is a month-long locum in the colourful community of Magpie Creek. It's been months since the town has had a doctor and Meghan is generating more than her fair share of attention, especially from forthright farmer Sean Ashby. A handsome man with a difficult past, Sean isn't shy about making his intentions known to the red-headed medico. Against her better judgement, Meghan finds herself charmed by the enigmatic Sean but questioning her priorities on career and personal life.	10	2015 363 pages Romance Medical South Australia
Arguile, Katherine Tamiko <i>The Things she Owned</i>	Years after the death of her cruel and complicated mother, Erika's house is still full of the things Michiko left behind: an Onigiri basket, a Wedgwood tea set, a knotted ring from Okinawa. In defiance of Japanese tradition, Erika has also kept the urn containing Michiko's ashes, refusing to put her memory to rest. Erika throws herself into working as a chef at a high-end London restaurant and pretends everything is fine. But when a cousin announces that she will be visiting from Japan, Erika's resolve begins to crack. Slowly the things Michiko owned reveal stories of Michiko's youth amid the upheaval of Tokyo during and after the war. As the two women's stories progress and entwine, Erika is drawn to the island of Okinawa, the homeland of her grandmother. It's a place of magic and mysticism where the secrets of Erika's own past are waiting to be revealed. (Description from Booktopia).	10	2020 273 pages Historical fiction War
Armstrong, Diane <i>The Voyage of Their Life</i> 	In August 1948, 545 passengers boarded an overcrowded, clapped-out vessel in Marseilles to face an uncertain future in Australia and New Zealand. They came from displaced persons camps in Germany, death camps in Poland, labour camps in Hungary, gulags in Siberia and stony Aegean islands. Diane Armstrong set sail on the <i>Derna</i> with her parents when she was nine years old. Like a detective searching for clues, she has located more than 100 of the passengers. Through their recollections and memorabilia, as well as archival documents, she has recreated the voyage and traced what became of their hopes and dreams. The result is the unique portrayal of a migrant ship and its passengers.	10	2001 534 pages Non Fiction Immigration Europeans - Australia Travels
Ashley, Melissa <i>The Birdman's Wife</i>	Artist Elizabeth Gould spent her life capturing the sublime beauty of birds the world had never seen before, but her legacy was eclipsed by the fame of her husband, John Gould. This book gives voice to a passionate and adventurous spirit, who was so much more than the woman behind the man.	10	2019 384 pages Historical fiction
Atkinson, Kate <i>Life after life</i>	What if you had the chance to live life again and again, until you finally got it right? What if there were second chances? And third chances? In fact an infinite number of chances to live your life? Would you eventually be able to save the world from its own inevitable destiny? And would you even want to?	10	2013 632 pages Historical fiction





Atkinson, Kate <i>Transcription</i>	In 1940, eighteen-year old Juliet Armstrong is reluctantly recruited into the world of espionage. Sent to an obscure department of MI5 tasked with monitoring the comings and goings of British Fascist sympathizers, she discovers the work to be by turns both tedious and terrifying. But after the war has ended, she presumes the events of those years have been relegated to the past for ever. Ten years later, now a producer at the BBC, Juliet is unexpectedly confronted by figures from her past. A different war is being fought now, on a different battleground, but Juliet finds herself once more under threat. A bill of reckoning is due, and she finally begins to realise that there is no action without consequence.	10	2018 343 pages Historical Fiction
Attenborough, David <i>A Life on our Planet</i>	A life on our planet: my witness statement and a vision for a future. We share the Earth with the living world – the most remarkable life support system imaginable, constructed over billions of years. We must restore biodiversity. We must rewild the world.	10	2020 221 pages Hardback Non Fiction Environment
Austen, Jane <i>Emma</i>	Beautiful, clever, rich – and single Emma Woodhouse is perfectly content with her life and sees no need for either love or marriage. Nothing, however, delights her more than interfering in the romantic lives of others. But when she ignores the warnings of her good friend Mr Knightley and attempts to arrange a suitable match for her protégé Harriet Smith, her carefully laid plans soon unravel and have consequences that she never expected. With its imperfect but charming heroine and its witty and subtle exploration of relationships, Emma is often seen as Jane Austin's most flawless work. <i>(Description from Booktopia)</i>	10	1816 574 pages Classic
Ayres, Eddie <i>Danger music</i>	In 2014 Emma was spiralling into a deep depression, driven by anguish about her gender. She quit the radio, travelled, and decided on a surprising path to salvation - teaching music in a war zone. Emma applied for a position at Dr Sarmast's renowned Afghanistan National Institute of Music in Kabul, teaching cello to orphans and street kids. In Danger Music, Eddie takes us through the bombs and chaos of Kabul, into the lives of the Afghan children who are transported by Bach, Abba, Beethoven and their own exhilarating Afghan music. Alongside these epic experiences, Emma determines to take the final steps to secure her own peace; she becomes the man always there inside - Eddie.	10	2017 286 pages Non Fiction Biography
Backman, Fredrik <i>Anxious People</i>	In a small town in Sweden it appears to be an ordinary day. But look more closely, and you'll see a masked figure approaching a bank. Two hours later, chaos has descended. An attempted robbery has developed into a hostage situation with the offender refusing to voice their demands. Fear turns to irritation for the seven strangers trapped inside. If this is to be their last day on earth, shouldn't it be more dramatic? But as the minutes tick by, they begin to suspect that the criminal holding them hostage might be more in need of rescuing than they are. <i>Description by Booktopia.</i>	10	2019 407 pages Humourous fiction
Backman, Fredrik <i>A man called Ove</i>	At first sight, Ove is almost certainly the grumpiest man you will ever meet. He thinks himself surrounded by idiots - neighbours who can't reverse a trailer properly, joggers, shop assistants who talk in code, and the perpetrators of the vicious <i>coup d'etat</i> that ousted him as Chairman of the Residents' Association. He will persist in making his daily inspection rounds of the local streets. But isn't it rare, these days, to find such old-fashioned clarity of belief and deed? Such unswerving conviction about what the world should be, and a lifelong dedication to making it just so? In the end, you will see, there is something about Ove that is quite irresistible...	10	2014 473 pages Large Print
Baird, Julia <i>Bright Shining</i> 	We live in an era when grace is an increasingly rare currency. The author explores what grace would look like in our world, and how we recognise it, nurture it in ourselves and express it even in the darkest of times.		2023 279 pages Self-help


Baird, Julia <i>Phosphorescence</i>	On awe, wonder and things that sustain you when the world goes dark...how do we continue to glow when the lights go out? We must look outwards and upwards, caring for others, to find the magic that will sustain us and fuel the light within – our own phosphorescence. The Australian Book Industry Book of the Year in 2021.	10	2020 281 pages Autobiographical
Banville, John <i>The Sea</i>	<i>Winner of the 2005 Man Booker Prize</i> – When art historian Max Morden returns to the seaside village where he once spent a childhood holiday, he is both escaping from a recent loss and confronting a distant trauma. The Grace family had appeared that long-ago summer as if from another world. Mr and Mrs Grace, with their worldly ease and candour, were unlike any adults he had ever met before. But it was his contemporaries, the Grace twins who most fascinated Max...	10	2005 264 pages Psychological fiction
Barnes, Julian <i>The Sense of an Ending</i>	<i>Winner of the Man Booker Prize for Fiction in 2011.</i> Tony Webster and his clique first met Adrian Finn at school. Sex-hungry and book-hungry, they would navigate the girl-less sixth form together, trading in affectations, in-jokes, rumour and wit. Maybe Adrian was a little more serious than the others, certainly more intelligent, but they all swore to stay friends for life. Now Tony is retired. He's had a career and a single marriage, a calm divorce. He's certainly never tried to hurt anybody. Memory, though, is imperfect. It can always throw up surprises, as a lawyer's letter is about to prove. <i>(Description from Angus & Robertson)</i>	10	2012 163 pages Memory
Bartulin, Lenny <i>The Black Russian: A Jack Susko Mystery</i> 	After yet another slow week at the cash register, Susko Books - that fine purveyor of second-hand literature - is facing financial ruin. Jack Susko heads to a gallery in Woollahra to scrape up some funds with the sale of an old art catalogue. With his characteristic panache and exquisite timing, he arrives just as De Groot Galleries is being done over by masked thieves. Along with a mysterious object from the safe, the robbers seize a valuable first edition from Jack's bag too. Jack Susko finds himself at the centre of a world full of duplicity, lies and art theft.	10	2010 261 pages Crime Fiction Australia
Barty, Ash <i>My Dream Time</i>	Finding the path to being the best she could be, not just as an athlete but as a person, Ash gives us a memoir of her first 25 years - twenty years of playing tennis!	10	2022 350 pages Biography
Baxter, Carol <i>The Fabulous Flying Mrs Miller</i>	Petite, glamorous and beguiling, Jessie 'Chubbie' Miller was one remarkable woman, flyer, thrill seeker and heartbreaker. No adventure was too wild for her, no danger too extreme. All over the world, men adored her. When the young Jessie left suburban Melbourne and her newspaper man husband in 1927, little did she know that she'd become the first woman to complete an England to Australia flight or fly the first air race for women with Amelia Earhart, or that she would disappear over Florida Straits feared lost forever only to charm her way to a rescue. Nor could she have predicted that five years later she would find herself at the centre of one of the most notorious and controversial murder trials in United States history.	10	2017 398 pages Australia Biography Non Fiction
Beasley, Richard <i>Me and Rory Macbeath</i> 	Adelaide, 1977. The year Elvis died. And the year 12-year-old Jake Taylor meets Rory Macbeath. Until then, Jake's world was small, revolving around his street, his school, and the courthouse where his mum, Harry, was a barrister. His best friend Robbie lives only a few houses away. At first Jake has his doubts about Rory. But after long days and nights of swimming, fishing and daring each other into trouble, Jake discovers Rory has talents and courage beyond anyone he's ever known. Then, early one evening, Rory disappears. And everyone on Rose Avenue is about to discover why. For Jake and Rory, nothing will ever be the same.	10	2013 371 pages Australia
Behrendt, Larissa <i>After story</i> 	When indigenous lawyer Jasmine decides to take her mother on a tour of England's most revered literary sights, she hopes it will bring them closer together and help them reconcile the past.	10	2021 299 pages Literary fiction Indigenous






Benedict, Marie and Murray, Victoria C <i>The Personal Librarian</i> 	Hired by J.P. Morgan, US investment banker, to curate a collection of rare manuscripts, books, and artwork for his newly built Pierpont Morgan Library, Belle da Costa Greene becomes one of the most powerful women in New York despite the dangerous secret she keeps...	10	2021 324 pages Historical fiction
Benjamin, Melanie <i>The Aviator's wife</i>	Anne, Charles Linbergh's wife, is an accomplished pilot in her own right. Despite this and many other major achievements, she is viewed merely as the aviator's wife.	10	2013 434 pages Historical fiction
Bennett, Alan <i>The Uncommon Reader</i>	<i>The Uncommon Reader</i> is none other than HM the Queen who drifts accidentally into reading when her corgis stray into a mobile library parked at Buckingham Palace. She reads widely and intelligently. Her reading naturally changes her world view and her relationship with people like the oleaginous Prime Minister and his repellent advisers. She comes to question the prescribed order of the world and loses patience with much that she has to do. In short, her reading is subversive. The consequence is, of course, surprising, mildly shocking and very funny.	10	2007 121 pages Humour
Bennett, Brit <i>The vanishing half</i>	The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern black community and running away at age 16 it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Ten years later, one sister lives with her black daughter in the same southern town she once tried to escape. The other secretly passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Still, even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation, when their own daughters' story lines intersect?	10	2020 366 pages Historical Domestic
Blain, Georgia <i>Between a wolf and a dog</i>	Ester is a family therapist with an appointment book that catalogues the anxieties of the middle class: loneliness, relationships, death. She spends her days helping others find happiness but her own family are tense and frayed. Taking place largely over one rainy day in Sydney, this story is a celebration of the best I all of us – our capacity to live in the face of ordinary sorrows and to draw strength from the transformative power of art.	10	2016 257 pages Domestic fiction
Blain, Georgia <i>Closed for Winter</i> 	Twenty years have passed since that day on the jetty but it is only now that Elise has found the strength to go back and face the events of her past. And so she begins to unravel all that has been tying her up, picking through that day, piece by piece, from beginning to end, over and over again. Sometimes what you uncover is not what you were searching for, and Elise finds herself face-to-face with a truth she had not expected. A gripping novel and a powerful, positive story about the pain of letting go.	10	1998 249 pages Adelaide Local author
Blanchard, Tania <i>Suitcase of dreams</i> 	1956...After enduring the horror of Nazi Germany and the chaos of postwar occupation, Lotte Drescher and her family arrive in Australia in 1956 full of hope for a new life. It's a land of opportunity, where Lotte and her husband Erich dream of giving their children the future they have always wanted. After years of struggling to find their feet as New Australians, Erich turns his skill as a wood carver into a successful business and Lotte makes a career out of her lifelong passion, photography. The sacrifices they have made finally seem worth it until Erich's role in the trade union movement threatens to have him branded a communist and endanger their family. As the Vietnam War looms, an unexpected visitor forces Lotte to a turning point. Her decision will change her life forever . . . and will finally show her the true meaning of home.	10	2018 414 pages Relationships Immigrants
Bloom, Cameron & Greive, Bradley T <i>Penguin Bloom</i> 	After a near fatal fall left Sam Bloom paralysed, no one could reach her in the darkest days of her struggle. But when a new member of the family unexpectedly landed in their lives: an injured magpie chick whom they named Penguin Bloom. Powerful and tender, Penguin Bloom is a beautifully written account how compassion, friendship and family can come from unexpected places. Includes photographs.	10	2016 247 pages Non Fiction Recovery Courage




Boochani, Behrouz <i>No friend but the mountains</i> 	In 2013, Kurdish journalist Behrouz Boochani was illegally and indefinitely detained on Manus Island. This book is the result. Written on a smuggled mobile phone and translated from Farsi, it is voice of witness, and act of survival. A vivid portrait through six years of incarceration and exile that – against all the odds – became an award winner.	10	2018 356 pages Non Fiction
Borch-Garden, Diana von der <i>The Second Son</i>	A biographical account of Baron Leopold von der Borch, an aristocrat who left Germany in 1868 at the age of 22 to sail aboard the <i>George Shotten</i> to Australia. During the four months he spent at sea he could not have imagined that he would never return to the family and home he loved. Leopold's story is one of challenge, courage, and hope. He was a police trooper in the early days of the Northern Territory, a detective and interpreter in South Australia and the first official police photographer.	10	2017 363 pages Non Fiction
Bouras, Gillian <i>A Foreign Wife</i>	An Australian married to a Greek writes of the pleasures and perplexities of family life in the small quiet world of a Greek village. Her fellow villagers fondly regard her, the migrant in their midst, as something of a curiosity. They, in turn, are the source of both her admiration and her perplexity.	7	Out of print 1986 192 pages Memoir Non Fiction
Boyne, John <i>The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas</i>	Nine-year-old Bruno knows nothing of the Final Solution and the Holocaust. He is oblivious to the appalling cruelties being inflicted on the people of Europe by his country. All he knows is that he has been moved from a comfortable home in Berlin to a house in a desolate area where there is nothing to do and no one to play with. Until he meets Shmuel, a boy who lives a strange parallel existence on the other side of the adjoining wire fence and who, like the other people there, wears a uniform of striped pyjamas.	10	2006 216 pages WW2 Holocaust Historical fiction
Bradbury, Ray <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	The temperature at which book-paper catches fire and burns. Guy Montag is a fireman. His job is to burn books, which are forbidden, being the source of all discord and unhappiness. Even so, Montag is unhappy; there's discord in his marriage. Are books hidden in his house? The Mechanical Hound of the Fire Department, armed with a lethal hypodermic, escorted by helicopters, is ready to track down those dissidents who defy society to preserve and read books. A Classic novel of a post-literate future.	10	1953 227pages Literature Classics
Bradley, James <i>Ghost Species</i>	When scientist Kate Larkin joins a secretive project to recreate our long lost relatives, the Neanderthals, she finds herself torn between her duties as a scientist and her urge to protect their time lost creation. Sat against a backdrop of planetary trauma	10	2020 269 pages Science fiction
Bravery, Dr Ben <i>The Patient Doctor</i>	At 28 having just founded a successful business and fallen in love, the author was diagnosed with stage 3 colorectal cancer. As he recovered, it struck Ben that after everything he'd been through he couldn't go back to his former career. He needed a change - and he wanted to <i>make</i> change. He wanted to become a doctor and put the heart back into treating patients.	10	2022 323 pages Non Fiction
Brooks, Geraldine <i>Caleb's Crossing</i>	When Bethia Mayfield, a spirited 12-year-old living in the rigid confines of an English Puritan settlement meets Caleb, the young son of a Wampanoag chieftain, the two forge a secret friendship that draws each into an alien world of the other. Fighting for a voice in a society that requires her silence, Bethia becomes entangled in Caleb's struggle to navigate the intellectual and cultural shoals that divide their two cultures.	10	2011 369 pages American Biographical Fiction



Brooks, Geraldine <i>Foreign Correspondence</i>	Born in Sydney's western suburbs in the late 1950s, the young Geraldine Brooks longs to discover the vivid places where she believes history and culture are made. Penfriends from the Middle East, France and America offer her the window she craves on life beyond Australia's isolated back yard. Twenty years later, and worlds away from her sheltered girlhood, Brooks is an award-winning foreign correspondent covering war and famine. She embarks on a human treasure hunt in Israel, France and the US to find the foreign correspondents of her youth.	10	1998 244 pages Memoir Non Fiction
Brooks, Geraldine <i>Horse</i>	A discarded painting in a roadside clean-up, forgotten bones in a research archive, and Lexington, the greatest racehorse in US history. From these strands of fact, Geraldine Brooks weaves a sweeping story of spirit, obsession and injustice across American history. <i>Kentucky, 1850.</i> An enslaved groom named Jarret and a bay foal forge a bond of understanding that will carry the horse to record-setting victories across the South, even as the nation reels towards war. An itinerant young artist who makes his name from paintings of the horse takes up arms for the Union and reconnects with the stallion and his groom on a perilous night far from the glamour of any racetrack. <i>New York City, 1954.</i> Martha Jackson, a gallery owner celebrated for taking risks on edgy contemporary painters, becomes obsessed with a nineteenth-century equestrian oil painting of mysterious provenance. <i>Washington, DC, 2019.</i> Jess, a Smithsonian scientist from Australia, and Theo, a Nigerian-American art historian, find themselves unexpectedly connected through their shared interest in the horse - one studying the stallion's bones for clues to his power and endurance, the other uncovering the lost history of the unsung Black horsemen who were critical to his racing success.	10	2022 390 pages Hardback Historical fiction
Brooks, Geraldine <i>People of the Book</i>	<i>Winner of 2008 ABIA Book of the Year</i> - When Hanna Heath, renowned book conservator, gets a call in the middle of the night to her Sydney home about a precious medieval manuscript recovered from the smouldering ruins of war-torn Sarajevo, she knows she is on the brink of the experience of a lifetime. She must now make her way to Bosnia to start work on restoring the Sarajevo Haggadah - a Jewish prayer book - to discover its secrets and piece together the story of its miraculous survival. But the trip will set in motion a series of events that threaten to rock Hanna's orderly life, including her encounter with Ozren Karamen, the young librarian who risked his life to save the book.	10	2008 390 pages Civil War American Historical - Fiction
Brooks, Geraldine <i>The Secret Chord</i>	Grounded in the gritty, violent reality of Second Iron Age in Israel, this book reveals the life of King David. A life that arcs from obscurity to fame, from shepherd to soldier, from hero to traitor, from brilliant poet and glorious musician, and a glamorous young tyrant into a man ailing and remorseful in old age.	10	2015 302 pages Historical Fiction
Brooks, Geraldine <i>Year of Wonders</i>	When an infected bit of cloth carries plague from London to an isolated mountain village, a housemaid named Anna emerges as an unlikely heroine and healer. Through Anna's eyes, we follow the story of the plague year, 1666, when her fellow villagers are convinced by a visionary young minister to quarantine themselves, to arrest the spread of the disease. But as death reaches into every household, faith frays. The villagers turn from prayers to witch-hunting.	10	2001 308 pages Historical Fiction
Brown, Brene <i>Daring Greatly</i>	Researcher and speaker Dr. Brene Brown offers an all-embracing new philosophy that provides encouragement to dare greatly: to embrace vulnerability and imperfection, to live wholeheartedly and to courageously engage in life, whatever it brings. Dr. Brown challenges preconceived ideas about vulnerability. Based on 12 years of research, she argues that vulnerability is not weakness, but rather the clearest path to courage, engagement and meaningful connection.	10	2015 263 pages Courage Assertiveness Non Fiction


Burns, Anna Milkman	<i>Winner of the Man Booker Prize 2018</i> – A tale of gossip and hearsay, silence and deliberate deafness. It is the story of inaction with enormous consequences. In this unnamed city, to be interesting is dangerous. Middle sister, our protagonist, is busy attempting to keep her mother from discovering her maybe-boyfriend and to keep everyone in the dark about her encounter with <i>Milkman</i> . But when first brother-in-law sniffs out her struggle, and rumours start to swell, middle sister becomes 'interesting'. The last thing she ever wanted to be. To be interesting is to be noticed and to be noticed is dangerous.	10	2018 348 pages Secrets Gossip Relationships Northern Ireland
Burns, Shannon Childhood 	Things may have been good for a while, but it didn't last, they argued fiercely and he left. Weeks later, she tracked him down and said she was pregnant. So he moved back in with her and they prepared themselves for parenthood. Eleven months later I was born. The setting is in Adelaide.	10	2022 254 pages Biography Dysfunctional families
Burton, Jessie The Muse	A picture hides a thousand words – On a hot July in 1967, Odelle Bastien climbs the stone steps of the Skelton Gallery in London, knowing that her life is about to change forever. Having struggled to find her place in the city since she arrived from Trinidad five years ago, she has been offered a job as a typist under the tutelage of the glamorous and enigmatic Marjorie Quick. But though Quick takes Odelle into her confidence, and unlocks a potential she didn't know she had, she remains a mystery – no more so than when a lost masterpiece with a secret history is delivered to the gallery.	10	2016 432 pages Historical fiction
Byrski, Liz Gang of Four 	They have been close friends for almost two decades, supporting each other through personal and professional crises – parents dying, children leaving home, house moves, job changes, political activism, diets and really bad haircuts. Now the 'gang of four', Isabel, Sally, Robin and Grace, are all 50-something, successful and restless.	10	2004 399 pages Middle-aged women.
Cain, Susan Quiet: the power of introverts in a world that can't stop talking	At least one-third of the people we know are introverts. They are the ones who prefer listening to speaking; who innovate and create but dislike self-promotion; who favor working on their own over working in teams. It is to introverts that we owe many of the great contributions to society. This book argues that we dramatically undervalue introverts and shows how much we lose in doing so and has the power to permanently change how we see introverts and, equally important, how they see themselves.	10	2012 266 pages Introversion Extraversion Creative ability
Capella, Anthony The Empress of Ice Cream	France 1670. Carlo Demirco's mastery of the extraordinary new art of creaming ice creams has brought him wealth, women, and a position at the court of Louis XIV. Then Carlo is sent to London, along with Louise de Keroualle, an impoverished lady-in-waiting. The most powerful ministers of two countries have decided that Louise is to be Charles II's new mistress, and will stop at nothing until she submits. But Carlo too is fascinated by the enigmatic Frenchwoman.	10	2010 404 pages Romance Ice-cream
Carey, Peter His Illegal Self 	Che is raised in isolated privilege by his New York grandmother, the precocious son of radical Harvard students in the sixties. Che becomes an outlaw, fleeing down subways, abandoning seedy motels at night, and pitched into a journey that leads him to a hippy commune in the jungle of tropical Queensland. Here he slowly, bravely, confronts life, learning that nothing is what it seems. Who is his real mother? Was that his real father? What should he do?	10	2008 270 pages
Carey, Peter A Long Way from Home 	Irene Bobs likes fast driving. Her husband is the best car salesman in western Victoria. Together they enter the Redex Trial, a brutal race around the ancient continent over roads no car will ever survive. This thrilling, high-speed story starts in one way and then takes you someplace else. It is often funny, the more so as the world gets stranger, and always as a page-turner, even as you learn a history these characters never know themselves.	10	2017 357 pages Historical fiction




Carhart, T.E. <i>The Piano Shop on the Left Bank</i>	Carhart's life as an expatriate in Paris provides the setting for this witty and fascinating account of finding a piano to purchase and relearning how to play. His familiarity with French customs aids his dealings with, and subsequent acceptance as a friend, by Luc, the proprietor of Desforges Pianos. A piano restoration workshop by day, it turns into an exclusive local hangout Friday nights.	10	2000 304 pages Non Fiction Memoir Paris
Chandran, S <i>Chai time at Cinnamon Gardens</i> 	Cinnamon Gardens Nursing Home is nestled in the quiet suburb of Westgrove, Sydney – populated by residents with colourful histories, each with their own secrets, triumphs and failings. This is their safe place, an oasis of familiar delights - a beautiful garden, a busy kitchen and a bountiful recreation schedule. But this ordinary neighbourhood is not without its prejudices. This story is about family and memory, community and race, but is ultimately a love letter to story-telling and how our stories shape who we are.	10	2022 353 pages Australia Contemporary fiction
Chang, Jung <i>Empress Dowager Cixi</i>	Empress Dowager Cixi (1835–1908) is the most important woman in Chinese history. She ruled China for decades and brought a medieval empire into the modern age. At the age of sixteen, in a nationwide selection for royal consorts, Cixi was chosen as one of the emperor's numerous concubines. When he died in 1861, their five-year-old son succeeded to the throne. Cixi at once launched a palace coup against the regents appointed by her husband and made herself the real ruler of China—behind the throne, literally, with a silk screen separating her from her officials who were all male.	10	2013 373 pages Non fiction Biography
Chevalier, Tracy <i>At the edge of the orchard</i>	In the inhospitable Black Swamp of Ohio the Goodenough family are barely scratching out a living. Life there is harsh, tempered only by the apples they grow for eating and for the cider that dulls their pain. Robert leaves home to seek his fortune in the gold rush of California but he can feel the pull of family loyalties..	10	2016 309 pages Family saga
Chevalier, Tracy <i>The Last Runaway</i>	In the 1850's Honor Bright, a sheltered Quaker, impulsively emigrates to America. She finds her principles tested to the limit when a runaway slave appears at the farm of her new family. Honor befriends two spirited women who will teach her how to turn ideas into action.	10	2013 386 pages Historical fiction
Coelho, Paulo <i>The Spy</i>	When Mata Hari arrived in Paris, she was penniless. Soon she was feted as the most elegant woman in the city.	10	2016 186 pages Historical fiction
Conte, Steven <i>The Zookeeper's War</i>	It is 1943 and each night in a bomb shelter beneath the Berlin Zoo an Australian woman, Vera, shelters with her German husband, Axel, the zoo's director. Together, they struggle to look after the animals through the air raids and food shortages. When the zoo's staff are drafted into the army forced labourers are sent in as replacements. At first Vera finds the idea abhorrent but gradually she realises that the new workers are the zoo's only hope and forms an unlikely bond with one of them.	10	2007 374 pages Historical fiction
Cope, Tim <i>On the Trail of Genghis Khan</i>	Tim Cope travelled the entire length of the steppe, 10,000 km from Mongolia to Hungary, on horseback, inspired by the extraordinary feat of the Mongols of the 13 th century who, under the leadership of Genghis Khan, created the largest land empire in history. As he learns about the traditions and histories of the people of the steppe, his journey becomes both a celebration of and an elegy for an ancient way of life.	10	2013 455 pages Non fiction
Cousins, Norman <i>Anatomy of an Illness</i>	When Norman Cousins was diagnosed with a crippling and irreversible disease, he forged an unusual collaboration with his physician, and together they were able to beat the odds. The doctor's genius was in helping his patient to use his own powers: laughter, courage, and tenacity. The patient's talent was in mobilizing his body's own natural resources, proving what an effective healing tool the mind can be. This remarkable story of the triumph of the human spirit is truly inspirational reading.	10	1979 179 pages Autobiography



Crabb, Annabel <i>The Wife Drought</i> 	This is about women, men, family and work - it's full of candid and funny stories from the author's work in and around politics and the media, historical nuggets about the role of 'the wife' in Australia, and intriguing research about the attitudes that pulse beneath the surface of egalitarian Australia.	10	2014 275 pages Non fiction
Cunningham, Laura <i>Sleeping Arrangements</i>	The memoir of Lily Shaine, an orphan brought up by her two eccentric bachelor uncles. Uncle Len is a 6 foot 6 inch private investigator, a trench-coated cross between Abraham Lincoln and Sam Spade. Uncle Gabe, the librarian, is a confirmed dreamer who writes gospel songs in his spare time. With her uncles as mentors, the human jungle of the Bronx in the 1950s as her playground, the schoolroom as her torture chamber, and very knowing little girls as her playmates, Lily learns the secrets of life, sex, death and, above all, family love. A wry, funny and deeply affectionate portrait of the most unlikely of happy families this is a modern classic. <i>(Description from Dymocks)</i>	10	1989 228 pages Romance
Dalton, Trent <i>All the shimmering skies</i> 	As Japanese bombs rain down, motherless Molly Hook, the gravedigger's daughter, is looking to the skies and running for her life. Inside her duffel bag she carries a stone heart, alongside a map to lead her to Longcoat Bob, the deep-country sorcerer who she believes put a curse on her family.	10	2020 436 pages Historical fiction Magical
Dalton, Trent <i>Boy Swallows Universe</i> 	A lost father, a mute brother, a mum in jail, a heroin dealer for a stepfather and a notorious crim for a babysitter. It's not as if Eli's life isn't complicated enough already. He's just trying to follow his heart, learning what it takes to be a good man, but life just keeps throwing obstacles in the way. <i>(Description from Dymocks)</i>	10	2018 496 pages
Dalton, Trent <i>Lola in the Mirror</i> 	A girl and her mother are on the run. They have been on the run for sixteen years, from the police and the monster they left in the kitchen with a knife in his throat. They've found themselves a home in a van with four flat tyres parked in a scrapyard by the edge of the Brisbane River.	10	2023 490 pages Domestic violence
Dalton, Trent <i>Love Stories</i> 	A blind man yearns to see the face of his wife of thirty years. A divorced mother has a secret love affair with a priest. A geologist discovers a three-minute video recorded by his wife before she died. A tree lopper's heart falls in a forest. A working mum contemplates taking photographs of her late husband down from her fridge. A girl writes a last letter to the man she loves most and then sets it on fire. A palliative care nurse helps a dying woman converse with the angel at the end of her bed. A renowned 100-year-old scientist ponders the one great earthly puzzle he was never able to solve: 'What is love?' Endless stories. Human stories. <i>Love stories.</i> Inspired by a personal moment of profound love and generosity, Trent Dalton, bestselling author and one of Australia's finest journalists, spent two months in 2021 speaking to people from all walks of life, asking them one simple and direct question: 'Can you please tell me a love story?' The result is an immensely warm, poignant, funny and moving book about love in all its guises, including observations, reflections and stories of people falling into love, falling out of love, and never letting go of the loved ones in their hearts. A heartfelt, deep, wise and tingly tribute to the greatest thing we will never understand and the only thing we will ever really need: love.	10	2021 333 pages Contemporary Romance





De Bernieres, Louis Red Dog	While passing through a town in the Australian outback, the author discovered a statue of a dog. Intrigued, he made inquiries, and was swamped by locals with tales of a wildly charismatic creature named Tally Ho. The result is a charming fictionalised account of Tally's misdeeds and misadventures, not least of which involve the animal's enormous appetite; with apparent relish he ate paper bags, sticks, dead rats, butterflies, apple peel, eggshells, used tissues and socks. Whether undermining the Hitlerian trailer-park managers, or hitch-hiking from Perth, Red Dog always comes up trumps.	10	2001 115 pages Comedy Romance
De Crespigny, Richard QF32	On 4 November 2010, a flight from Singapore to Sydney came within a knife edge of being one of the world's worst air disasters. Shortly after leaving Changi Airport, an explosion shattered Engine 2 of Qantas flight QF32 – an Airbus A380 the largest and most advanced passenger plane ever built. Hundreds of shrapnel ripped through the wing and fuselage, creating chaos...	10	2012 355 pages Non Fiction Aeroplanes
De Kretser, Michelle Questions of Travel 	<i>Winner, 2013 ALS Gold Medal</i> - A mesmerising literary novel, Questions of Travel charts two very different lives. Laura travels the world before returning to Sydney, where she works for a publisher of travel guides. Ravi dreams of being a tourist until he is driven from Sri Lanka by devastating events. Around these two superbly drawn characters, a double narrative assembles an enthralling array of people, places and stories - from Theo whose life plays out in the long shadow of the past, to Hana an Ethiopian woman determined to reinvent herself in Australia. (<i>Description from Dymocks</i>)	10	2012 519 pages Sri Lankan – Australia Travels
De Vries, Susanna Blue Ribbons Bitter Bread 	This book tells the story of Joice Nankivell Loch who was an extraordinary Australian. It is a classic Australian biography that is a tribute one of Australia's most heroic women. This is the author's account of Joice's heroic and dramatic life, from a privileged childhood, to poverty, to hero of WWII.	10	2000 341 pages Non Fiction Memoir Australia
De Waal, Edmund The Hare With Amber Eyes	<i>Winner of the 2010 COSTA Biography Award & 2011 Ondaatje Prize</i> - Edmund de Waal was entranced when he first encountered the collection of 264 Japanese wood and ivory carvings, none of them bigger than a matchbox, in his Great-Uncle Iggy's Tokyo apartment. When he later inherited the 'netsuke', they unlocked a story far larger and more dramatic than he could ever have imagined. From a burgeoning empire in Odessa to fin de siecle Paris, from occupied Vienna to Tokyo, it traces the netsuke's journey through generations of his remarkable family, against the backdrop of a tumultuous century.	10	2010 354 pages Non Fiction Memoir Art Collecting
Diamond, Jared Guns, Germs and Steel 	A short history of everybody for the last 13,000 years... Why has human history unfolded so differently across the globe? Please note this book has small print and lots of information.	10	1997 564 pages Non Fiction Sustainability Biogeography
Dickens, Charles A Christmas Carol	The story of miserly Ebenezer Scrooge and the ghosts who show him the true spirit of Christmas.	10	138 pages Classic
Diffenbaugh, Vanessa The Language of Flowers	Floriography is the language of flowers. All flowers hold different meanings, often based on the type of flower, the colour of the flower, or both. And floriography is the art of communicating through different flower types. This book is about flowers, the meaning of family and the meaning of love.	10	2012 308 pages Romance





Disher, Garry <i>Bitter Wash Road</i> 	When Hirsch heads up Bitter Wash Road to investigate reports of gunfire, he finds himself cut off without back-up. A pair of thrill killers has been targeting isolated farmhouses on lonely backroads, but Hirsch's first worry is maybe 'back-up' is nearby - and about to put a bullet in him. That's because he's a whistleblower. Formerly a promising metropolitan officer, he's been demoted and exiled to a one-cop station in South Australia's wheatbelt. Called a dog by his brother officers, threats come through, in the form of a pistol cartridge in the mailbox. But the shots on Bitter Wash Road don't tally with his assumptions. The truth turns out to be a lot more mundane, and the events that unfold a hell of a lot more sinister.	10	2013 <i>325 pages</i> Detective Mystery Police corruption
Doerr, Anthony <i>All the light we cannot see</i>	Marie-Laure lives with her father in Paris near the Museum of Natural History where he works as the master of its thousands of locks. When she is six Marie goes blind and her father builds a perfect miniature of their neighbourhood so she can memorize it by touch and navigate her way home. When the Nazis occupy Paris, father and daughter flee to the walled citadel of Saint-Malo. In a mining town in Germany the orphan Werner grows up with his younger sister and becomes enchanted with a crude radio that they find. His talent for fixing and these crucial new instruments wins him a place in the Academy for Hitler Youth, then a special assignment to track the resistance. That leads him to Saint-Malo where his story and Marie-Laure's converge.	10	2014 <i>544 pages</i> Historical fiction France German - occupation
Doerr, Anthony <i>Cloud Cuckoo Land</i>	Bound together by a single ancient text, the unforgettable characters of Cloud Cuckoo Land are dreamers and outsiders. This story reflects our own vast interconnectedness - with other species, with each other, with those who live before us and those who will after we have gone.	10	2021 <i>622 Pages</i> Historical Sci-fi
Dokic, Jelena <i>Fearless : finding the power to thrive</i> 	This book is about starting at the bottom and building yourself back up. It's about learning to reach out for help and healing. It's about speaking up and the power of sharing stories. The past years have taught Jelena many tough and important lessons, and now she is ready to share them to help you find your voice and the power to thrive.		20 <i>254 pages</i> Self-help Biographical
Donoghue, Emma <i>The pull of the stars</i>	In an Ireland doubly ravaged by war and disease, Nurse Julia Power works at an understaffed hospital in the city centre, where expectant mothers who have come down with an unfamiliar flu are quarantined together. Into Julia's regimented world step two outsiders: Doctor Kathleen Lynn, on the run from the police, and a young volunteer helper, Bridie Sweeney. In the darkness and intensity of this tiny ward, over three days, these women change each other's lives in unexpected ways.	10	2020 <i>291 Pages</i> Historical fiction
Donoghue, Emma <i>Room</i>	Shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2010 - The story of a mother, her son, a locked room and the outside world. Although Jack is a normal child in many ways, his upbringing is far from ordinary: Jack's entire life has been spent in a single room that measures just 12 feet by 12 feet; as far as he's concerned, Room is the entire world. He shares this world with his mother, with Plant, and tiny Mouse. There's TV too, and the cartoon characters he thinks of as his friends. Old Nick, on the other hand, is all too real, but only visits at night - like a bat - when Jack is meant to be asleep and hidden safely in Wardrobe. Told in Jack's voice, Room is the story of a mother's love for her son, and of a young boy's innocence.	10	2010 <i>321 pages</i> Psychological fiction
Donoghue, Emma <i>The Wonder</i>	Lib Wright, a young English nurse, arrives in an impoverished Irish village on a strange mission. Eleven-year-old Anna O'Donnell is said to have eaten nothing for months but appears to be thriving miraculously. With tourists thronging to see the child, and the press sowing doubt, the baffled community looks to an outsider to bring the facts to light. Lib's job is simple: to watch the girl and uncover the truth...	10	2016 <i>291 pages</i> Physiological thriller
Doughty, Louise <i>Apple tree yard</i>	Yvonne Carmichael has a high-flying career, a beautiful home and a good marriage but when she meets a stranger, she is drawn into a passionate affair. Keeping her two lives separate seems easy at first but she cannot control what happens next. An examination of the choices we make and the values we live by and the consequence of the risk that Yvonne takes.	10	2013 <i>434 pages</i> Psychological fiction



Drabble, Margaret <i>The Seven Sisters</i>	Candida Wilton arrives in London, alone, divorced and without much money. Yet strangely excited, she wonders what might happen to her now in her final years? Prepared to fill her empty life with little events and pleasures – like the gym & her reading group – Candida finds her horizons broadened by an unexpected windfall. So she gathers together six travelling companions & begins the journey she has long dreamed of to Tunis, Naples & Pompeii.	10	2002 307 pages Historical fiction
Dugoni, Robert <i>The extraordinary life of Sam Hell</i>	Born with ocular albinism, small-town eye doctor Sam Hill must finally face a past tragedy that caused him to turn his back on his friends, his hometown, and the life he'd always known—a journey that makes him realise what truly matters.	10	2018 428 pages Coming-of-age
 Dumas, Firoozeh <i>Funny in Farsi</i>	In 1972, when she was seven, Firoozeh Dumas and her family moved from Iran to Southern California, arriving with no firsthand knowledge of this country beyond her father's glowing memories of his graduate school years...an unforgettable story of identity, discovery, and the power of family love, <i>Funny in Farsi</i> will leave us all laughing – without an accent.	10	2003 198 pages Non Fiction – Memoir Humour
Ebadi, Shirin <i>Iran awakening</i>	Nobel Peace Prize winner who has almost single-handedly given Iran and the world reason to hope for a better future for her country. An inspiring memoir of a remarkable woman and her battle for the soul of her nation.	10	2006 220 pages Non Fiction Memoir
Edwards, Kim <i>Memory Keeper's Daughter</i>	Begins on a winter night in 1964, when a blizzard forces Dr David Henry to deliver his own twins. His son, born first, is perfectly healthy, but the doctor immediately recognises that his daughter has Down's syndrome. For motives he tells himself are good, he makes a split second decision that will haunt all of their lives forever. He asks his nurse, Caroline, to take the baby away to an institution. Instead, she disappears into another city to raise the child as her own.	10	2005 401 pages Psychological fiction
Enright, Anne <i>The Green Road</i>	<i>Winner of Man Booker Prize</i> - The children of Rosaleen Madigan leave the west of Ireland for lives they never could have imagined, in Dublin, New York and various 3 rd world towns. In her early old age their difficult, wonderful mother announces that she's decided to sell the house and divide the proceeds. Her adult children come back for a last Christmas, with the feeling that their childhoods are being erased, their personal history bought and sold.	10	2015 310 pages Domestic fiction
Ephron, Amy <i>A Cup of Tea: a novel of 1917</i>	Born to privilege, Rosemary Fell has wealth, well-connected friends, and a handsome fiancé, Philip Alsop. One cold and rainy night she sees the mysterious Eleanor Smith, huddled against the elements. In a moment of beneficence, Rosemary invites the penniless young woman home for a cup of tea. Arriving on the scene, Philip notices Eleanor warming herself by the roaring fire. When Rosemary sees them exchange an unmistakable look, she promptly sends the girl packing. But too late. In that one brief moment, Rosemary's carefully sculptured life has cracked beyond repair.	10	1997 200 pages
Evans, Lissa <i>Old Baggage</i>	It is 1928. Matilda Simpkin, rooting through a cupboard, comes across a small wooden club - an old possession of hers, unseen for more than a decade. During the Women's Suffrage Campaign she was a militant. Jailed five times, she marched, sang, gave speeches, smashed windows and heckled Winston Churchill, and nothing - nothing - since then has had the same depth, the same excitement. Now in middle age, she is still looking for a fresh mould into which to pour her energies. Giving the wooden club a thoughtful twirl, she is struck by an idea - but what starts as a brilliantly idealistic plan is derailed by a connection with Mattie's militant past, one which begins to threaten every principle that she stands for.	10	2018 320 pages Historical Fiction



Erdrich, Louise The Sentence	Tookie - a headstrong and deeply wronged Ojibwe woman with a chequered past - must make a life for herself in a changed, charged world. During her incarceration, her only lifeline were the books she 'learned to read with murderous attention', so when she finds work at a local independent bookshop she also finds kindred spirits. Can the dead teach the living how to survive the present? Can the living lay injustices of the past to rest in peace? The Sentence is an unforgettable novel about an unforgettable year. It is a novel about identity, redemption, betrayal and forgiveness; a ghost story, a love story and a love letter to the haunting power of the written word.	1	2021 374 pages Ghost story
			
Evaristo, Bernardine Girl, Woman, Other	<i>Winner of Man Booker Prize 2019</i> - Welcome to Britain and 12 very different people - mostly women, mostly black - who call it home. Teaming with life and crackling with energy this book follows them across the miles and down the years. These women tell the stories of their families, friends and lovers. Joyfully polyphonic and vibrantly contemporary, this is a gloriously new kind of history, a novel of our times: celebratory, ever-dynamic and utterly irresistible.	10	2019 452 pages
Facey, A. B. A Fortunate Life	Born in 1894, Facey lived the rough frontier life of a sheep farmer, survived the gore of Gallipoli, raised a family through the Depression and spent sixty years with his beloved wife, Evelyn. Despite enduring hardships we can barely imagine today, Facey always saw his life as a 'fortunate' one. A true classic of Australian literature, his simply written autobiography is an inspiration. It is the story of a life lived to the full - the extraordinary journey of an ordinary man.	10	1981 421 pages Autobiography
			
Faulks, Sebastian Paris Echo	American academic Hannah and runaway Moroccan teenager Tariq have little in common, yet both find themselves haunted by the ghosts of Paris. Brimming with deep affection for Paris both past and present, the author creates memorable characters.	10	2019 294 pages Historical - fiction
Ferrante, Elena My brilliant friend	The story of Elena and Lila begins in the 1950s in a poor but vibrant neighbourhood on the outskirts of Naples. Growing up on these tough streets the two girls learn to rely on each other ahead of anyone or anything else, as their friendship, beautifully and meticulously rendered becomes a not always perfect shelter from hardship. Through the lives of Elena and Lila this is a story of a neighbourhood, a city, and a country undergoing momentous change.	10	2012 331 pages Childhood Adolescence
Fforde, Jasper The Eyre Affair	A unique book which is part fantas, part science fiction and totally hilarious. Fforde has written about a world in which books can be entered, characters interviewed and plots rearranged. Sounds like harmless fun until a criminal enters the book "Jane Eyre" and kidnapps the main character. The book cannot exist without Jane Eyre herself! Can our hero Thursday Next rescue Jane and save the book from extinction?	10	2001 373 pages Fantasy
Fidler, Richard Ghost Empire	The story of how Constantinople flourished into greatness and then expired into terrible violence.	10	2016 453 pages Non Fiction History
			
Fidler, Richard and Kari Gislason Saga Land	True stories of the first Viking families who settled on Iceland in the Middle Ages. The sagas are among the greatest stories ever written but the identity of their authors is unknown.	10	2017 424 pages Non Fiction


Filer, Nathan <i>The shock of the fall</i>	I will tell you what happened because it will be a good way to introduce my brother. His name is Simon. I think you are going to like him. I really do. But in a couple of pages he will be dead. And he was never the same after that.	10	2013 <i>307 pages</i> Psychological fiction
Flanagan, Richard <i>Toxic</i> 	What could be more appealing than the idea of Atlantic salmon sustainably harvested in some of the world's purest waters? But what are we eating when we eat Tasmanian salmon?	10	2021 <i>195 pages</i> Non Fiction Environment
Flanagan, Richard <i>The Unknown Terrorist</i> 	What would you do if you turned on the television and saw that you were the most wanted terrorist in Australia? Gina Davies is about to find out. Five days, three unexploded bombs and every truth of your life turned into a lie. What would you do?	10	2006 <i>320 pages</i> Thriller
Fong, Mei <i>One child: the story of China's most radical experiment</i>	Over three decades China exercised unprecedented control over the reproductive habits of its billion citizens. Now, with its economy faltering just as it seemed poised to become the largest in the world, the Chinese government has brought an end to its one-child policy. It may once seemed to have been a shortcut to riches, but it has had a profound effect on society.	10	2016 <i>214 pages</i> Social & Economic conditions
Forster, E.M <i>A Room With a View</i>	When Lucy Honeychurch meets George Emerson in a hotel in Florence, she is intrigued but wary. Lucy's chaperone, her strict and overbearing cousin Charlotte, disapproves of Emerson because he is free-thinking in his opinions, unconventional in manners, and beneath them in social status....the two young people are increasingly drawn to each other, but back in England Lucy is constrained by the claustrophobic snobbery of her guardians, who encourage her to take up with a well-connected but pretentious boor.	10	1908 <i>256 pages</i> Classic
Frank, Anne <i>The Diary of a Young Girl</i>	In the summer of 1942, fleeing the horrors of the Nazi occupation Anne Frank and her family were forced into hiding in the back of an Amsterdam warehouse. Aged 13 when she went into the secret annex, Anne kept a diary in which she confided her innermost thoughts and feelings, revealing how eight people lived under these extraordinary conditions.	10	1991 version 336 pages Non Fiction
Freud, Esther <i>Mr Mac and me</i>	Thomas Maggs, the crippled son of the village publican, lives with his family on Suffolk coast. His life is shaped by the seasons: fishing, farming and summer visitors, but all that Thomas longs for is adventure and a chance to go to sea. One day a mysterious artist arrives and immediately becomes a source of fascination to Thomas. His name is Charles Rennie Mackintosh, or Mac, as the locals call him. Yet just as their unlikely friendship begins to bloom, war with Germany is declared. As the summer guests flee, they are replaced by regiments of soldiers on their way to Belgium and the community becomes gradually more suspicious of the artist and his increasingly eccentric behaviour...	10	2014 <i>293 pages</i> Modern contemporary fiction
Fry, Stephen <i>Moab is My Washpot</i>	Memoir of the first twenty years of Stephen Fry's life. "He writes superbly about his family, about his homosexuality, about the agonies of childhood....some of his bursts of simile take the breath away....his most satisfying and appealing book so far." Observer	10	1997 <i>432 pages</i> Non Fiction Memoir


Funder, Anna <i>All that I am</i> 	When Hitler comes to power in 1933, a tight-knit group of friends and lovers become hunted outlaws overnight. United in their resistance to the madness and tyranny of Nazism, they must flee the country. They take breathtaking risks in order to continue their work in secret. A story of love and war, of friendship and betrayal. A novel.	10	2011 <i>368 pages</i> Germany England Historical fiction
Funder, Anna <i>Stasiland</i> 	She met Miriam who was condemned as an enemy of the state at sixteen and Frau Paul for whom the Berlin Wall “went through my heart”. She drinks with the legendary ‘Mik Jegger’ of the East, once declared by the authorities to “no longer exist”. And she meets ex-Stasi - men who spied on their families and friends – still loyal to the deposed regime as they await the next revolution. Truth can be stranger than fiction ... a thriller.	10	2002 <i>288 pages</i> Germany Australia Non Fiction
Funder, Anna <i>Wifedom</i> 	Eileen O’Shaughnessy’s literary brilliance shaped Orwell’s work and her practical nous saved his life. But why – and how – was she written out of the story? Looking for wonder and some reprieve from the everyday, Anna Funder slips into the pages of her hero George Orwell.	10	2023 <i>400 pages</i> Biography
Gaiman, Neil <i>The Ocean at the End of the Lane</i>	This is what he remembers, as he sits by the ocean at the end of the lane: A dead man on the back seat of the car, and warm milk at the farmhouse. An ancient little girl, and an old woman who saw the moon being made. A beautiful housekeeper with a monstrous smile. And dark forces woken that were best left undisturbed. They are memories hard to believe, waiting at the edge of things. The recollections of a man who thought he was lost but is now, perhaps, remembering a time when he was saved.	10	2013 <i>235 pages</i> Young Adult Fantasy
Gaita, Raimond <i>Romulus, my Father</i> 	Romulus Gaita fled Yugoslavia aged thirteen, and came to Australia with his wife and their son soon after World War II. Tragic events were to overtake the boy's life, but Raimond Gaita has an extraordinary and moving tale to tell of growing up with his father in country Victoria. Romulus, My Father is the much-loved story of how a compassionate, honest man taught his son the meaning of living a decent life.	10	1998 <i>208 pages</i> Classic Non Fiction
Galgut, Damon <i>The Promise</i>	<i>Winner of 2021 Booker Prize</i> – The Swart family have promised Salome, the black woman who has worked for them her whole life, her own house and her own land and yet somehow the promise remains unfulfilled.	10	2021 <i>293 pages</i> South African Family saga
Garcia Marquez, Gabriel <i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>	<i>Winner of 1982 Nobel Prize for Literature</i> - A band of adventurers establish a town in the heart of the South American jungle. The occasion marks the beginning: of the world, of a great family, and of a century of extraordinary events. A note of warning: The text is confronting to some, covering murder, insanity, obsession, depravity, serial rape, incest and other revolting acts. Added to this you may find the challenge of the long tracts of text that are often unrelieved by paragraph breaks and also the confusing duplication of names. However, it is quite an extraordinary novel that has been translated into 46 languages and sold more than 50 million copies.. First published in 1967.	10	1970 <i>336 pages</i> Magical realism



Gardam, Jane <i>God on the Rocks</i>	During one glorious summer between the wars, the realities of life and the sexual ritual dance of the adult world creep into the life of young Margaret Marsh. Her father, preaching the doctrine of the unsavoury Primal Saints; her mother, bitterly nostalgic for what might have been; Charles and Binkie, anchored in the past; dying Mrs Frayling and Lydia the maid – all contribute to Margaret’s shattering moment of truth. And when the storm breaks the summer hurtles towards drama, tragedy and a touch of farce.	10	1978 <i>215 pages</i> Domestic fiction
Gardam, Jane <i>Old Filth</i>	Filth, in his heyday, was an international lawyer with a practice in the Far East. Now, only the oldest QCs and Silks can remember that his nickname stood for Failed in London Try Hong Kong. Long ago, Old Filth was a Raj orphan, one of the many young children sent 'Home' from the East to be fostered and educated in England. Encapsulates a whole period from the glory days of the British Empire, through the Second World War, to the present and beyond.	10	2004 <i>256 pages</i> Legal fiction
Garmus, Bonnie <i>Lessons in Chemistry</i>	Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing. Set in the early 1960s she finds it hard to be taken seriously as a chemist. She finds herself not only a single mother but the star of America’s most beloved cooking show. She isn’t just teaching women to cook - she’s daring them to change the status quo. 2 SETS AVAILABLE	10	2022 <i>386 pages</i> Humourous
Garner, Helen <i>Everywhere I look</i> 	A collection of essays, diary entries and true stories spanning more than fifteen years of the work of one of Australia’s greatest writers. It includes her famous and controversial essay on the insults of age, her deeply moving tribute to her mother, and the story of her joy in discovering the ukulele. It is a multifaceted profound portrait of life. It glows with wisdom and insight. Great stories to discuss...	10 1	2016 <i>227 pages</i> Non Fiction <i>Set includes an Audio CD</i>
Garner, Helen <i>the first stone</i>	In the autumn of 1992, two young women students at Melbourne University went to the police claiming that they had been indecently assaulted at a party. The man they accused was the head of their co-ed residential college. The shock of these charges split the community and painfully focused the debate about sex and power.	10	1995 <i>222 pages</i> Crime Power
Garner, Helen <i>Joe Cinque's Consolation</i> 	A true story of death, grief and the law. In October 1997, a law student at ANU made a bizarre plan to murder her boyfriend after a dinner party at their house. Some of the guests had heard rumours of the plan. Nobody warned Joe Cinque. He died one Sunday, in his own bed, of a massive dose of Rohypnol and heroin. His girlfriend and her best friend were charged with murder. Helen Garner followed the trials in the ACT Supreme Court. This book probes the gap between ethics and the law....and explores conscience, culpability, and the battered ideal of duty of care.	10	2004 <i>328 pages</i> Non fiction True Crime
Garner, Helen <i>This House of Grief: the story of a murder trial</i> 	On Father’s Day 2005, three young boys drowned when the car their father was driving went off the road and plunged into a dam. Was it possible that this could be a deliberate act, an embittered ex-husband’s revenge on his wife? When the case went to court, it became Helen Garner’s obsession, and she followed the proceedings until the final verdict.	10	2014 <i>300 pages</i> Non fiction True Crime
Garner, Helen <i>The Spare Room</i> 	Helen lovingly prepares her spare room for her friend Nicola. She is coming to visit for three weeks to receive treatment she believes will cure her cancer. Helen becomes her nurse, her guardian angel and her stony judge. Tells a story of compassion, humour and rage as the two women – one sceptical, one stubbornly serene – negotiate an unmapped path through Nicola’s bizarre therapy, stumbling towards the novel’s terrible and transcendent finale.	10	2008 <i>195 pages</i> Friendship



Gaskell, Elizabeth <i>North and South</i>	Set in the fictional industrial town of Milton in the north of England. Forced to leave her home in the tranquil, rural south, Margaret Hale settles with her parents in Milton. She witnesses the brutal world wrought by the Industrial Revolution, seeing employers and workers clashing in the first strikes. Sympathetic to the poor, whose courage and tenacity she admires and among whom she makes friends, she clashes with John Thornton. John is a nouveau riche cotton-mill owner who is contemptuous of his workers. The novel traces her growing understanding of the complexity of labour relations and their impact on well-meaning mill owners and her relationship with John Thornton.	10	1996 496 pages England Social classes
Genova, Lisa <i>Left Neglected</i>	Sarah carefully manages every minute of her life, until one fateful day, while driving to work, she looks away from the road for one second too long. A traumatic brain injury completely erases the left side of her world. Sarah must learn that a happiness greater than all the success in the world is close within reach, if only she slows down long enough to notice.	10	2011 405 pages Psychological
Genova, Lisa <i>Still Alice</i>	What if you were to lose every memory you ever had? When Alice finds herself in the rapidly downward spiral of Alzheimer's disease, she is just fifty years old. A University professor, wife, and mother of three, she still has books to write, places to see, grandchildren to meet. But when she cannot remember how to make her famous Christmas pudding, when she gets lost in her own back yard, when she fails to recognise her actress daughter after a superb performance, she comes up with a plan.	10	2009 387 pages Psychological
Gervay, Susanne <i>Butterflies</i> 	The compelling story of a young girl, her loves, friendships and family relationships. Katherine is nearly 18. Severely burnt at three years of age, she dreams that one day her life will be different. A coming of age story.	10	2001 247 pages YA fiction
Gilbert, Elizabeth <i>City of Girls</i>	Nineteen-year-old Vivian Morris arrives in New York City in the summer of 1940 with nothing but a sewing machine and an unindulged taste for adventure. Finding employment as seamstress at the Lily Playhouse, a charmingly down-at-heel Manhattan revue, Vivian quickly becomes the toast of the showgirls, transforming the tat only fit for the cheap seats into creations for goddesses. Adventure and opportunity blossom on every corner of this strange wartime city of girls, and Vivian and her girlfriends mean to explore New York. But there are hard lessons to be learned, and bitterly regrettable mistakes to be made. Vivian learns that to live the life she wants, she must live many lives, ceaselessly and ingeniously making them new.	10	2020 496 pages Historical Fiction Romance
Gilbert, Elizabeth <i>The Signature of All Things</i>	At the beginning of the 19th Century Alma Whittaker is born into a perfect Philadelphia winter. Her father, Henry Whittaker, is a bold and charismatic botanical explorer whose vast fortune belies his lowly beginnings as a vagrant in Sir Joseph Banks' Kew Gardens and as a deck hand on Captain Cook's HMS Resolution. Alma's mother, a strict woman from an esteemed Dutch family, has a knowledge of botany equal to any man's. It is not long before Alma, an independent girl with a thirst for knowledge, comes into her own within the world of plants and science. But as her careful studies of moss take her deeper into the mysteries of evolution, the man she comes to love draws her in the opposite direction.	10	2013 499 pages Historical fiction
Goolrick, Robert <i>A reliable wife</i>	The year is 1907 and Ralph Truitt, a wealthy but lonely country businessman in his fifties, advertises in a Chicago paper for a 'reliable wife'. Catherine Land, a beautiful thirty-four year old responds that she is a 'simple, honest woman' but the photo she sends with her response is of someone else...(Description from <i>Dymocks</i>)	10	2009 291 pages Historical fiction
Grant, Stan <i>Talking to my country</i> 	This is Stan Grant's very personal meditation on race, identity and history. It is a rare and special book that talks to every Australian about their country - what it is, and what it could be. It is not just about race, or about indigenous people but all of us, our shared identity.	10	2016 224 pages Non Fiction Australia



Green, John <i>The Fault In Our Stars</i>	Despite the tumour-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten. Insightful, bold, irreverent, and raw, <i>The Fault in Our Stars</i> is award-winning author John Green's most ambitious and heartbreaking work yet, brilliantly exploring the funny, thrilling, and tragic business of being alive and in love.	10	2012 <i>318 pages</i> YA fiction
Greer, Andrew Sean <i>Less</i>	Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction 2018. Arthur Less is a failed novelist about to turn 50. A wedding invitation arrives in the post: it is from an ex-boyfriend of nine years who is engaged to someone else. Arthur can't say yes – it would be too awkward; he can't say no – it would look like defeat. So he begins to accept the invitations on his desk to half-baked literary events around the world. From France to India, Germany to Japan, Arthur almost falls to his death and puts miles between him and the plight he refuses to face. It's about mishaps, misunderstandings and the depths of the human heart. (Donated Bookset)	10	2017 261 pages Humour Satire
Grenville, Kate <i>The Lieutenant</i> 	Lieutenant Daniel Rooke sails into Sydney Cove with the First Fleet, hoping to advance his career. Instead his life is unimaginably changed. A young aboriginal girl visits and begins to teach him her language. As they learn to speak together, they build a rapport that bridges the gap between their dangerously different worlds. Then Rooke is given a command that forces him to choose between his duty as a soldier and the friendship that has become so precious to him.	10	2008 <i>302 pages</i> Australia history
Grenville, Kate <i>A room made of leaves</i>	What if Elizabeth Macarthur, wife of the notorious John Macarthur, wool baron in the earliest days of Sydney, had written a shockingly frank secret memoir? Marriage to a ruthless bully, the impulses of her heart, and the search for power in a society that gave women none - this Elizabeth Macarthur manages her complicated life with spirit and passion, cunning and sly wit. A book set in the past but it is just as much about the present where lies have the dangerous power to shape reality. (Description from Booktopia)	10	2021 <i>317 pages</i> Historical Fiction
Grenville, Kate <i>The Secret River</i> 	<i>Winner of 2006 Commonwealth Writer's Prize</i> - In 1806 William Thornhill, a man of quick temper and deep feelings, is transported from the slums of London to New South Wales for the term of his natural life. With his wife Sal and their children he arrives in a harsh land he cannot understand. But the colony can turn a convict into a free man. Eight years later Thornhill sails up the Hawkesbury to claim a hundred acres for himself. Aboriginal people already live on that river. And other recent arrivals—Thomas Blackwood, Smasher Sullivan and Mrs Herring—are finding their own ways to respond to them.	10	2005 <i>368 pages</i> Australia history
Griffiths, Billy <i>Deep time dreaming</i>	Soon after Billy Griffiths joins his first archaeological dig as camp manager and cook, he is hooked. Equipped with a historian's inquiring mind, he embarks on a journey through time, seeking to understand d the extraordinary deep history of the Australian continent.	10	2018 296 pages Non Fiction Anthropology Cultural
Haddon, Mark <i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time</i>	<i>Winner of 2003 Whitbread Book of the Year</i> - Christopher Boone, the autistic 15-year-old narrator of this revelatory novel, relaxes by groaning and doing maths problems in his head, eats red - but not yellow or brown - foods and screams when he is touched. When his neighbour's poodle is killed and Christopher is falsely accused of the crime, he decides that he will investigate, which leads him to unravel a very personal issue of his own.	10	2003 <i>240 pages</i> Mystery
Haig, Matt <i>The Midnight Library</i>	Nora's life has been going from bad to worse. Then at the stroke of midnight on her last day on earth she finds herself transported to a library. There she is given her chance to undo her regrets and try out each of the other lives she might have lived.	10	2020 <i>288 pages</i> Sci fi Young Adult






Hamid, Mohsin <i>The Reluctant Fundamentalist</i>	A young Pakistani meets a US American in Lahore and tells him about his old “successful” life in the USA – until 9/11, which changed everything. A crime novel - set in our time of huge global change and challenges; it asks fundamental questions about ethnic tolerance and the American Dream today.	10	2007 141 pages Psychological
Hammer, Chris <i>Scrublands</i> 	In an isolated country town brought to its knees by endless drought, a charismatic and dedicated young priest calmly opens fire on his congregation, killing five parishioners before being shot dead himself. A year later, troubled journalist Martin Scarsden arrives in Riversend to write a feature on the anniversary of the tragedy. But the stories he hears from the locals about the priest and incidents leading up to the shooting don't fit with the accepted version of events his own newspaper reported in an award-winning investigation. Martin can't ignore his doubts, nor the urgings of some locals to unearth the real reason behind the priest's deadly rampage.	10	2018 481 pages Crime
Harding Browne, Carys <i>Carys: diary of a young girl, Adelaide 1940-42</i> 	In 1940 a seventeen-year-old girl called Carys Harding Browne comes of age in Adelaide, Australia. At St Mark's University College, young, clever men meet together to share their love of poetry. However, by December 1940, St Mark's College is leased to the Royal Australian Air Force as an embarkation depot. The second World War is in earnest. This story is about young people growing up and falling in love against the backdrop of war where dances, friendship and the arts become a consolation in a fragile and uncertain time.	10	2018 216 pages Non Fiction
Hardy, Thomas <i>Far from the madding crowd</i>	Bathsheba Everdene is a proud working woman whose life is complicated by three different men – respectable farmer Boldwood, seductive Sergeant Troy and her devoted Gabriel, making her the object of scandal and betrayal. Vividly portraying the superstitions and traditions of a small rural community it shows the precarious position of a woman in a man's world.	10	1874 448 pages Classic
Harper, Jane <i>The dry</i> 	Winner of the Abia Book of the Year 2017 – Who Really Killed the Hadler Family? It hasn't rained in Kiewarra for two years. Tensions in the farming community become unbearable when three members of the Hadler family are discovered shot to death on their property. Everyone assumes Luke Hadler committed suicide after slaughtering his wife and six-year-old son. Federal Police investigator Aaron Falk returns to his hometown for the funerals and is unwillingly drawn into the investigation. As suspicion spreads through the town, Falk is forced to confront the community that rejected him twenty years earlier. Because Falk and his childhood friend Luke Hadler shared a secret, one which Luke's death threatens to unearth.	10	2016 326 pages Mystery Crime fiction
Harper, Jane <i>Force of nature</i> 	When a group of colleagues are forced to participate in a team-building exercise in the Giralang Ranges, they reluctantly start walking down the muddy track. But Alice Russell doesn't appear at the other end. Her last phone call was to Federal Police Agent Aaron Falk. Alice is the whistleblower in his latest corporate fraud case and as he pursues the investigation, Falk uncovers a tangled web of suspicion and betrayal. How well do we know the people we work with?	10	2017 421 pages Thriller
Harper, Jane <i>The lost man</i> 	They are at the stockman's grave, a landmark so old, no one can remember who is buried there. But today, the scant shadow it casts was the last hope for their middle brother, Cameron. The Bright family's quiet existence is thrown into grief and anguish. Something had been troubling Cameron. Did he lose hope and walk to his death? Because if he didn't, the isolation of the outback leaves few suspects.	10	2018 366 pages Outback Mystery
Harper, Jane <i>The survivors</i> 	Kieran Elliott's life changed forever when a reckless mistake led to devastating consequences. The guilt that still haunts him resurfaces during a visit with his young family to the small coastal community he once called home. Kieran's parents are struggling in a town where fortunes are forged by the sea. Between them all is his absent brother, Finn. When a body is discovered on the beach, long-held secrets threaten to emerge. A sunken wreck, a missing girl, and questions that have never washed away...	10	2020 375 pages Thriller

Heiss, Anita <i>Bila Yarrudhang-galangdhuray: River of Dreams</i>	The powerful Murrumbidgee River surges through town leaving death and destruction in its wake. It is a stark reminder that while the river can give life, it can just as easily take it away. Wagadhaany is one of the lucky ones. She survives. Is her life now better than the fate she escaped? Forced to move away from her miyagan, she walks through each day with no trace of dance in her step, her broken heart forever calling her back home to Gundagai. When she meets Wiradyuri stockman Yindyamarra, her heart slowly begins to heal, but still, she dreams of a better life, away from the degradation of being owned. She longs to set out along the river of her ancestors, in search of lost family and country. Can she find the courage to defy the white man's law? If she does, will it bring hope - or heartache? Set on timeless Wiradyuri country, where the life-giving waters of the rivers can make or break dreams, and based on devastating true events, <i>Bila Yarrudhanggalangdhuray (River of Dreams)</i> is an epic story of love, loss and belonging.	10	2023 <i>376 pages</i> Australian Indigenous Historical Fiction
			
Hepworth, Sally <i>The Good Sister</i>	Fern Castle works in her local library. She has dinner with her twin sister Rose three nights a week. And she avoids crowds, bright lights and loud noises as much as possible. Fern has a carefully structured life and disrupting her routine can be ... dangerous. When Rose discovers that she cannot fall pregnant, Fern sees her chance to pay her sister back for everything Rose has done for her. Fern can have a baby for Rose. She just needs to find a father. Simple. Fern's mission will shake the foundations of the life she has carefully built for herself and stir up dark secrets from the past, in this quirky, rich and shocking story of unexpected love.	10	2020 <i>328 pages</i>
Hirsi Ali, Ayaan <i>Nomad</i>	Following on from Infidel, this the story of Ayaan Hirsi Ali's physical and emotional journey to freedom, as she arrives in the US to build a new life, an ocean away from the death threats made against her by European Islamists. Through stories of the challenges she has faced, she shows the difficulty of reconciling the contradictions of Islam with Western values.	10	2010 <i>274 pages</i> Memoir Islam Non Fiction
Hislop, Victoria <i>The Island</i>	On the brink of a life-changing decision, Alexis Fielding longs to find out about her mother's past. But Sofia has never spoken of it. All she admits to is growing up in a small Cretan village, before moving to London. When Alexis decides to visit Crete, Sofia gives her a letter to take to an old friend and promises that through her she will learn more. On the former leper colony of Spinalonga she finds Fotini, and at last hears the story that Sofia has buried all her life; the tale of her great-grandmother Eleni and her daughters, and a family rent by tragedy, war and passion.	10	2005 <i>490 pages</i> Thriller Romance
Hoeg, Peter <i>Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow</i>	A little boy falls off a roof in Copenhagen and is killed. Smilla, his neighbour, suspects it is not an accident: she has seen his footsteps in the snow, and, having been brought up by her mother, a Greenlander, she has a feeling for snow.	10	1992 <i>410 pages</i> Crime fiction
Hoffman, Alice <i>The marriage of opposites</i>	Set on an idyllic island in the Carribean and in the lamplit streets of Paris, Rachel is an extraordinary woman who becomes the mother of Camille Passarro, one of France's greatest artists...	10	2015 <i>362 pages</i> Historical fiction
Honeyman, Gail <i>Eleanor Oliphant is completely fine</i>	Eleanor Oliphant has learned how to survive but not how to live. Eleanor Oliphant leads a simple life. She wears the same clothes to work every day, eats the same meal deal for lunch every day and buys the same two bottles of vodka to drink every weekend. Eleanor Oliphant is happy. Nothing is missing from her carefully timetabled life. Except, sometimes, everything. One simple act of kindness is about to shatter the walls Eleanor has built around herself. Now she must learn how to navigate the world that everyone else seems to take for granted - while searching for the courage to face the dark corners she's avoided all her life. Change can be good. Change can be bad. But surely any change should be better than... fine ?	10	2017 <i>383 pages</i> Relationships Social - isolation Women


<p>Hooper, Chloe <i>The arsonist: a mind on fire</i> </p>	<p>On the scorching February day in 2009 that became known as Black Saturday, a man lit two fires in Victoria's Latrobe Valley, then sat on the roof of his house to watch the inferno. In the Valley, where the rates of crime were the highest in the state, more than 30 people were known to police as firebugs. But the detectives found themselves on the trail of a man they didn't know. <i>The Arsonist</i> takes readers on the hunt for this man, and inside the strange puzzle of his mind. It is also the story of fire in this country, and of a community that owed its existence to that very element. The command of fire has defined and sustained us as a species – understanding its abuse will define our future.</p>	10	<p>2018 245 pages Bushfires Australia True Crime Non Fiction</p>
<p>Hope, Rachel <i>Shadows of the Muse</i> </p>	<p>This story spans the Georgian and early Victorian times and follows the lives of several young women who attended the Reading School for Girls in Britain. Many pupils are inspired to become authors but they have many challenges...the dilemmas faced by these gifted individuals continues to confound – the twist and turns of fate they experienced would daunt the most fearless of us.</p>		<p>2021 158 pages Historical fiction</p>
<p>Horowitz, Anthony <i>The House of Silk</i></p>	<p>In London, November 1890, Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson are enjoying tea by the fire when a agitated gentleman arrives unannounced at 221B Baker Street. He begs for help because of a scar faced stalker which takes Holmes and Watson through a series of puzzling and sinister events from London to Boston searching for the answer to a mysterious entity called 'the House of Silk'.</p>	10	<p>2011 294 pages Historical fiction</p>
<p>Howey, Hugh <i>Wool</i></p>	<p>In a ruined and hostile landscape, in a future where a few have been unlucky enough to survive, a community exists in a giant underground silo. Inside men and women live an enclosed life full of rules and regulations. But some chose not to conform.</p>		<p>2013 561 pages Science Fiction</p>
<p>Hughes, Kathryn <i>George Eliot: The Last Victorian</i></p>	<p>Mary Ann Evans, aka George Eliot (1819-1880) achieved lasting renown with the novels <i>Silas Marner</i>, <i>Middlemarch</i>, and <i>Adam Bede</i>. Her masterworks were written after years of living an unconventional life, including a scandalous voyage to Europe with the married writer and editor George Henry Lewes. The scandal intensified when she moved in with Lewes after he separated from his wife. Eliot re-entered London's social life years later, when her literary success made it impossible for respectable society to dismiss her (even Queen Victoria enjoyed her books). She counted among her friends and supporters Dickens, Trollope, and several other Victorian literati. In this intimate biography, author Hughes provides insight into Eliot's life and work, weighing Eliot's motivations for her controversial actions, and examining the paradoxical Victorian society which she documented to perfection in her novels. <i>(Description from Angus & Robertson)</i></p>	10	<p>1998 488 pages Non Fiction</p>
<p>Isaacson, Walter <i>The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing and the Future of the Human Race</i></p>	<p>When Jennifer Doudna was in sixth grade, she came home one day to find that her dad had left a paperback titled <i>The Double Helix</i> on her bed. She put it aside, thinking it was one of those detective tales she loved. When she read it on a rainy Saturday, she discovered she was right, in a way. As she sped through the pages, she became enthralled by the intense drama behind the competition to discover the code of life. Even though her high school counselor told her girls didn't become scientists, she decided she would. Driven by a passion to understand how nature works and to turn discoveries into inventions, she would help to make what the book's author, James Watson, told her was the most important biological advance since his codiscovery of the structure of DNA. She and her collaborators turned a curiosity of nature into an invention that will transform the human race: an easy-to-use tool that can edit DNA. Known as CRISPR, it opened a brave new world of medical miracles and moral questions. The development of CRISPR and the race to create vaccines for coronavirus will hasten our transition to the next great innovation revolution. The past half-century has been a digital age, based on the microchip, computer, and internet. Now we are entering a life-science revolution. Children who study digital coding will be joined by those who study genetic code. <i>(Description from Booktopia)</i></p>	10	<p>2021 481 pages Non Fiction</p>





Ishiguro, Kazuo <i>Never Let Me Go</i>	Shortlisted for 2005 Booker Prize for Fiction – Kathy, Ruth and Tommy were pupils at Hailsham – an idyllic establishment deep in the English countryside. The children there were tenderly sheltered from the outside world, brought up to believe they were special, and that their personal welfare was crucial. But why were they really there? It is only years later that Kathy, now thirty-one, allows herself to yield to the pull of memory. What unfolds is a haunting story of how Kathy, Ruth and Tommy slowly come to face the truth about their seemingly happy childhoods – and about their futures.	10	2005 263 pages Science Fiction
Ivey, Eowyn <i>The Snow Child</i>	Alaska, 1920: a brutal place to homestead, and especially tough for recent arrivals Jack and Mabel. Childless, they are drifting apart – he is struggling to maintain the farm; she’s crumbling from loneliness and despair. In a moment of levity during the season’s first snowfall, they build a child out of snow. The next morning the snow child is gone—but they glimpse a young, blonde-haired girl running through the trees. This little girl, who calls herself Faina, seems to be a child of the woods. She hunts with a red fox at her side, skims lightly across the snow, and somehow survives alone in the Alaskan wilderness. As Jack and Mabel struggle to understand this child, they come to love her as their own daughter. But in this beautiful, violent place things are rarely as they appear, and what they eventually learn about Faina will transform all of them.	10	2012 386 pages Historical fiction
Jackson, Holly <i>The good girl’s guide to murder</i>	The case is closed. Five years ago, schoolgirl Andie Bell was murdered by Sal Singh. The police know he did it. Everyone in town knows he did it. But having grown up in the same small town Pippa isn’t so sure.	10	2019 433 pages Crime Thriller
Jaku, Eddie <i>The Happiest Man on Earth</i>	Life can be beautiful if you make it beautiful. It is up to you. Eddie Jaku always considered himself a German first, a Jew second. He was proud of his country. But all of that changed in November 1938, when he was beaten, arrested and taken to a concentration camp. Over the next seven years, Eddie faced unimaginable horrors every day, first in Buchenwald, then in Auschwitz, then on a Nazi death march. He lost family, friends, his country. Because he survived, Eddie made the vow to smile every day. He pays tribute to those who were lost by telling his story, sharing his wisdom and living his best possible life. He now believes he is the 'happiest man on earth'. Published as Eddie turns 100, this is a powerful, heartbreaking and ultimately hopeful memoir of how happiness can be found even in the darkest of times.	10	2020 208 pages Biography Non Fiction
James, Clive <i>Unreliable Memoirs</i> 	“I was born in 1939. The other big event of that year was the outbreak of the Second World War, but for the moment, that did not affect me.’ In the first instalment of Clive James’s memoirs, we meet the young Clive, dressed in short trousers, and wrestling with the demands of school, various relatives and the occasional snake, in the suburbs of post-war Sydney.”	10	1980 182 pages Non fiction Auto-biography
James, P.D. <i>The Lighthouse</i>	The eagerly awaited successor to the international bestseller <i>The Murder Room</i> . Combe Island, off the Cornish coast, has a bloodstained history of piracy and cruelty but now, privately owned, it offers respite to over-stressed men and women in positions of high authority who require privacy and guaranteed security. But the peace of Combe is violated when one of the distinguished visitors is bizarrely murdered.	10	2005 400 pages Mystery
Janson, Julie <i>Benevolence</i> 	Muraging (Mary James) was born during the early 1800s in the Hawkesbury River area, New South Wales. At an early age Muraging is given to the Paramatta Native School where she is handed a new name and schooled in white man’s ways. Her life is one of love and longing, punctuated by impossible choices and ambiguities as she faces the reality of living in two worlds – and the double-edged sword of benevolence. This novel gives a true Aboriginal perspective of an important era in Australia’s history.	10	2020 356 pages Australian history


Jonasson, Jonas <i>The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out Of The Window And Disappeared</i>	Sitting quietly in his room in an old people's home, Allan Karlsson is waiting for a party he doesn't want to begin. His one-hundredth birthday party to be precise. The Mayor will be there. The press will be there. But, as it turns out, Allan will not. Escaping (in his slippers) through his bedroom window and into the flowerbed, Allan makes his getaway. And so begins his picaresque and unlikely journey involving criminals, several murders, a suitcase full of cash, and incompetent police. As his escapades unfold, Allan's earlier life is revealed. A life in which - remarkably - he played a key role behind the scenes in some of the momentous events of the twentieth century!	10	2009 <i>385 pages</i> Humour
Jones, Tony <i>The twentieth man</i> 	He was the only one left alive. Now it was his turn to die. In September 1972, Anna Rosen takes an early morning phone call from her boss at the ABC telling her about two bombings in Sydney's busy CBD. It's the worst terrorist attack in the country's history and Anna has no doubt which group is responsible for the carnage. She has been investigating the role of alleged war criminals in the globally active Ustasha movement. High in the Austrian Alps, Marin Katich is one of twenty would-be revolutionaries who slip stealthily over the border into Yugoslavia on a mission planned and funded in Australia. It will have devastating consequences for all involved. Soon the arrival in Australia of Yugoslavia's prime minister will trigger the next move in a deadly international struggle.	10	2017 <i>480 pages</i> Non fiction
Jordan, Toni <i>Addition</i> 	Grace Lisa Vandenburg counts. The letters in her name (19). The steps she takes every morning to the local café (920), the number of poppy seeds on her slice of orange cake, which dictates the number of bites she will take to finish it. Grace counts everything, because numbers hold the world together. Seamus Joseph O'Reilly (also a 19, with the sexiest hands Grace has ever seen) thinks she might be better off not counting. If she could hold down a job, say. Or open her kitchen cupboards without conducting an inventory or make a sandwich containing an unknown number of sprouts. Grace's problem is that Seamus doesn't count. Her other problem is ... he does.	10	2008 <i>217 pages</i> Contemporary romance
Joyce, Rachel <i>The unlikely pilgrimage of Harold Fry</i>	When Harold Fry nips out one morning to post a letter, leaving his wife hoovering upstairs, he has no idea that he is about to walk from one end of the country to the other. He has no hiking boots or map, let alone a compass, waterproof or mobile phone. All he knows is that he must keep walking. To save someone else's life.	10	2012 <i>357 pages</i> Humour
Jukes, Helen <i>The Honeybee heart has five Openings</i>	Entering her thirties, Helen Jukes feels trapped in an urban grind of office politics and temporary addresses – disconnected, stressed. Struggling to settle into her latest job and home in Oxford, she realises she needs to effect a change if she's to create a meaningful life for herself. Then friends give her the gift of a colony of honeybees and Helen embarks on her first full year of beekeeping. But what does it mean to 'keep' wild creatures? In learning about the bees, what can she learn of herself? And can travelling inside the hive free her outside it? As Helen grapples with her role in the delicate, awe-inspiring ecosystem of the hive, the very act of keeping seems to open up new perspectives, deepen friendships old and new, and make her world come alive. A Honeybee Heart Has Five Openings is at once a fascinating exploration of the honeybee and the hive, the practices of honey-gathering and the history of our observation of bees; and a beautifully wrought meditation on responsibility and care, on vulnerability and trust, on forging bonds and breaking new ground. "A profound, funny and deeply moving book".	10	2018 <i>283 pages</i> Biography Non Fiction
Kawaguchi, Toshikazu <i>Before the Coffee Gets Cold</i>	In a small back alley in Tokyo, there is a café which has been serving carefully brewed coffee for more than 100 years. But this coffee shop offers its customers a unique experience; the chance to travel back in time.	10	2019 <i>213 pages</i> Magic realism Time travel


Keegan, Claire <i>Small things like these</i> 	Winner of the Kerry Group Irish Novel of the Year and the Orwell Prize for Political Fiction. It is not known how many girls and women were concealed, incarcerated and forced to launder in these institutions. Based on the Magdalene Laundries in 1985 as Bill does his deliveries he feels the past rising up to meet him – and encounters the complicit silences of a small community controlled by the Church.	10	2021 <i>110 pages</i> Historical Fiction
Kelly, Cathy <i>Secrets of a happy marriage</i>	A family gathering, a moment of celebration, a time to come together - and fall apart... Recently married Bess should be blissfully happy, but as she plans a party for her husband, the cracks are beginning to show. Jojo, Bess's stepdaughter, has a point to make: Bess has swept into her father's life but she won't ever replace Jojo's late beloved mother. Cousin Cari is a strong career-woman who isn't unnerved by anything - apart from facing the man who left her at the altar - and he's on the guest list! As the party brings them all together, can the Brannigans discover the secrets of a happy marriage before it is too late? A comforting feel good read...	10	2017 <i>320 Pages</i> Domestic fiction
Keneally, Tom <i>the dickens boy</i>	In the late 1800s the tenth child of Charles Dickens, aged 16, is sent to Australia to learn to become a man and a gentleman stockman. In the outback he becomes involved with colonists, ex-convicts, ex-soldiers, bushrangers and very few women. He carries a terrible secret. He has never read a word of his father's work. He meets extraordinary people and has wonderful adventures as he works to prove himself.	10	2020 <i>390 pages</i> Historical Fiction
Kennedy, Louise <i>Trespases</i> 	There is nothing special about the day Cushla meets Michael, a married man from Belfast, in the pub owned by her family. But here, love is never far from violence and this encounter will change both of their lives forever.	10	2022 <i>309 pages</i> Political fiction
Kent, Hannah <i>Burial Rites</i> 	In northern Iceland, 1829, Agnes Magnúsdóttir is condemned to death for her part in the brutal murder of two men. Agnes is sent to wait out the time leading to her execution on the farm of District Officer Jon Jonsson, his wife and their two daughters. Horrified to have a convicted murderer in their midst, the family avoids speaking with Agnes. Only Toti, the young Assistant Reverend appointed as Agnes' spiritual guardian, is compelled to try to understand her, while he attempts to salvage her soul.	10	2013 <i>338 pages</i> Crime
Kent, Hannah <i>Devotion</i> 	Hannah Nussbaum is a child of nature. She would rather run wild in the forest than conform to the limitations of womanhood. The Nussbaum's are Old Lutheran's who flee religious persecution and board a ship bound for the new colony of South Australia.	10	2021 <i>413 pages</i> Relationships Historical fiction
Kent, Hannah <i>The Good People</i> 	Nóra Leahy has lost her daughter and her husband in the same year, and is now burdened with the care of her four-year-old grandson, Micheál. The boy cannot walk, or speak, and Nora, mistrustful of the tongues of gossips, has kept the child hidden from those who might see in his deformity evidence of otherworldly interference. Unable to care for the child alone, Nóra hires a fourteen-year-old servant girl, Mary, who soon hears the whispers in the valley about the blasted creature causing grief to fall upon the widow's house. Alone, hedged in by rumour, Mary and her mistress seek out the only person in the valley who might be able to help Micheál. (Donated Bookset)	10	2016 <i>330 pages</i> Crime



Kidd, Sue Monk <i>The Book of Longings</i>	Ana is born in Galilee at a time when women are seen as possessions, only leaving their fathers' homes to marry. Ana longs to control her destiny. Taught to read despite her mother's misgivings, she wants to be a writer and to find her own voice. A voice that will speak for the silenced women around her. Betrothed to an elderly widower, Ana almost despairs. But an encounter with a charismatic young carpenter in Nazareth named Jesus awakens new longings in her, and opens up a different future. Yet this is not a simple love story. Ana's journey will bring both joy and tragedy, but it will also be enriched by the female friendships she makes along the way. Questions and answers by Sue Monk Kidd are at the back of the book.	10	2020 407 pages Historical Fiction
Kidd, Sue Monk <i>The Invention of Wings</i>	Handful's always been trouble. A slave in the Grimke household like her beloved mother Charlotte, Handful knows the rules, in all their brutality, but no one can stop her pushing them to the limit. When, at ten year old, she's presented to her owner's most difficult daughter, Sarah, as a birthday present, the sparks begin to fly.	10	2014 437 pages American Women's rights
Killens, Sharyn & Lewis, Lindsayome <i>The inconvenient child: an abandoned Australian child struggles to survive and find her African American father</i>	It is 1948, Sydney. Pretty, blonde Grace discovers she is pregnant to a black merchant marine that has sailed back to America. The White Australia Policy is in place and society's judgment matters so what will Grace do with this baby? This is the true story of Sharyn Killens, the inconvenient child, who at the age of five was abandoned to an orphanage by her elegant mother but later sets out in search of her roots, a quest taking her across the world.	10	2009 386 pages Racially mixed Australia Biography
Kim, Eunsun <i>A thousand miles to freedom</i>	A thousand miles to freedom: my escape from North Korea is the story of a girl who survived all odds and is now joyously free. Eunsun Kim grew up in North Korea, by the age of eleven she had fled her country together with her mother and sister. Unknowingly she'd begun a nine-year journey that led to her freedom. Today she lives with her husband in South Korea, where she is pursuing her master's degree and working for an NGO promoting human rights in North Korea.	10	2012 228 pages Non Fiction
King, Stephen <i>Fairy Tale</i>	A terrify tale about another world. Charlie Reade looks like a regular high school kid, great at baseball and football, a decent student. But he carries a heavy load. His mom was killed in a hit-and-run accident when he was ten, and grief drove his dad to drink. Charlie learned how to take care of himself - and his dad. Then, when Charlie is 17, he meets a dog named Radar and his ageing master, Howard Bowditch, a recluse in a big house at the top of a big hill, with a locked shed in the backyard. Sometimes strange sounds emerge from it. Then, when Bowditch dies, he leaves Charlie a cassette tape telling a story no one would believe. What Bowditch knows, and has kept secret all his long life, is that inside the shed is a portal to another world.	10	2022 577 pages Horror
Kingsolver, Barbara <i>The Bean Trees</i>	Plucky Taylor Greer grows up in rural Kentucky with two goals: to avoid pregnancy and to get away. She succeeds on both counts when she buys an old car and heads west. But midway across the country motherhood catches up with her when she becomes guardian of an abandoned baby girl she calls Turtle. In Tucson they encounter an extraordinary array of people, and with their help Taylor builds herself and her sweet, stunned child a life.	10	1988 232 pages Humour Travel




Kingsolver, Barbara <i>Demon Copperhead</i>	<i>Pulitzer Prize and Winner of the Women's Prize for Fiction 2023</i> Demon's story begins with his traumatic birth to a single mother in a single-wide trailer, looking "like a little blue prizefighter". For the life ahead of him he will need all of that fighting spirit, along with buckets of charm, a quick wit, and some unexpected talents, legal and otherwise.	10	2022 548 pages Historical Domestic fiction
Kingsolver, Barbara <i>Prodigal Summer</i>	The story of two women from the Appalachian farming community whose lives are profoundly changed over the course of one summer. Deanna, a reclusive forest ranger, is caught off guard by a young hunter and must decide whether to sacrifice her solitary life for love. And Lusa, left widowed by a terrible accident after only one year of marriage, discovers the possibilities in the acres of land which her husband has left her. A few miles down the road are her neighbours with their own stories. These characters find not only their connections to each other but a sense of the beautiful fragile land which they share.	10	2000 447 Pages Mountain life Farm life
Kingsolver, Barbara <i>Unsheltered</i>	Meet Willa Knox, a woman who stands braced against a world which seems to hold little mercy for her and her family- or their old, crumbling house, falling down around them. When Willa discovers that a pioneering scientist lived on the same street in the 1800's, could this historical connection be enough to save their home from ruin?	10	2018 521 pages Historical Domestic fiction
Klune, TJ <i>The House in the Cerulean Sea</i>	Linus Baker leads a quiet life. At 40, he has a tiny house with a devious cat for company. And at the Department in Charge of Magical Youth he spent many dull years monitoring their orphangaes. One day Linus is summmoned by Extremely Upper Management and given a highly classified assignment...	10	2020 398 pages Young Adult Fantasy
Knox, Malcolm <i>Jamaica</i> 	A group of six friends converge on the island of Jamaica to compete in a marathon relay swim across treacherous water. Most have known each other since school, scions of wealth, breeding and privilege and members of the upper echelons of supposedly classless Sydney. The odd man out is new money Jeremy Hutchinson (Hut) who is tolerated by the group because of the fortune he has made, but never really accepted. It's a group of people on the edge of crisis, none more so than Hut, who is guarding a terrible truth...	10	2007 388 pages Domestic fiction
Knox, Malcolm <i>Secrets of the Jury Room</i>	Juries are the hinge of our justice system, yet we know almost nothing about them. The jury is a very secret cabal, protected by the law of parliament that prevents outsiders from soliciting jurors' stories and the law of human fear that dissuades jurors from identifying themselves. From the extraordinary account of a dramatic murder trial and the equally remarkable story of how 12 vastly different people, brought together by chance and given the power to decide one man's future, can find common ground. Knox shows how the jury system can work, despite the failures of the system that undermine it.	9	2005 317 pages Non Fiction Law Out of Print
Koch, Herman <i>The Dinner</i>	Paul Lohman and his brother Serge and their wives are going out to dinner. Paul knows the evening will not be fun. The restaurant will be overpriced and pretentious, and almost everything the charismatic Serge does will infuriate him. When the small talk is over, the conversation will turn to their teenage sons and the terrible thing they have done. And how far the four of them will go to save their children from the consequences of the actions. (Donated Bookset)	10	2009 309 pages Thriller
Krasnostein, Sarah <i>The Trauma Cleaner</i>	Winner of the 2018 <i>Dobbie Literary Award</i> . Sandra Pankhurst founded her trauma cleaning business to help people whose emotional scars are written on their houses. From the forgotten flat of a drug addict to the infested home of a hoarder, Sandra enters properties and lives at the same time. But few of the people she looks after know anything of the complexity of Sandra's own life. Raised in an uncaring home, Sandra's miraculous gift for warmth and humour in the face of unspeakable personal tragedy mark her out as a one-off. (Source: Goodreads)	10	2018 291 pages Non-Fiction

<p>Kuang, Rebecca F. Yellowface </p>	<p>White lies. Dark humour. Deadly consequences... Bestselling sensation Juniper Song is not who she says she is, she didn't write the book she claims she wrote and she is most certainly not Asian American. In this chilling and hilariously cutting novel authors June Hayward and Athena Liu were supposed to be twin rising stars. But Athena's a literary darling. June Hayward is literally nobody. Who wants stories about basic white girls, June thinks. So when June witnesses Athena's death in a freak accident, she acts on impulse: she steals Athena's just-finished masterpiece, an experimental novel about the unsung contributions of Chinese labourers during World War 1</p>	10	<p>2023 319 pages Psychological fiction</p>
<p>Laguna, Sofie The Choke</p>	<p>Abandoned by her mother and only occasionally visited by her secretive father, Justine is raised by her pop, a man tormented by visions of the Burma Railway. Justine finds sanctuary in Pop's chooks and The Choke, where the banks of the Murray River are so narrow it seems they might touch - a place of staggering natural beauty. But the river can't protect Justine from danger. Her father is a criminal, and the world he exposes her to can be lethal. Justine is overlooked and underestimated, a shy and often silent observer of her chaotic world. She learns that she has to make sense of it on her own. She has to find ways to survive so much neglect. She must hang on to friendship when it comes, she must hide when she has to, and ultimately she must fight back.</p>	10	<p>2017 369 pages Domestic fiction</p>
<p>Laguna, Sofie The eye of the sheep </p>	<p>Meet Jimmy Flick. He's not like other kids. He finds a lot of the adult world impossible to understand - especially why his Dad gets so angry with him. Jimmy's mother Paula is the only one who can manage him. She teaches him how to count sheep so that he can fall sleep. She holds him tight enough to stop his cells spinning. It is only Paula who can keep Jimmy out of his father's way. When Jimmy's world falls apart, he has no one else to turn to. He alone has to navigate the unfathomable world.</p>	10	<p>2014 311 pages Dysfunctional families</p>
<p>Landay, William Defending Jacob </p>	<p>Andy Barber's job is to put killers behind bars. So when a boy from his son Jacob's school is found stabbed to death, Andy is doubly determined to find and prosecute the perpetrator. Until a crucial piece of evidence turns up linking Jacob to the murder. In the face of every parent's worst nightmare, Andy and his wife Laurie will do anything to defend their child. Because, deep down, they know him better than anyone. Don't they?</p>	10	<p>2012 494 pages Mystery Crime</p>
<p>Laveau-Harvie, Vicki The Erratics</p>	<p><i>Finch Memoir Prize</i> - When her elderly mother is hospitalised after an accident, Vicki and her sister travel to their parents' isolated ranch home in Alberta, Canada, to help their father. Estranged from their parents for many years, Vicki and her sister are horrified by what they discover on their arrival. For years their mother has camouflaged her manic delusions and savage unpredictability, and over the decades she has managed to shut herself and her husband from the outside world systematically starving him and making him a virtual prisoner in his own home. Vicki and her sister have a lot to do, in very little time. And they have to contend with their mother whose favourite phrase during their childhood years was 'I'll get you and you won't even know I'm doing it'. A sharp, darkly funny and wholly compelling memoir - it will take your breath away.</p>	10	<p>2018 217 pages Family relationships Mental Health Non Fiction Autobiography</p>
<p>Lay, Graeme The Secret Life of James Cook</p>	<p>A fictionalised account of the famous navigator's early naval career, his marriage to Elizabeth and their family life. Graeme examines the relationship between James and his equally remarkable wife, Elizabeth, the woman he married when he was 34 and she 21, and by whom he had six children, all born while he was away at sea. Depicts the often-stormy relationship between the self-made English naval commander Joseph Banks, who accompanied Cook on his first world voyage. 'Feeling the chill of the breeze on his face, James lifted his chin to the wind. This was it, the real beginning...'</p>	10	<p>2013 365 pages Adventure</p>
<p>Le, Nam The Boat </p>	<p>2009 NSW Premier's Literary Award Book of the Year - A stunningly inventive, deeply moving fiction debut: stories that take us from the slums of Colombia to the streets of Tehran; from New York City to Iowa City; from a tiny fishing village in Australia to a foundering vessel in the South China Sea, in a masterful display of literary virtuosity and feeling. An extraordinary work of fiction that takes us to the heart of what it means to be human, and announces a writer of astonishing gifts.</p>	10	<p>2008 Short stories</p>





Lee, Bri <i>Who gets to be smart: privilege, power and knowledge</i> 	Visiting a friend at Oxford and Rhodes House, Bri questions her belief in the education system (in Australia) that she previously revered.	10	2021 <i>272 pages</i> <i>Intelligence</i>
Lee, Harper <i>Go Set A Watchman</i>	Twenty six year old Scout returns home from New York City to visit her ageing father, Atticus. Set against the backdrop of the civil rights tensions this novel captures a young woman, and a world, in painful yet necessary transition out of the illusions of the past, a journey that can be guided only by one's own conscience.	10	2015 <i>278 pages</i> Race Class Historical fiction
Lee, Harper <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	<i>1961 Pulitzer Prize winner</i> - The classic story of a black man charged with the rape of a white girl and a town steeped in prejudice. Set in Maycomb, Alabama this is an enchanting, intensely moving story as seen through the eyes of Scout and Jem Finch. At the age of eight, Scout Finch is an entrenched free-thinker. She can accept her father's warning that it is a sin to kill a mockingbird, because mockingbird harms no one and gives great pleasure. The time is the Depression, but Scout and her brother, Jem, are seldom depressed. Their father Atticus is a man of unfaltering good will and humour, and partly because of this, the children become involved in some disturbing adult mysteries.	10 + CD	1960 <i>309 pages</i> Classic
Lee, Min Jin <i>Pachinko</i>	Yeongdo, Korea 1911. A club-footed, cleft-lipped man marries a fifteen-year-old girl. The couple have one child their beloved daughter Sunja. When Sunja falls pregnant by a married yakuza the family face ruin...	10	2017 <i>531 pages</i> Historical fiction
Lefevre, Carol <i>The Tower</i>	Widowed after a long marriage, Dorelia MacCraith swaps the family home for a house with a tower, and there, raised above the run of daily life, sets out to rewrite the stories of old women poorly treated by literature. Throughout this winding story, Dorelia and the elderly artist Elizabeth Bunting are sustained by a friendship that reaches back to their years at art school, and bonded by the secrets of a six-month period when they painted together in France. The loneliness of not belonging, of being cut adrift by grief, betrayal, or old age, binds these 12 connected stories into a dazzling composite novel. (Description by Booktopia)	10	2022 <i>250 pages</i> Psychological
Lefteri, Christy <i>The beekeeper of Aleppo</i>	In the midst of war, he found love. In the midst of tragedy, he found hope. What will you find from his story? Travel with Nuri to safety...	10	2019 <i>360 pages</i> Refugees Historical fiction
Legge, Kate <i>The Marriage Club</i>	On Monday, Leith Kremmer's book-club friends meet in her lounge room, catch up and indulge in her champagne supper. Upstairs, Leith's husband George practices his golf swing. The next morning Leith is dead under suspicious circumstances. One week later George, a family court judge, has delved into his marriage in a desperate attempt to comprehend her death. Leith's friends, in examining their own marriages, have emerged far from unscathed.	8	Out of Print 2009 <i>292 pages</i> Crime
Le Guin, Ursula K <i>Left Hand of Darkness</i>	Love doesn't just sit there, like a stone, it has to be made, like bread: remade all the time, made new.	10	2018 <i>304 pages</i> Sci-Fi


Li, Mary <i>Mary's last dance</i>	Mary Li is an international ballet star and a mother like no other. She became a household name when her husband Li Cuxin published his bestselling memoir, <i>Mao's last dancer</i> . But that is only half the story. The couple were the darlings of the dance world and were happier than they could have imagined at the arrival of their firstborn daughter, Sophie. Then at the height of her international career, Mary seemingly disappeared from view...	10	2020 464 pages Non Fiction Memoir Ballet
Lindsay, Hilarie <i>The washerwoman's dream</i>	Winifred Steger travelled to Australia with her father in the 1880s when he took up a land grant in north Queensland. The grant proved to be worthless, and faced with poverty, endless backbreaking work and isolation, Winifred's father spiraled into depression and alcoholism. Left to fend for herself, Winifred battled insurmountable odds to maintain her dignity and sanity, finding solace in writing to ease her hardship. Fleeing an abusive marriage also meant the heartbreak of abandoning her four children - but then miraculously she found love with an Indian trader, Ali. Winifred bore him children and the family moved to outback Australia where they ran a camel line. A new phase began in Winifred's life, taking her to places she had only ever dreamed of. This is a story of an extraordinary woman with an indomitable spirit, and is now an enduring Australian classic.	10	2002 496 pages Biography Non Fiction
Llewellyn, Kate <i>A Fig at the Gate: the joys of friendship, gardening and the gaining of wisdom</i> 	Following the joyful crafting of her gardens in the Blue Mountains and north of Wollongong, Kate creates a new garden near the sea in Adelaide, planting olives, plums, limes and blood oranges, learning how to keep poultry, setting a duck on eggs. Delight and enrichment come with the learning of new skills, being close to family and old friends, long companionable beach walks, rediscovering old recipes, food and wine.	10	2014 297 pages Non fiction South Australia Friendship
Lockhart, Emily <i>Genuine fraud</i>	Imogen is an heiress, a runaway and a cheat. Jule is a fighter, a chameleon, and a liar. Imogen has done with pretending to be perfect, and Jule refuses to go back to the person she once was. Their intense friendship takes a dark turn.	10	2017 262 pages Thriller
Lodge, David <i>Deaf Sentence</i>	When the university merged his Department of English with Linguistics, Professor Desmond Bates took early retirement, but he is not enjoying it. He misses the routine of the academic year and he has lost his appetite for research. His wife Winifred's late-flowering career goes from strength to strength, reducing his role to that of escort, and the monotony of his days are relieved only by wearisome journeys to London to check on his aged father. But these discontents are nothing compared to the affliction of hearing loss -- a constant source of domestic friction and social embarrassment, leading Desmond into mistakes, misunderstandings and follies. It might be comic for others, but for the deaf person himself, it is no joke.	10	2008 307 pages Psychological fiction
Lohrey, Amanda <i>The Labyrinth</i>	Erica Marsden's son, an artist, has been imprisoned for homicidal negligence. In a state of grief, Erica cuts off all ties to family and friends, and retreats to a quiet hamlet on the south-east coast near the prison where her son is serving his sentence. There, in a rundown shack, she obsesses over creating a labyrinth by the ocean. To build it-to find a way out of her quandary, Erica will need the help of strangers. And that will require her to trust, and to reckon with her past.	10	2020 246 pages Psychological fiction
London, Joan <i>The Golden Age</i>	It is 1954 and thirteen-year-old Frank Gold, refugee from wartime Hungary, is learning to walk again after contracting polio in Australia. At the Golden Age Children's Polio Convalescent Home in Perth, he sees Elsa, a fellow patient, and they form a forbidden, passionate bond. The Golden Age becomes the little world that reflects the larger one, where everything occurs- love and desire, music, death, and poetry. It is a place where children must learn they're alone, even within their families.	10	2014 226 pages Historical fiction Romance



MacDougall, Kate London's No.1 Dog-Walking Agency 	In her mid twenties Kate MacDougall feels stuck just as most of her friends are whooshing up career ladders. Deciding on a whim to quit her snoozy office job she enters the unknown world of gig economy and sets about establishing a dog-walking agency.	10	2021 367 pages Memoir
Macintyre Ben A spy among friends: Philby and the great betrayal	Kim Philby was the greatest spy in history, a brilliant and charming man who rose to head Britain's counterintelligence against the Soviet Union during the height of the Cold War--while he was secretly working for the enemy. And nobody thought he knew Philby like Nicholas Elliott, Philby's best friend and fellow officer in MI6. The two men had gone to the same schools, belonged to the same exclusive clubs, grown close through the crucible of wartime intelligence work and long nights of drink and revelry. It was madness for one to think the other might be a communist spy, bent on subverting Western values and the power of the free world. But Philby was secretly betraying his friend. Every word Elliott breathed to Philby was transmitted back to Moscow--and not just Elliott's words, for in America, Philby had made another powerful friend: James Jesus Angleton, the crafty, paranoid head of CIA counterintelligence. Angleton's and Elliott's unwitting disclosures helped Philby sink almost every important Anglo-American spy operation for twenty years, leading countless operatives to their doom. Even as the web of suspicion closed around him, and Philby was driven to greater lies to protect his cover, his two friends never abandoned him--until it was too late. The stunning truth of his betrayal would have devastating consequences on the two men who thought they knew him best, and on the intelligence services he left crippled in his wake.	10	2014 298 pages Spies - Great Britain Espionage - Russia Non Fiction
Mackinnon, A.J. The Unlikely Voyage of Jack De Crow	A couple of weeks sailing on the River Severn was the intention. Somehow, things got out of hand. A year later, I had reached Romania and was still going. Travel with Sandy from the borders of north Wales to the Black Sea and enjoy the adventure.	10	2002 355 pages Sailing Non Fiction Memoir
Mackrell, Judith The unfinished palazzo	Commissioned in 1750, the Palazzo Venier was planned as a testimony to the power and wealth of a great Venetian family, but the fortunes of the Venier family waned and the project was abandoned with only one storey complete. Empty, unfinished, and in a gradual state of decay, the building was considered an eyesore. Yet in the early 20th century the Unfinished Palazzo's quality of fairytale abandonment, and its potential for transformation, were to attract and inspire three fascinating women at key moments in their lives: Luisa Casati, Doris Castlerosse and Peggy Guggenheim. Each chose the Palazzo Venier as the stage on which to build her own world of art and imagination, surrounded by an amazing supporting cast, from d'Annunzio and Nijinsky, via Noel Coward and Cecil Beaton, to Yoko Ono.	10	2018 388 pages Non Fiction Rich and famous Palaces History
Magarey, Susan & Round, Kerrie Roma the First: A Biography of Dame Roma Mitchell 	Dame Roma Mitchell's life is a story of contradictions....A reformer, she was also a traditionalist. An internationalist, she was also a loyal local. As a woman, she gained authority in a world dominated by men. As generous as she was ambitious, she shines and shines like a good deed in a naughty world.	10	2007 400 pages Non Fiction Biography Australia
Mann, Thomas Death in Venice	A symbol-laden story of aestheticism and decadence, the novella exemplifying regard for Sigmund Freud's writings on the unconscious. This book is mentioned in Colm Toibin's book <i>The Magician</i> which you can find under Toibin in this booklist.		1912 / 2022 72 pages Classic Short story



Mantel, Hilary <i>Bring Up The Bodies</i>	<i>Winner of 2012 Man Booker Prize</i> – The incredibly successful sequel to Wolf Hall. By 1535 Thomas Cromwell, the blacksmith's son, is far from his humble origins. Chief Minister to Henry VIII, his fortunes have risen with those of Anne Boleyn, Henry's second wife, for whose sake Henry has broken with Rome and created his own church. But Henry's actions have forced England into dangerous isolation, and Anne has failed to do what she promised: bear a son to secure the Tudor line. When Henry visits Wolf Hall, Cromwell watches as Henry falls in love with the silent, plain Jane Seymour. As Cromwell eases a way through the sexual politics of the court, its miasma of gossip, he must negotiate a 'truth' that will satisfy Henry and secure his own career. But neither minister nor king will emerge undamaged from the bloody theatre of Anne's final days.	10	2012 407 pages Historical fiction
Marchetta, Melina – <i>Looking for Alibrandi</i> 	"I'll run one day. Run for my life. To be free and think for myself. Not as an Australian and not as an Italian and not as an in-between. I'll run to be emancipated." Josephine Alibrandi is seventeen and in her final year at a privileged girls' school. This is the year she meets her father, the year she falls in love, the year she finds the real truth about her family – and the identity she has been searching for. The year she sets herself free.	10	1992 261 pages Coming-of-age Young Adult
Marchetta, Melina <i>Tell the truth, shame the devil</i>	Chief Inspector Bish Ortley of the London Met, divorced and grieving the death of his son, has been drowning his anger in Scotch. Something has to give and he's no sooner suspended from the force than a busload of British students is hit by a bomb in France. On board is Bish's daughter... a cracking fusion of suspense and heart-rending drama.	10	2016 405 pages Crime
Marsh, Henry <i>Do No Harm</i>	What is it like to be a brain surgeon? How does it feel to hold someone's life in your hands, to cut through the stuff that creates thought, feeling and reason? How do you live with the consequences of performing a potentially life-saving operation when it all goes wrong? <i>Do No Harm</i> is an unforgettable insight into the career of one of the country's leading neurosurgeons, and into the countless human dramas that take place in a busy modern hospital. Above all, it is a lesson in the need for hope when faced with life's most difficult decisions.		2014 290 pages Non Fiction
Marsh, Nigel <i>Fat, Forty and Fired</i> 	Nigel Marsh was a stressed, overweight mortgage slave struggling to balance a high- pressured career running a Sydney advertising agency, a marriage and the demands of four small children under eight. Then the unthinkable happened – he lost his job. After the initial shock (and some unpleasant surgery) Nigel decided to embrace life outside the office and spend a year taking stock. A candid and often hilarious account of what happened next, as he attempts to master the art of hands-on parenting, lose 20 kilos, train for an ocean swimming race and come to terms with the growing realisation that he's an alcoholic.	10	2005 304 pages Non Fiction Memoir Humour
McBride, James <i>Color of Water</i>	McBride's unforgettable memoir tells his mother's brave, eccentric story in her own words. Daughter of a failed orthodox Jewish rabbi in the American South, she ran away to Harlem, became a Baptist, married a black man, raised 12 children and put them all through college. Around her story is McBride's story of his own struggles for identity, and towards faith in a God neither black nor white, but 'the color of water'.	10	1996 291 pages Non Fiction Memoir Racism
McCall Smith, Alexander <i>Blue Shoes and Happiness</i> 	Mma Ramotswe of the No.1 Ladies Detective Agency is looking into a number of troublesome matters. All the time Mma has philosophical questions to consider, such as whether it is right to find happiness in small things like a new pair of blue shoes, a slice of cake or a red sunset over the Kalahari.	10	2006 242 pages Crime


McCann, Colum <i>Apeirogon</i>	Rami and Bassam live in the city of Jerusalem – but exist worlds apart, divided by an age old conflict. And yet they have one thing in common. Both are fathers; both are fathers of daughters – and both daughters are now lost. When Rami and Bassam meet and tell one another the story of their grief they become best of friends and their stories become one story, a story with the power to heal – and the power to change the world.	10	2020 457 pages Political fiction
McCarthy, Cormac <i>The Road</i>	<i>Winner of 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction</i> - A father and young son walk alone through burned America, heading slowly for the coast. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. They have nothing but a pistol to defend themselves against the men who stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food - and each other.	10	2006 307 pages Science fiction
McEwan, Ian <i>Amsterdam</i>	<i>Winner of the 1998 Booker Prize</i> - Gathered at the funeral of Molly Lane – desirable, talented, dead at 46 of an unspecified madness-inducing disease – are her unpopular widow George, a plutocratic publisher and at least three of her lovers. The lovers' lives intersect in unexpected ways after Molly's death with photographs of one cross-dressing are brought to light and another has the power to publish them, while the third feels to publish will betray Molly who took the snaps in private.	10	1998 178 pages Mystery
McEwan, Ian <i>Lessons</i>	While the world is still counting the cost of the Second World War and the Iron Curtain has descended, young Roland Baines' life is turned upside down. Stranded at boarding school, his vulnerability attracts his piano teacher, Miriam Cornell, leaving scars as well as a memory of love that will never fade. Twenty-five years later, as the radiation from the Chernobyl disaster spreads across Europe, Roland's wife mysteriously vanishes and he is forced to confront the reality of his rootless existence and look for answers in his family history. From the fall of the Berlin Wall to the Covid pandemic and climate change, Roland sometimes rides with the tide of history but more often struggles against it. Haunted by lost opportunities, he seeks solace through every possible means -- literature, travel, friendship, drugs, politics, sex and love. His journey raises important questions. Can we take full charge of the course of our lives without damage to others? How do global events beyond our control shape us and our memories? What role do chance and contingency play in our existence? And what can we learn from the traumas of the past? contingency play in our existence? And what can we learn from the traumas of the past?	10	2022 483 pages Literary fiction
McEwan, Ian <i>Nutshell</i>	Trudy has betrayed her husband, John. She's still in the marital home – a dilapidated, priceless London townhouse – but not with John. Instead, she's with his brother, the profoundly banal Claude, and the two of them have a plan. But there is a witness to their plot: the inquisitive, nine-month-old resident of Trudy's womb. Nutshell is a classic tale of murder and deceit from one of the world's master storytellers.	10	2016 Thriller
McEwan, Ian <i>On Chesil Beach</i>	Shortlisted for 2007 Booker Prize for Fiction - It is June, 1962. In a hotel on the Dorset coast, overlooking Chesil each, Edward and Florence, who got married that morning, are sitting down to dinner in their room. Neither is entirely able to suppress their anxieties about the wedding night to come ... another masterwork from Ian McEwan - a story about how the entire course of a life can be changed by a gesture not made or a word not spoken. (<i>Description from Dymocks</i>)	10	2007 166 pages Psychological fiction
McEwan, Ian <i>Saturday</i>	Henry Perowne is a contented man – a successful neurosurgeon, happily married to a newspaper lawyer, and enjoying good relations with his children. Henry wakes to the comfort of his large home in central London on this, his day off. He is as at ease here as he is in the operating room. Outside the hospital, the world is not so easy or predictable. There is an impending war against Iraq, and a general darkening and gathering pessimism since the New York and Washington attacks two years before. On this particular Saturday morning, Perowne's day moves through the ordinary to the extraordinary...	10	2005 304 pages Psychological fiction



McEwan, Ian <i>Sweet Tooth</i>	Serena Frome, the beautiful daughter of an Anglican bishop, has a brief affair with an older man during her final year at Cambridge, and finds herself being groomed for the intelligence services. The year is 1972. Britain, confronting economic disaster, is being torn apart by industrial unrest and terrorism and faces its fifth state of emergency. The Cold War has entered a moribund phase, but the fight goes on, especially in the cultural sphere. Serena, a compulsive reader of novels, is sent on a 'secret mission' which brings her into the literary world of Tom Haley, a promising young writer. First she loves his stories, and then she begins to love the man. Can she maintain the fiction of her undercover life? And who is inventing whom? To answer these questions, Serena must abandon the first rule of espionage - trust no one...	10	2013 376 pages Undercover Thriller
McEwan, Ian <i>The Children Act</i>	Fiona Maye, a leading High Court judge, renowned for her fierce intelligence and sensitivity, is called on to try an urgent case. For religious reasons, a 17 year old boy is refusing the medical treatment that could save his life. Time is running out. She visits the boy in hospital – an encounter which stirs long buried feelings in her and powerful new emotions in the boy. But it is Fiona who must ultimately decide whether he lives or dies and her judgement will have momentous consequences for them both.	10	2014 215 pages Legal drama
McInnes, William <i>A Man's Got to Have a Hobby</i> 	William's father was the archetypal stoic Aussie bloke: a hero on the battlefield and a disaster-waiting-to-happen around the house. While William and his siblings were crawling all over Redcliffe, Queensland, and causing havoc, their dad was enthusiastically immersing himself in Labor Party fundraising activities. Meanwhile, William's mother strives for patience – and complicity – with her energetic family. With humour and great affection, William writes about his family and the characters in their lives, their misadventures, pranks, dreams and triumphs. A realistic, down-to-earth book by a man who had a great time growing up, his warmth and humour light up every page.	10	2005 280 pages Non Fiction Memoir Australia Humour
McInnes, William & Sarah Watt <i>Worse things happen at sea</i> 	Tales of life love family and the everyday beauty in between – “When you begin to share a life, no matter how awry it goes on occasions, it's the beginning of something splendid. My father once said that it was fun to be a lad. Running amok, he said, was a fine thing to do. But it's when you share a life and you give part of yourself to somebody else that the fun begins.”	10	2011 251 pages Australia Non fiction
McIntosh Fiona <i>The Diamond Hunter</i> 	Set the 1870s diamond rush in southern Africa, Clementine is left to be raised by her destitute, alcoholic father, James. Much of Clementine's care falls to their trusty Zulu companion, Joseph One-Shoe, and the unlikely pair form an unbreakable bond. The two men uncover a large, flawless diamond, but the discovery of the priceless gem comes at a huge cost. Years on, long-buried memories of Clementine's childhood in Africa and her beloved Joseph One-Shoe are triggered, as she questions who she can trust. To solve the mystery of what happened to her loved ones she must confront a painful history and finally bring justice to bear. From the harsh desert of Africa's Kimberley diamond mine to the misty, green plains of northern England.	10	2019 432 pages Historical Fiction
McIntosh Fiona <i>The pearl thief</i> 	Severine Kassel is asked by the Louvre in 1963 to aid the British Museum with curating its antique jewellery, her specialty. Her London colleagues find her distant and mysterious, her cool beauty the topic of conversations around its quiet halls. No one could imagine that she is a desperately damaged woman, hiding her trauma behind her chic, French image. It is only when some dramatic Byzantine pearls are loaned to the Museum that Severine's poise is dashed and the tightly controlled life she's built around herself is shattered. Her shocking revelation of their provenance sets off a frenzied hunt for Nazi Ruda Mayek. Mossad's interest is triggered and one of its most skilled agents comes out of retirement to join the hunt, while the one person who can help Severine - the solicitor handling the pearls - is bound by client confidentiality. As she follows Mayek's trail, there is still one lifelong secret for her to reveal - and one for her to discover. From the snowy woodlands outside Prague to the Tuileries of Paris and the heather-covered moors of Yorkshire comes a confronting novel that explores whether love and hope can ever overpower atrocity in a time of war and hate.	10	2018 492 pages Historical fiction

McLain, Paula <i>The Paris wife</i>	HadleyRichardson is a shy 28 year old who has all but given up on love and happiness when she meets the 21 year old Ernest Hemmingway. After the wedding the pair set sail for France but the glamorous Jazz Aged Paris fuelled by alcohol and gossip is no place for family and fidelity. The scene is set for the downfall of their relationship. A tragic story of love and betrayal.	10	2011 <i>389 pages</i> Historical Fiction
McTiernan, Dervla <i>The murder rule</i>	They think that she is an idealistic law student who is passionate about ?? reforming a corrupt and brutal system. They think she is here to save an innocent man on death row. They're wrong. She is going to bury him.	10	2022 <i>292 pages</i> Thriller
Mead, Rachel <i>The art of breaking ice</i>	In 1960, when the legendary icebreaker Magga Dan set sail for Antarctica, it contained a secret. Hiding on board was Nel Law, wife of expedition leader Phillip Law. She would make history by becoming the first Australian woman to set foot on the icy continent, but it was her art that would change everything. Though a talented artist, Nel has always been defined by her role as 'the explorer's wife', but in the clear expanse of the Southern Ocean, her true self is finally allowed to emerge. Despite misogyny from the all-male crew and increasing resentment from her mercurial husband, Nel's art begins to flourish. Her new friend, a gentle ornithologist, encourages her to explore, but as the ship ploughs on towards Antarctica, rumours swirl, threatening her marriage and the tenuous peace between the controlling Phillip and his crew. In the clear, white light of the south, Nel will be forced to confront the truth of herself and the man to whom she has dedicated her life. This stunning reimagining of Nel Law's life reveals a ground-breaking artist searching for freedom in a world where women's lives were still defined by their husbands.		
Miller, Alex <i>Lovesong</i> 	<i>Winner of 2010 Age Book of the Year & 2011 Christina Stead Prize for Fiction</i> - Strangers did not, as a rule, find their way to Chez Dom, a small Tunisian café in Paris. Run by the widow Houria and her young niece, Sabiha, the café offers a home away from home for the North African migrant workers at the great abattoirs of Vaugirard who, as with Houria and Sabiha themselves, have grown used to the smell of blood in the air. When one day a lost Australian tourist, John Patterner, seeks shelter in the café from a sudden Parisian rainstorm, a tragic love story begins to unfold. Years later John is haunted by what happened to him and Sabiha and confides his story to Ken, an ageing writer, who sees in John's account the possibility for one last simple love story.	10	2009 <i>354 pages</i> Australia / France Intercountry marriage
Miller, Madeline <i>The Song of Achilles</i>	Greece in the age of heroes. Patroclus, an awkward young prince, is befriended by Achilles. The two young men travel to distant Troy when war breaks out. The years that follow will test everything the young lovers hold dear.	10	2011 <i>352 pages</i> Historical fiction
Mitchell, David <i>Black Swan Green</i>	Tracks a year in the life of thirteen-year-old Jason Taylor, as he negotiates the black hole between childhood and adolescence. He lives in what he perceives to be the sleepiest village in muddiest Worcestershire, in a dying Cold War England, 1982. But the thirteen chapters, each a short story in its own right, create an exquisitely observed world that is anything but sleepy. Pointed, funny, profound, left-field, elegiac.	10 + CD	2006 <i>371 pages</i> Autobiography Non fiction
Mitchell, David <i>Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet</i>	Set at a turning point in history on a tiny island attached to mainland Japan, this is a tale of power, passion and integrity that transports us to a world that is at once exotic and familiar: an extraordinary place and an era when news from abroad took months to arrive, yet when people behaved as they always do - loving, lusty and yearning, cheating, fighting and killing. Bringing to vivid life a tectonic shift between East and West, The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet is dramatic, funny, heartbreaking, enlightening and thought-provoking. Reading it is an unforgettable experience. <i>(Description from Dymocks)</i>	10	2012 <i>546 pages</i> Historical fiction
Mones, Nicole <i>A Cup of Light</i>	As an American appraiser of fine Chinese porcelain, Lia Frank holds fragile beauty in her hands, examines priceless treasure with a magnifying lens. But when Lia looks in the mirror, she sees the flaws in herself, a woman wary of love, cut off from the world around her. Still, when she is sent to Beijing to authenticate a collection of rare pieces, Lia will find herself changing in surprising ways...coming alive in the shadow of an astounding mystery.	10	2002 <i>304 pages</i> Romance Mystery



Morris, Heather <i>The tattooist of Auschwitz</i>	Based on the powerful true story of Lale Sokolov and behind one of the most potent symbols of the Holocaust – the blue numbers tattooed on prisoners’ arms. When Lale, a Slovakian Jew, was given the job of tattooist in Auschwitz, he used his infinitesimal freedom of movement to keep his fellow victims alive. If caught he would have been killed; many owed him their survival. Waiting in line to be tattooed was a terrified and shaking young girl. For Lale it was love at first sight and he was determined he and Gita would survive.	10	2018 <i>258 pages</i> Memoir Non fiction
Morrison, Toni <i>God Help the Child</i>	Toni Morrison’s fierce and provocative new novel exposes the damage adults wreak on children, and how this echoes through the generations.	10	2015 <i>178 pages</i> Domestic fiction
Morrison, Zoe <i>Music and freedom</i> 	Alice Murray learns to play the piano aged three on an orange orchard in rural Australia. Recognising her daughter’s gift, her mother sends Alice to boarding school in England, and there Alice stays for the rest of her childhood. Then she’s offered a scholarship to the Royal College of Music in London, and on a summer school in Oxford she meets Edward, an economics professor who sweeps her off her feet and so brings her a relationship of love and violence. Her dream is to be a concert pianist but Alice can’t find it in herself to carry on. Alice must embrace life again if she is to survive.	10	2016 <i>342 pages</i> Domestic violence Women pianists
Morton, Kate <i>Homecoming</i>	Adelaide Hills, Christmas Eve, 1959: At the end of a scorching hot day, beside a creek in the grounds of the grand and mysterious mansion, a local delivery man makes a terrible discovery. A police investigation is called and a small town becomes embroiled in one of the most shocking and perplexing murder cases in the history of South Australia.	10	2023 <i>628 pages</i> Historical fiction Crime
Morton, Kate <i>The Secret Keeper</i>	1961: on a sweltering summer’s day, while the family picnics by the stream on their Suffolk farm, 16 year old Laurel hides out in her childhood tree house dreaming of the bright future she can’t wait to seize. But before the idyllic afternoon is over she will have witnessed a shocking crime that changes everything. 2011: now a much loved actress, Laurel finds herself overwhelmed by shades of the past. Haunted by memories she returns to her family home and begins to piece together secret histories shifting between the 1930’s and the present.	10	2012 <i>588 pages</i> Family secrets Manners Customs
Mullins, Greg <i>Firestorm</i> 	Firestorm: battling super-charged natural disasters is an account of raging fire, political evasion, settled science and Greg Mullins’ urgent call to action for all Australians. He followed his father into fighting bushfires and worked his way up the ranks to become Commissioner of one of the world’s largest fire services, Fire & Rescue NSW for nearly 14 years. Over 5 decades Greg watched as weather patterns and natural disaster risks changed, ... & in 2019 he tried to warn...	10	2021 <i>319 pages</i> Non Fiction
Murakami, Haruki <i>Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki: and his years of pilgrimage</i>	Tsukuru had four best friends at school. One day they announced they don’t want to see him or talk to him ever again. This has a profound effect on Tsukuru’s life. It is not until his thirties that he meets Sara who tells him the time has come to find out what happened all those years ago.	10	2013 <i>298 pages</i> Literary realism Psychological
Murasaki Shikibu <i>The Tale of Genji (Abridged)</i>	Written in the 11 th century, this exquisite portrait of courtly life in medieval Japan is widely celebrated as the world’s first novel – and it is certainly one of its finest. Genji, the Shining Prince, is the son of an emperor. He is a passionate character whose tempestuous nature, family circumstances, love affairs, alliances and shifting political fortunes form the core of this magnificent epic. In this abridged edition of his superb translation, Royall Tyler once again skilfully catches the erotic flavour, the vivid characterization and the allusive poetry of this classic.	10	2001 <i>319 pages</i> Japanese




Murgatroyd, Sarah <i>The dig tree</i>	This is the story of Burke and Wills, the great explorers of the Australian outback. Alternatively comic and desperately tragic this story tells us of their travels. Governor MacDonnell had commissioned a report from Charles Todd, who unsurprisingly, stated that an overland route through the centre of the continent was the best option for the telegraph line. While the overland route seemed the most logical solution, there was one problem. No one had actually travelled from one coast to the other ie from South Australia to the Northern Territory, so who could say where the telegraph should go?	10	2002 361 pages History Non Fiction
Murn, Molly <i>Heart of the grass tree</i> 	Pearl remembers Nell's feet stretched towards the campfires on the beach, her fourth toe curled in and nestled against the middle toe like a small prawn. They all have a curled fourth toe – Diana, Lucy, Pearl. When Pearl's grandmother Nell dies unexpectedly, Pearl and her family – mother Diana, sister Lucy – return to Kangaroo Island to mourn and farewell her. Each of them knew Nell intimately but differently, and each woman must reckon with Nell's passing in her own way. But Nell had secrets, too, and as Pearl, Diana and Lucy interrogate their feelings about the island, Pearl starts to pull together the scraps Nell left behind – her stories, poems, paintings – and unearths a connection to the island's early history, of the early European sealers and their first contact with the Ngarrindjeri people. As the three women are in grief pulled apart from each other, Pearl's deepening connection to their history, the island's history, grounds her, and will ultimately bring the women back to each other.	10	2019 291 pages Local Author Historical fiction
Murray, Douglas <i>The madness of crowds</i>	Douglas Murray examines the twenty-first century's most divisive issues - sexuality, gender, technology and race. He reveals the astonishing new culture wars playing out in our workplaces, universities, schools and homes in the names of social justice, identity politics and 'intersectionality'. In their place have emerged a crusading desire to right perceived wrongs and a weaponisation of identity, both accelerated by the new forms of social and news media. Narrow sets of interests now dominate the agenda as society becomes more and more tribal and, as Murray shows, the casualties are mounting.	10	2019 267 Pages Politics & race LGBT Feminism Non Fiction
Myron, Vicki <i>Dewey: the small town cat</i>	On the coldest morning of the year, Vicki found a tiny bedraggled kitten almost frozen to death in the night drop box of the library where she worked, and her life – and the town of Spencer, Iowa – would never be the same. Vicki's biggest challenge was to raise the spirits of a small out-of-the-way town, deep in the farm crisis of the 1980s. Dewey, as the townspeople named the kitten, quickly grew into a strutting and adorable library cat whose antics kept patrons in stitches, and whose sixth sense about those in need created hundreds of loving friendships. As news of the library cat spread, fans drove hundreds of miles to meet Dewey, and people all over the world fell in love with him.	10	2008 277 pages Non Fiction
Nasht, Simon <i>The Last Explorer: Hubert Wilkins, Australia's unknown hero</i> 	Sir Hubert Wilkins was born at Mount Bryan East, South Australia, on 31 October 1888, and was the 13th child of a South Australian sheep-farming family. He went on to be a war correspondent, polar explorer, naturalist, geographer, climatologist, aviator, author, balloonist, war hero, reporter, secret agent, submariner and navigator. In his day Wilkins was one of the most famous men in the world. He was a front-line photographer in World War I - and was twice decorated. When he died in 1958 he was buried at sea at the North Pole by the US Navy. How can a man who achieved so much be so little remembered, not only in Australia, but his home state, S.A.?	10	2005 316 pages Non Fiction Biography History Exploration
Nordberg, Jenny <i>The underground girls of Kabul</i>	In Afghanistan, a culture ruled most entirely by men, the birth of a son is celebrated but a daughter's is often mourned. Yet a third kind of child exists here, in reaction to the subversion of this preference for male offspring – the <i>bacha posh</i> , a girl temporarily raised as a boy. Told with deep insight into everyday Afghan life those born as girls but who live as boys through childhood and puberty only to be forced later to resume their roles as women, entering into marriage and bearing children of their own.	10	2014 306 pages Non fiction

Obama, Michelle <i>Becoming</i>	As First Lady of the United States of America - the first African-American to serve in that role - she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history. Whilst doing so she also established herself as a powerful advocate for women and girls in the U.S. and around the world, dramatically changing the ways that families pursue healthier and more active lives and standing with her husband as he led America through some of its most harrowing moments. Along the way she showed us a few dance moves, crushed Carpool Karaoke, and raised two down-to-earth daughters under an unforgiving media glare. In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her - from her childhood on the south side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world's most famous address. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it, in her own words and on her own terms.	10	2018 421 pages Biography Politics Non Fiction
Obrecht, Tea <i>The Tiger's Wife</i>	<i>Winner of the Orange Prize for Fiction 2011</i> - A young doctor, Natalia, struggles to make sense of her grandfather's death in a Balkan country still scarred by war. From fragments of stories her grandfather told her as a child, Natalia realises he may have died searching for the deathless man, a vagabond who was said to be immortal. Struggling to understand why a man of science would undertake such a quest, she stumbles upon a clue that will lead her to a tattered copy of <i>The Jungle Book</i> , and then to the extraordinary story of the tiger's wife.	10	2011 336 pages War
O'Connor, Anne Marie <i>The lady in gold</i>	This is the story of Gustav Klimt's 1907 masterpiece—the breathtaking portrait of a Viennese Jewish socialite, Adele Bloch-Bauer. The celebrated painting, stolen by the Nazis during World War II, subsequently became the subject of a decade-long dispute between her heirs and the Austrian government. When the U.S. Supreme Court became involved in the case, its decision had profound ramifications in the art world. Expertly researched, masterfully told, <i>The Lady in Gold</i> is at once a stunning depiction of fin-de siècle Vienna, a riveting tale of Nazi war crimes, and a fascinating glimpse into the high-stakes workings of the contemporary art world.	10	2016 368 pages Art Non Fiction
O'Connor, Kath <i>Inheritance</i> 	Based on the life of the author this story is about the mutation of BRCA1 gene. In 2016, while in the early stages of IVE, Rose is shaken by the discovery that she carries a dangerous mutation of the BRCA1 gene. She begins to ask questions about her family history, and particularly her grandmother Nellie, whose early death left a hole in their family that was never quite filled. As the certainties in Rose's life start to crumble around her, she becomes fixated on the shadowy figure of Nellie. Who really was this woman, and could her secrets reveal the way forward for the granddaughter who may share her fatal gene? Telling the stories of two similar women in very different worlds, exploring how our circumstances – and the time and the society we live in – can collide with what we've inherited to shape our lives.	10	2023 312 pages Medical fiction
O'Farrell, Maggie <i>Hamnet</i>	On a summer's day in 1596, a young girl in Stratford-upon-Avon takes to her bed with a sudden fever. Her twin brother Hamnet, searches everywhere for help. Why is nobody home? Their mother Agnes, is over a mile away in the garden where she grows medicinal herbs. Their father is working in London. Neither parent knows that Hamnet will not survive the week.	10	2020 367 pages Historical Fiction
O'Farrell, Maggie <i>The Marriage Portrait</i>	Lucrezia is 16 years old and has led a sheltered life, locked away inside Florence's grandest palazzo, guarded by her father's soldiers and her mother's ladies-in-waiting. She marries the Duke of Ferrara and is at the mercy of her husband. As Lucrezia sits in her finery for the painting which is to preserve her image for centuries to come there is one thing she is worried about.	10	2022 432 pages Love romance & murder


Ondaatje, Michael War light	It is 1945, and London is still reeling from the Blitz and years of war. 14-year-old Nathaniel and his sister, Rachel, are apparently abandoned by their parents, left in the care of an enigmatic figure named The Moth. They suspect he might be a criminal, and grow both more convinced and less concerned as they get to know his eccentric crew of friends: men and women with a shared history, all of whom seem determined now to protect, and educate (in rather unusual ways) Rachel and Nathaniel. But are they really what and who they claim to be? A dozen years later, Nathaniel begins to uncover all he didn't know or understand in that time, and it is this journey	10	2019 312 pages WW1 Abandoned children
Overington, Caroline The last woman hanged 	One woman, two husbands, four trials, one bloody execution. The terrible true story of Louisa Collins.	10	2014 302 pages Non fiction
Owens, Delia Where the crawdads sing	For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty Kya opens herself to a new life - until the unthinkable happens.	10	2018 368 pages Solitude Murder
Palin, Michael Erebus	In the early years of Queen Victoria's reign, <i>HMS Erebus</i> undertook two of the most ambitious naval expeditions of all time. On the first, she ventured further south than any ship had ever been. On the second, she vanishes with her 129 strong crew in the wastes of the Canadian Arctic. Her fate remained a mystery for over 160 years. Then, in 2014, she was found. This is her story...	10	2018 310 pages Shipwreck
Parker, Alli At the foot of the Cherry Tree	A stirring story of love and hope, based on the incredible true story of Australia's first Japanese war bride and a love that changed a nation forever. Gordon Parker is just an eager eighteen-year-old Australian boy desperate to fight for his country, and Nobuko 'Cherry' Sakuramoto is a sixteen-year-old girl struggling to survive in Japan in the aftermath of World War II. But when they fall in love, they change the course of history. When Gordon arrives in Japan, he expects ruthless samurai, angry Japanese men ready to kill Australians at every corner. Instead, he finds Cherry, terrified of ex-enemy soldiers, a 16-year-old survivor of the atomic bomb. Against all the rules and against all odds, they fall in love. But when Gordon discovers the White Australia Policy prevents Cherry coming home with him as his war bride, Gordon does what any 20-year-old soldier would do.	10	2023 319 pages Historical fiction
Pascoe, Bruce Dark Emu 	If we look at the evidence presented to us from the diaries and records of Australian explorers it will explain that Aboriginal people did build houses & dams, sew, irrigate and store produce. They altered the course of rivers and utilised domestic plants. This book reveals enormous Aboriginal achievement. It may open your eyes.	10	2018 229 Pages First Nation People Non fiction
Patchett, Ann Bel Canto	Somewhere in South America, at the home of the country's vice president, a lavish birthday party is being held in honour of the powerful businessman Mr Hosokawa. Roxane Coss, opera's most revered soprano, has mesmerized the international guests with her singing. It is a perfect evening - until a band of fun-wielding terrorists takes the entire party hostage. But what begins as a panicked, life-threatening scenario slowly evolves into something quite different, a moment of great beauty, as terrorists and hostages forge unexpected bonds and people from different continents become compatriots, intimate friends and lovers. (Donated Bookset)	10	2001 318 pages Thriller



Patchett, Ann <i>Run</i>	Since their mother's death, Tip and Teddy Doyle have been raised by their loving, possessive, and ambitious father. As the former mayor of Boston, Bernard Doyle wants to see his sons in politics, a dream the boys have never shared. But when an argument in a blinding New England snowstorm inadvertently causes an accident that involves a stranger and her child, all Bernard cares about is his ability to keep his children, all his children safe.	10 + CD	2008 <i>295 pages</i> Family Relationships
Penner, Sarah <i>The Lost Apothecary</i>	A forgotten history. A secret network of women. A legacy of poison and revenge. Welcome to the lost apothecary. In present day London Caroline Parcellwell spends her tenth wedding anniversary trying to solve murders that haunted London two-hundred-years ago. At the back of the book is a list of the ghastly poisons. Plus the notes... have a look!	10	2021 328 pages Historical fiction
Penney, Stef <i>The tenderness of wolves</i>	The year is 1867 and winter tightens its grip on the isolated settlement of Dove River. A local woman, Mrs. Ross, stumbles upon a crime scene and sees the tracks leading from the dead man's cabin north toward the forest and the tundra beyond. It is Mrs. Ross's knock on the door of the largest house in Caulfield that launches the investigation. Within hours she will regret that knock with a mother's love -- for soon she makes another discovery: her seventeen-year-old son Francis has disappeared and is now considered a prime suspect.	10	2006 <i>450 pages</i> Canada Historical fiction
Perlman, Elliot <i>Maybe the horse will talk</i>	'I am absolutely terrified of losing a job I absolutely hate' - Stephen Maserov has problems. A onetime teacher, married to a fellow teacher, Eleanor, he has retrained and is now a second-year lawyer working at mega-firm Freely Savage Carter Blanche. Despite toiling around the clock to make budget, he's in imminent danger of being downsized. And to make things Eleanor, sick of single-parenting their two young children thanks to Stephen's relentless work schedule, has asked him to move out. To keep the job he hates, pay the mortgage and salvage his marriage, he will have to do something strikingly daring, something he never thought himself capable of. But if he's not careful, this might be the last job he ever has...	10	2019 <i>331 pages</i> Funny Work & marriage Historical fiction
Perlman, Elliot <i>The Street Sweeper</i>	Recently released from prison, Lamont Williams, an African American probationary janitor in a Manhattan hospital and father of a little girl he can't locate, strikes up an unlikely friendship with an elderly patient, a Holocaust survivor who had been a prisoner in Auschwitz-Birkenau. A few kilometres uptown, Australian historian Adam Zignelik, an untenured Columbia professor, finds both his career and his long-term romantic relationship falling apart. Emerging out of the depths of his own personal history, Adam sees, in a promising research topic suggested by an American World War II veteran, the beginnings of something that might just save him professionally and perhaps even personally. As these two men try to survive in early twenty-first-century New York, history comes to life in ways neither of them could have foreseen... <i>(Description from Dymocks)</i>	10	2011 <i>544 pages</i> Historical fiction
Perlman, Elliot <i>Three Dollars</i>	The story of Eddie, an honest, compassionate man who finds himself with a wife, a child, and three dollars. Eddie's world revolves around the three women in his life: his brilliant wife Tanya, a passionate academic, their six year old daughter Abby, who heightens the stakes on every decision Eddie makes, and his childhood sweetheart, the beautiful, privileged Amanda, who re-appears in his life with mathematical certainty every nine and a half years. Surviving with a blend of self-deprecating wit, spirited sensitivity and a big heart, his life is rich with the pleasures and pains of love, family, friendship and marriage. But, with only three dollars to his name, Eddie will be faced with a choice that will change his direction forever.	10	1998 <i>381 pages</i>
Perry, Sarah <i>The Essex Serpent</i>	London 1893. When Cora Seaborne's controlling husband dies, she steps into her new life as a widow with as much relief as sadness. Along with her son Francis a curious, obsessive boy - she leaves town for Essex, in the hope that fresh air and open space will provide a refuge. Cora, a keen amateur naturalist with no patience for superstition, is enthralled by rumours of a mythical Essex Serpent, convinced that what the local people think is a magical beast may be a yet-undiscovered species.	10	2017 <i>422 pages</i> Gothic


Picoult, Jodi & Boylan, Jennifer Finney Mad Honey 	Two women, two stories, two authors. This is a powerful story of the secrets we keep and the risks we take.	10	2022 441 pages Suspense
Pigliucci, Massimo How to Live a Good Life: a guide to choosing your personal philosophy	Discussing world religions such as Daoism, Confucianism, and Buddhism and classical Western philosophies such as Aristotelianism and Stoicism, from Christianity to Contemporary philosophies such as existentialism and effective altruism, 15 philosophers search for a good life. But what does it mean to truly live philosophically? What is the meaning to life?	10	2020 295 pages Non fiction
Pilkington, Doris Follow the Rabbit-Proof Fence	In the 1930s Doris Pilkington's mother Molly led her two sisters on an extraordinary 1,600 kilometre walk home, after being forcibly removed from their aboriginal families and taken to a native settlement north of Perth. The three girls – aged 8, 11 and 14 – manage to escape from the settlement's repressive conditions and brutal treatment. Barefoot, without provisions or maps, and desperate to return to the world they knew, they set out to find the rabbit-proof fence - knowing it passed their home in the north.	10	1996 133 pages Australia Non fiction Biography
Poitier, Sidney The measure of a man	"I have no wish to play the pontificating fool, pretending that I've suddenly come up with the answers to all life's questions. Quite that contrary, I began this book as an exploration, an exercise in self-questing. In other words, I wanted to find out, as I looked back at a long and complicated life, with many twists and turns, how well I've done at measuring up to the values I myself have set." In this luminous memoir, a true American icon looks back on his celebrated life and career. His body of work is arguably the most morally significant in cinematic history, and the power and influence of that work are indicative of the character of the man behind the many storied roles. Sidney Poitier here explores these elements of character and personal values to take his own measure—as a man, as a husband and a father, and as an actor. He credits his parents and his childhood on tiny Cat Island in the Bahamas for equipping him with the unflinching sense of right and wrong and of self-worth that he has never surrendered and that have dramatically shaped his world. "In the kind of place where I grew up," recalls Poitier, "what's coming at you is the sound of the sea and the smell of the wind and momma's voice and the voice of your dad and the craziness of your brothers and sisters...and that's it." Without television, radio, and material distractions to obscure what matters most, he could enjoy the simple things, endure the long commitments, and find true meaning in his life.	10	2000 243 pages Autobiography Non fiction
Quinn, Katie The Rose Code 	Three very different women answer the call to mysterious country estate Bletchley Park, where the best minds in Britain train to break German military codes. Vivacious debutante Osla is the girl who has everything - beauty, wealth and the dashing Prince Philip of Greece sending her roses - but she burns to prove herself as more than a society girl and puts her fluent German to use as a translator of decoded enemy secrets. Imperious self-made Mab, product of east-end London poverty, works the legendary codebreaking machines as she conceals old wounds and looks for a socially advantageous husband. Awkward local girl Beth, whose shyness conceals a brilliant facility with puzzles beneath her shy exterior. 1947. As the royal wedding of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip whips post-war Britain into a fever, three friends-turned-enemies are reunited by a mysterious encrypted letter...	10	2021 621 pages Thriller Spy fiction Historical fiction
Reid, Taylor Jenkins The seven husbands of Evelyn Hugo	Reclusive Hollywood movie icon Evelyn Hugo is finally ready to tell the truth about her glamorous and scandalous life. But when she chooses unknown magazine reporter Monique Grant for the job, no one is more astounded than Monique herself. Why her? Why now?		2017 381 pages Contemporary romance LGBT



Rintoul, Stuart Lowitja 	A powerful and unrelenting advocate for her people, an inspiration for many, a former Australian of the Year, Lowitja O'Donoghue sat opposite Prime Minister Paul Keating in the first negotiations between an Australian government and Aboriginal people and changed the course of the nation.	10	2021 332 pages Biography Non fiction
Robinson, Marilynne Gilead	<i>Winner of the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction</i> - In 1956, towards the end of Reverend John Ames life, he begins a letter to his young son: "I told you last night that I might be gone sometime...you reached up and put your fingers on my lips and gave me that look I never in my life saw on any other face besides your mother's. It's a kind of furious pride, very passionate and stern. I'm always a little surprised to find my eyebrows unsinged after I've suffered one of those looks. I will miss them."	10	2004 282 pages Domestic fiction
Robotham, Michael When you are mine 	Philomena McCarthy has defied the odds and become an officer with the Metropolitan Police despite being the daughter of a notorious London gangster. Called to the scene of a domestic assault one day, she rescues a young woman, the mistress of a decorated detective. The incident is hushed up, but Phil has unwittingly made a dangerous enemy with powerful friends.	10	2021 401 pages Thriller
Rose, Heather Bruny	When the Bruny Bridge is bombed, UN troubleshooter, Astrid Coleman agrees to return home to help her brother before an upcoming election but this is no simple task. But her brother and sister are on either side of politics, the community is full of conspiracy theories, her mother is fading and her father is quoting Shakespeare. Only on Bruny does the world seem sane. Until Astrid discovers how far the government is willing to go.	10	2019 406 pages Political Sci-fi
Rose, Heather The Butterfly Man	If Lord Lucan escaped his past, what was his future? On 7 November, 1974 a young English nanny named Sandra Rivett was murdered in London's West End. Her employer, Lord Lucan, was named as her attacker. It was widely assumed he had mistaken her for his wife. Lord Lucan disappeared the night Sandra Rivett died and has not been seen since. Henry Kennedy lives on a mountain on the other side of the world. He is not who he says he is. Is he a murderer or a man who can never clear his name? And is he the only one with something to hide?	10	2005 310 pages Mystery
Rowley, Hazel Franklin and Eleanor: An Extraordinary Marriage	A ground breaking account of a marriage described by remarkable courage and lack of convention—private and public—that kept them together, a partnership that was both supportive and daring. Most of all it depicts an extraordinary evolution—from conventional Victorian marriage to the bold and radical partnership that has made Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt go down in history as one of the most inspiring and fascinating couples of all time.	10	2011 302 pages Non fiction America History
Rowling, J.K. The Casual Vacancy	When Barry Fairbrother dies the idyllic English village of Pagford is left in shock. Pagford is not what it first seems and the empty Council seat left by Barry on the Pagford Council soon becomes the catalyst for the biggest war the town has yet seen. Who will triumph in an election fraught with passion, duplicity and unexpected revelations?	10	2012 503 pages England Country life
Sage, Helen A Flower between the cracks 	It's every parent's nightmare. One ordinary evening, Helen's 22-year-old daughter Jayne is involved in a catastrophic car accident. Lying in a coma, her young life in the balance, Helen begins penning tender letters to Jayne, trying to make sense of the tragedy. When Jayne finally wakes, she can't talk or walk. Her life, and the lives of her family, will never be the same again. <i>A Flower Between the Cracks</i> is an extraordinarily powerful account of a mother's love and a daughter's immeasurable courage. It is a story of hope and survival, laced with surprising humour. Never has a memoir spoken of the complexity of caring for a disabled loved one with such grace and candour. This is a book for all Australians - reminding us of the profound joys to be found in each day. <i>(Description from Angus & Robertson)</i>	10	2013 298 pages Memoir Non fiction


Samson, Polly <i>A theatre for dreamers</i>	Erica is eighteen and ready for freedom. It's the summer of 1960 when she lands on the sun-baked Greek island of Hydra where she is swept up in a circle of bohemian poets, painters, musicians, writers and artists, living tangled lives. Life on the island is heady, dream-like, a string of seemingly endless summer days. But nothing can last forever. A fascinating portrait of figures who have largely dropped out of history.	10	2020 343 pages Romance
Saunders, George <i>Lincoln in the Bardo</i>	February 1862. The American Civil War rages while President Lincoln's beloved 11-year-old son lies gravely ill. Days later, Willies dies and is laid to rest in a Georgetown cemetery. Newspapers report that a grief stricken Lincoln returns to the crypt several times alone to hold his boy's body.	10	2017 343 pages Magical realism
Schilthuizen, Menno <i>Darwin comes to town</i>	With human populations growing, we are having an increasing impact on global eco systems, and nowhere do these impact as much as they do in cities. The book reveals that evolution can happen far more rapidly than Darwin dreamed, while providing a glimmer of hope that our race towards overpopulation might not take the rest of nature down with us.	10	2018 283 pages Non fiction
Schlink, Bernard <i>The Reader</i>	For 15-year-old Michael, an encounter with an older woman leads to far more than he ever imagined; before long they embark on a passionate, clandestine affair, which leaves Michael both euphoric and confused. For Hanna is not all she seems. Years later, as a law student observing a trial, Michael is shocked to find Hanna in the dock. The woman he loved is a war criminal. Much about her behaviour during the trial does not make sense, Hanna must answer for a horrible crime, but she is desperately concealing an even deeper secret.	10	1997 216 pages Romance
Sebba, Anne <i>That Woman</i>	The first full biography by a woman of Wallis Simpson, Duchess of Windsor. 'That woman', as she was referred to by the Queen Mother, became a hate figure for ensnaring a British king and destabilising the monarchy. Neither beautiful nor brilliant, she nevertheless became one of the most talked-about women of her generation and she inspired such deep love and adoration in Edward VIII that he gave up a throne and an empire for her. Wallis lived by her wit and her wits, while both her apparent and alleged moral transgressions added to her aura and dazzle.	10	2011 283 pages Non fiction
See, Lisa <i>Lady Tan's circle of women</i>	Two women are born under the same sign, the Metal Snake. But life will take the friends on very different paths...	10	2023 339 pages Historical fiction
See, Lisa <i>The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane</i>	In their remote mountain village, Li-yan and her family align their lives around the seasons and the farming of tea. For the Akha people, ensconced in ritual and routine, life goes on as it has for generations – until, one day, a stranger appears at the village gate, marking the first entrance of the modern world in their lives. Slowly, Li-yan begins to reject the customs of her people. Forging a relationship with a man her parents believe to be a poor match, she has a child out of wedlock and then gives that child up for adoption, tucking a special tea cake into her blankets. Li-yan's journey of self-discovery leads her to an education, a business, and city life, but all the while she longs for her lost daughter...includes book group questions.	10	2017 364 pages Saga
Seiffert, Rachel <i>The Dark Room</i>	Shortlisted for 2001 Booker Prize for Fiction - Tells the stories of three ordinary Germans: Helmut, a young photographer in Berlin in the 1930s, who uses his craft to express his patriotic fervour; Lore, a twelve-year-old girl who in 1945 guides her young siblings across a devastated Germany after her Nazi parents are seized by the Allies; and, fifty years later, Micha, a young teacher obsessed with what his loving grandfather did in the war, struggling to deal with the past of his family and his country.	10	2001 391 pages Historical fiction
Sepetys, Ruta <i>I Must Betray You</i>	Romania, 1989. Communist regimes are crumbling across Europe. Seventeen year old, Cristian Florescu dreams of becoming a writer, but Romanians aren't free to dream; they are bound by rules and force. Trust no-one. Tell no-one. Spys are everywhere.	20	2022 292 pages Historical fiction


Seth, Vikram <i>An Equal Music</i>	Michael Holme is a successful violinist, part of the famous Maggiore Quartet. He has long been haunted, though, by memories of the beautiful pianist he loved ten years earlier, Julia McNicholl. Then one day Julia comes back into his life: married now, with a small child and a devastating secret. The romance flares up once more, as Julia agrees to tour Vienna and Venice with Michael and the Quartet. Against the magical backdrop of concert halls and canals, Michael and Julia confront the truth about themselves, their love, and the music that both unites and divides them.	10	1999 <i>381 pages</i> Romance
Shamsie, Kamila <i>Home fire</i>	The suspenseful and heartbreaking story of a family ripped apart by secrets and driven to pit love against loyalty, with devastating consequences. Isma is free. After years of watching out for her younger siblings in the wake of their mother's death, an invitation from a mentor in America has allowed her to resume a dream long deferred. But she can't stop worrying about Aneeka, her beautiful, headstrong sister back in London, or their brother, Parvaiz, who's disappeared in pursuit of his own dream, to prove himself to the dark legacy of the jihadist father he never knew. When he resurfaces half the globe away, Isma's worst fears are confirmed. Then Eamonn enters the sisters' lives. Son of a powerful political figure, he has his own birthright to live up to--or defy. Is he to be a chance at love? The means of Parvaiz's salvation? Suddenly, two families' fates are inextricably, devastatingly entwined, in this searing novel that asks: What sacrifices will we make in the name of love?	10	2017 <i>260 pages</i> Islamic fundamental- ism Families Social classes
Shetterly, Margot Lee <i>Hidden figures</i>	Before Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of professionals worked as 'Human Computers', calculating the flight paths that would enable these historic achievements. Among these were a coterie of bright, talented African-American women. Segregated from their white counterparts, these 'colored computers' used pencil and paper to write the equations that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. Moving from World War II through NASA's golden age, touching on the civil rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War, and the women's rights movement, interwoven is a rich history of mankind's greatest adventure with the intimate stories of five courageous women whose work forever changed the world.	10	2017 <i>384 pages</i> Biography Non Fiction
Silvey, Craig <i>Jasper Jones</i> 	<i>Winner of 2010 ABIA Book of the Year</i> - Late on a hot summer night at the tail-end of 1965, Charlie Bucktin, a precocious and bookish boy of thirteen, is startled by an urgent knock on the window of his sleep out. His visitor is Jasper Jones, an outcast in the mining town of Corrigan. Rebellious, mixed-race and solitary, Jasper is a distant figure of danger and intrigue for Charlie. So, when Jasper begs for his help, Charlie steals into the night by his side, terrified but desperate to impress. Jasper takes him through town to his secret glade in the bush, and it's here that Charlie bears witness to Jasper's horrible discovery. Carrying the secret like a brick in his belly, Charlie is harried by a suspicious town tightening in fear.	10	2009 <i>394 pages</i> Mystery
Simon, Rachel <i>The story of Beautiful Girl</i>	It is 1968. Linnie, a young white woman with a developmental disability, and Homan, an African American deaf man, are locked away in an institution, the School for the Incurable and Feeble-minded, and have been left to languish, forgotten. Deeply in love, they escape, and find refuge in the farmhouse of Martha, a retired schoolteacher and widow. But the couple is not alone-Linnie has just given birth to a baby girl. When the authorities catch up to them that same night, Homan escapes into the darkness, and Linnie is caught. But before she is forced back into the institution, she whispers two words to Martha: "Hide her." Reading group guide at back of book.	10	2012 <i>346 pages</i> Love Survival Institution
Simonson, Helen <i>Major Pettigrew's last stand</i>	Major Ernest Pettigrew is content to lead a quiet life in a sleepy village away from the meddling neighbors and his overbearing son. The Major finds companionship with the village shopkeeper, Mrs Ali. Drawn together by the love of books they are soon forced to contend with irate relatives and gossiping villagers. Sometimes, against all odds life does give you a second chance.	10	2010 <i>387 pages</i> Romance



Slater, Nigel Toast	Toast is Nigel Slater's truly extraordinary story of a childhood remembered through food. Whether relating his mother's ritual burning of the toast, his father's dreaded Boxing Day stew or such culinary highlights of the day as Arctic Roll and Grilled Grapefruit (then considered something of a status symbol in Wolverhampton) this remarkable memoir vividly recreates daily life in sixties suburban England. Nigel's likes and dislikes, aversions and sweet-toothed weaknesses form a fascinating and amusing backdrop to this incredibly moving and deliciously evocative memoir of childhood, adolescence and sexual awakening.	10	2003 247 pages Non fiction 60's England Childhood Growing up
Slee, Tim Taking Tom Murray home 	Bankrupt dairy farmer Tom Murray decides he'd rather sell off his herd and burn down his house than hand them over to the bank. But something goes tragically wrong...	10	2019 288 pages Domestic fiction
Smiley, Jane A Thousand Acres	<i>Winner of the 1992 Pulitzer Prize & National Book Critic's Circle Award</i> - A successful Iowa farmer decides to divide his farm between his three daughters. When the youngest objects, she is cut out of his will. This sets off a chain of events that brings dark truths to light and explodes long-suppressed emotions. An ambitious reimagining of Shakespeare's King Lear cast upon a typical American community in the late twentieth century.	10	1991 371 pages
Smith, Dominic The last painting of Sara de Vos 	In 1631 Sara de Vos is admitted to the Guild of St Luke in Holland as a master painter, the first woman to be so honoured. Three hundred years later only one work attributed to de Vos is known to remain: a haunting winter scene, <i>At the edge of a Wood</i> , which hangs over the Manhattan bed of a wealthy descendant of the original owner. An Australian grad student, Ellie Shipley, struggling to stay afloat in New York, agrees to paint a forgery of the landscape, a decision that will haunt her. Because now, half a century later, she's curating an exhibition of female Dutch painters, and both versions threaten to arrive. A mesmerising story that grapples with the demands of the artistic life... shows how the deceptions of the past can forge the present.	10	2016 372 pages Historical fiction
Smith, Tom Rob Child 44	Under Stalin's terrifying regime families live in fear. When the all-powerful State claims there's no such thing as crime, who dares disagree? An ambitious secret police officer, Leo Demidov has spent his career arresting anyone who steps out of line. Suddenly his world is turned upside down when he uncovers evidence of a killer at large. Now, with only his wife at his side, Leo must risk both their lives to save the lives of others.	10	2008 437 pages Espionage
Smith, Tom Rob Cold People	Cold People follows the journeys of a handful of those who endure the frantic exodus to the most extreme environment on the planet. But their goal is not merely to survive the present. Because as they cling to life on the ice, the remnants of their past swept away, they must also confront the urgent challenge: can they change and evolve rapidly enough to ensure humanity's future? Can they build a new society in the sub-zero cold?	10	2023 453 pages Sci-fi
Smith, Tom Rob The Farm	Daniel thought that his parents were safely in Sweden enjoying a peaceful retirement on their remote farm. With a single phone call everything changes. His father called to say his mother was unwell, in fact she'd been committed to a mental hospital. Then his mother calls, everything your father has said is a lie, I need the police. Whom should he believe, whom should he trust?	10	2014 351 pages Family secrets
Smith, Zadie Swing time	Set in London, New York and West Africa, Swing time is about two brown girls from Willesden who dream of being dancers. Only one - Tracey - has the talent. But the other has ideas which take her further than she could ever have imagined. It is the story of finding happiness in the meanest of places and feeling sad when all around you are happy. It's about the choices we make and the choices made for us. Above all, it's a tale of the friendships that anchor us, define us, and change us forever.	10	2016 453 pages Race Class Gender



Stein, Garth <i>The art of racing in the rain</i>	The captivating and moving story of an extraordinary family, and how they almost fell apart, and how they were brought back together by the wisest and most loyal member – Enzo the dog. Partly based on a true story.	10	2008 321 pages Car racing Relationships
St John, Madeleine <i>Ladies in Black</i> 	Sydney 1959. On the second floor of Goode's famous department store, the Ladies in Black are girding themselves for the Christmas rush. Lisa, the new Sales Assistant (Temporary) is assigned to Ladies Cocktail. She is about to meet the glamorous Continental refugee, Magda, a guardian of the rose-pink cave of Model Gowns.	10	2018 228 pages Historical fiction
Stegner, Wallace <i>Crossing To Safety</i>	When two young couples meet for the first time they quickly find they have much in common. Charity and Sally are both pregnant, while their husbands Sid and Larry both have jobs in the English department at the local University. Immediately a lifelong friendship is born. They share decades of love, loyalty, vulnerability and conflict.	10	1987 327 pages Domestic fiction
Steinbach, Alice <i>Without Reservations: the travels of an independent woman</i>	Who am I, Alice Steinbach wanted to know, away from the things that define me – my family, children, job, friends? Steinbach searches for the answer to this question in some of the most exciting places in the world. In Paris she finds a soul mate in a Japanese man; in Oxford she takes a course on the English village; and in Milan she befriends a young woman about to be married. Take the journey with Alice...	10	2000 278 pages Non Fiction Travel
Steinbeck, John <i>East of Eden</i>	<i>Nobel Prize in Literature Winner</i> - Set in the rich farmland of Salinas Valley, California, this powerful, often brutal novel follows the intertwined destinies of two families—the Trasks and the Hamiltons—whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel.	10	1952 602 pages Classic
Stuart, Douglas <i>Shuggie Bain</i>	Agnes Bain has always expected more from life. She dreams of greater things: a house with its own front door and a life bought and paid for outright (like her perfect, but false, teeth). Agnes is abandoned by her philandering husband, and soon she and her three children find themselves trapped in a decimated mining town. As she descends deeper into drink, the children try their best to save her, yet one by one they must abandon her to save themselves. It is her son, Shuggie who holds out hope the longest.	10	2020 430 pages Historical Fiction
Stuart, Will <i>War Fire</i>	A slow burn becomes explosive – it's ten years from now, are we really ready for the next extreme bushfire season? This book will open your eyes to the scary realism of being in an Australian bushfire...	10	2022 284 pages Science Fiction
Swift, Graham <i>Tomorrow</i>	Paula lies awake thinking of her husband and two teenage children. As morning approaches Paula recalls the years before and after her children were born. Her story is both a celebration of love possessed and a moving acknowledgement of the fear of loss, the fragilities, illusions and secrets on which even our most intimate sense of who we are can rest.	10	2007 248 pages Family secrets
Szubanski, Magda <i>Reckoning: a memoir</i>	If you had met my father you would never, not for an instant, have thought he was an assassin. He was warm hearted, friendly, engaging, intelligent, generous, humorous, honourable, affectionate, arrogant, blunt, loyal. He was a family man...My mother wants me to stop talking about my father. "Stop calling him an assassin". But I remind her how I would ask, "What did you do in the war?" And he would laugh, self-mockingly. "I was an assassin." Magda was born in Liverpool, and as her mother would always say, the 'youngest of four'. She insists I was not a mistake. "You were a joy!"	10	2015 374 pages Aust. actress biography Non fiction




<p>Tan, Twang Eng House of Doors</p> 	<p>It is 1921 and at Cassowary House in the Straits Settlements of Penang, Robert Hamlyn is a well-to-do lawyer and his steely wife Lesley a society hostess. Their lives are invigorated when Willie, an old friend of Robert's, comes to stay. Willie Somerset Maugham is one of the greatest writers of his day. But he is beleaguered by an unhappy marriage, ill-health and business interests that have gone badly awry. He is also struggling to write. The more Lesley's friendship with Willie grows, the more clearly she see him as he is - a man who has no choice but to mask his true self. As Willie prepares to leave and face his demons, Lesley confides secrets of her own, including how she came to know the charismatic Dr Sun Yat Sen, a revolutionary fighting to overthrow the imperial dynasty of China. And more scandalous still, she reveals her connection to the case of an Englishwoman charged with murder in the Kuala Lumpur courts - a tragedy drawn from fact and worthy of fiction.</p>	10	<p>2023 304 pages Historical fiction</p>
<p>Taylor, Jill Bolte Whole brain living</p>	<p>For half a century we have been trained to believe that our right brain hemisphere is our emotional brain, while our left brain houses our rational thinking. Now neuroscience shows that it's not that simple.</p>	10	<p>2021 275 pages Non fiction</p>
<p>Temple, Peter The Broken Shore</p> 	<p>Joe Cashin was different once. He moved easily then, but there are consequences when you've come so close to dying. For Cashin, they included a posting away from the world of homicide to the quiet place on the coast, where he grew up. Now all he has to do is play the country cop and walk the dogs ... as tragedy unfolds relentlessly into tragedy, he finds himself holding onto something that might be better let go.</p>	10	<p>2005 345 pages Discrimination Aboriginal</p>
<p>Thien, Madeleine Do not say we have nothing</p>	<p>Looking inside an extended family in China, this shows us the lives of two successive generations--those who lived through Mao's Cultural Revolution and their children, who became the students protesting in Tiananmen Square. At the center of this epic story are two young women, Marie and Ai-Ming. Through their relationship Marie strives to piece together the tale of her fractured family in present-day Vancouver, seeking answers in the fragile layers of their collective story. Her quest will unveil how Kai, her enigmatic father, a talented pianist, and Ai-Ming's father, the shy and brilliant composer, Sparrow, along with the violin prodigy Zhuli were forced to reimagine their artistic and private selves during China's political campaigns and how their fates reverberate through the years with lasting consequences.</p>	10	<p>2016 463 pages Chinese customs</p>
<p>Thomas, Rosie The Kashmir Shawl</p>	<p>Newly-wed Nerys Watkins leaves rural Wales for the first time in her life to accompany her husband on a missionary posting to India. Travelling from lonely Ladakh, high in the Himalayas, she discovers a new world in the lakeside city of Srinagar. Here, in the exquisite heart of Kashmir, the British live on carved wooden houseboats and dance, flirt and gossip as if there is no war. But the battles draw ever closer, and life in Srinagar becomes less frivolous when the men are sent away to fight....Years later, when Mair Ellis clears out her father's house, she finds an antique shawl. Wrapped within its folds is a lock of child's hair. Tracing her grandparents' roots back to Kashmir, Mair embarks on a quest that will change her life forever.</p>	10	<p>2011 468 pages WW2 family India</p>
<p>Thomson, Glenna Stella and Margie</p>	<p>Stella and her mother-in-law, Margie, are two very different women. Stella is kind, compassionate and just a little chaotic. Margie is prickly, demanding and a stickler for convention. Stella has exciting dreams for the future. Margie has only bitter memories of the past. When Margie needs help recovering from a major operation, Stella offers her a place to stay. With no other options, Margie returns to the family farm where for decades, until Stella's arrival, she was the one in charge. Magie has never made life easy for her daughter-in-law, and that's not going to change now she's been made a guest in her former home. But as the dry summer turns to a beautiful autumn, the two women gradually form an unlikely bond, as the ambitions, secrets and tragedies that have shaped their lives are slowly uncovered.</p>	10	<p>2018 292 pages Family Farms</p>






Toibin, Colm <i>Brooklyn</i>	Ireland in the 1950s...for many young Irish girls opportunities are scarce. So when her sister arranges for her to emigrate to New York, Eilis knows she must go, leaving behind her family and her home for the first time. Arriving in crowded Brooklyn, Eilis can only be reminded of what she has sacrificed. She is far from home – and homesick. Then, just as she takes tentative steps towards friendship, and perhaps something more, Eilis receives news which sends her back to Ireland. There she will be confronted by a terrible dilemma – a devastating choice between duty and one great love.	10	2009 <i>252 pages</i> Women immigrants Ireland
Toibin, Colm <i>The magician</i>	Thomas Mann, the German writer of <i>Death in Venice</i> (which wins the Nobel Prize for Literature), becomes famous and admired while his inner life is hesitant, fearful and secretive. The Magician captures the profound, personal conflict of a very public life, portraying a family man in turmoil.	10	2021 <i>433 pages</i> Biographical fiction
Towles, Amor <i>A gentleman in Moscow</i>	On 21 June 1922, Count Alexander Rostov – a recipient of the Order of Saint Andrew, member of the Jockey club, Master of the Hunt – is escorted out of the Kremlin, across Red Square and through the elegant revolving doors of the Hotel Metropol. Deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, the Count has been sentenced to house arrest indefinitely. But instead of his usual suite, he must now live in an attic room while Russia undergoes decades of tumultuous upheaval. Can a life without luxury be the richest of all? He couldn't leave his hotel. You wouldn't want to!	10	2016 462 pages Moscow House detention Historical fiction
Treloar, Lucy <i>Salt Creek</i> 	Salt Creek, 1855, lies at the far reaches of the remote, beautiful and inhospitable coastal region, the Coorong, in the new province of South Australia. The area, becomes home to Stanton Finch and his large family, including 15-year-old Hester Finch. Once wealthy political activists, the Finch family has fallen on hard times. Hester and her siblings make connections where they can: with the few travellers that pass along the nearby stock route - among them a young artist, Charles - and the Ngarrindjeri people they have dispossessed. Over the years an Aboriginal boy, Tully, becomes part of the family. Stanton's attempts to tame the landscape bring ruin to the Ngarrindjeri people and unleash a chain of events that will tear the family asunder.	10	2015 <i>399 pages</i> Aboriginal Pioneers South Aust
Tremain, Rose <i>The Gustav Sonata</i>	What is the difference between friendship and love? Or between neutrality and commitment? Gustav grows up in a small town in “neutral Switzerland”, where the horrors of the Second World War seem a distant echo.	10	2016 <i>240 pages</i> Historical fiction
Trinca, Helen <i>Madeleine</i>	A life of Madeleine St John. Madeleine St John was in her fifties when she wrote her first novel, <i>The Women in Black</i> – a sparkling gem set in post-war Sydney. But its charm belied the terrible sadness that defined its author. When Madeleine was twelve her beautiful, sophisticated French mother died, and Madeleine's life changed irreparably.	10	2013 <i>243 pages</i> Biography
Tunncliffe, Hannah <i>The color of tea</i>	After moving with her husband to the tiny, bustling island of Macau, Grace Miller finds herself a stranger in a foreign land, a lone redhead towering above the crowd on the busy Chinese streets. As she is forced to confront the devastating news of her infertility, Grace's marriage is fraying and her dreams of family have been shattered. She resolves to do something bold, something her impetuous mother would do, and she turns to what she loves: baking and the pleasure of afternoon tea. Grace opens a cafe where she serves tea, coffee, and macarons; the delectable, delicate French cookies colored like precious stones, to the women of Macau. There, among fellow expatriates and locals alike, Grace carves out a new definition of home and family. When her marriage reaches a crisis, secrets Grace thought she had buried long ago rise to the surface. Grace realises it's now or never to lay old ghosts to rest and to begin to trust herself. With each mug of coffee brewed, each cup of tea steeped and each macaron baked, Grace comes to learn that strength can be gleaned from the unlikeliest of places.	10	2012 <i>336 pages</i> Women China





Twain, Mark <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i>	Huckleberry Finn had a tough life with his drunk father until an adventure with Tom Sawyer changed everything. But when Huck's dad returns and kidnaps him, he must escape down the Mississippi River with runaway slave, Jim. They encounter trouble at every turn, from floods and gunfights to armed bandits and the long arm of the law. Through it all the friends stick together – but can Huck and Tom free Jim from slavery once and for all?	10	1884 <i>451 pages</i> Historical fiction Classic
Tyler, Anne <i>A Spool of Blue Thread</i>	'It was a beautiful, breezy, yellow-and-green afternoon.' This is the way Abby Whitshank always begins the story of how she and Red fell in love that day in July 1959. The whole family on the porch, relaxed, half listening as their mother tells the same tale they have heard so many times before, and yet this gathering is different. Abby and Red are getting older, and decisions must be made about how best to look after them and their beloved family home. They have all come, even Denny, who can usually be relied on only to please himself. From that porch we spool back through three generations of the Whitshanks, witnessing the events, secrets and unguarded moments that have come to define who and what they are. While all families like to believe they are special, round that kitchen table over all those years we also see played out our own hopes and fears, rivalries and tensions – the essential nature of family life.	10	2015 <i>358 pages</i> Family saga
Van Niekerk, Marlene <i>Agaat</i>	In the waning days of South African apartheid, Milla, a 67-year-old white woman, is condemned to silence by a creeping paralysis. As she struggles to communicate with her maidservant turned caretaker, Agaat, the complicated history of their relationship is revealed.	10	2004 <i>576 pages</i> South Africa Farm Women
Vickers, Salley <i>The cleaner of Chartres</i>	When a strange young woman is found sleeping in the porch of the ancient cathedral of Chartres, none of the residents of this quiet little town realize what changes lie in store for them. With her dark skin, her colourful clothes and her curious manner, Agnès Morel catches the eye of everyone she encounters. Before long she is cleaning for the Abbé Paul in the cathedral, organizing lonely Professor Jones's chaotic papers and helping Philippe Nevers with his irresponsible sister and her newborn child. At the same time, she bewitches the local painter, Robert Clément, with her topaz eyes and captures the heart of Alain, the handsome restorer who works alongside her in the cathedral each morning. Little by little, day by day, she has a magical effect on each of their lives.	10	2012 <i>298 pages</i> France
Vickers, Salley <i>Mr Golightly's holiday</i>	Many years ago, Mr. Golightly wrote a work of dramatic fiction that grew to be an astonishing international bestseller. But his reputation is on the decline and he finds himself badly out of touch with the modern world. He decides to take a holiday hoping to use the opportunity to bring his great work up to date. But as soon as he gets to know his new neighbours, Mr Golightly is forced to re-examine his attitude to life.	10	2003 <i>368 pages</i> England
Wainwright, Robert <i>Sheila: the Australian beauty who bewitched British Society</i> 	Vivacious, confident and striking, young Australian Sheila Chisholm met her English husband, Lord Francis Edward Scudamore St Clair-Erskine in Egypt during the First World War. Arriving in London as a young married woman, the world was at her feet – and she enjoyed it immensely. Her affair with young Bertie, the future George VI of England was, naturally, problematic. Sheila had torrid love affairs with numerous men including Rudolph Valentino and Prince Obolensky of Russia. Among her friends were Evelyn Waugh, Lord Beaverbrook and Wallis Simpson. An extraordinary woman unknown to most Australians. This is her story.	10	2014 388 pages England Socialite customs Non Fiction Biography
Walker, Alice <i>The Color Purple</i>	This is the story of two sisters—one a missionary in Africa, and the other a child wife living in the South—who sustain their loyalty to and trust in each other across time, distance, and silence. Beautifully imagined and deeply compassionate, this classic novel of American literature is rich with passion, pain, inspiration, and an indomitable love of life.	10	1970 <i>288 pages</i> America

Walker, Matthew <i>Why we sleep: the new science of sleep and dreams</i>	World renowned neuroscientist Matthew Walker draws on current research to demystify sleep and shows how a good night's sleep can help us to be more clever, more attractive, slimmer, healthier and happier. Did you get enough sleep this past week? Can you recall the last time you woke up without an alarm clock, feeling refreshed and not needing caffeine? Why should we sleep anyway? With an Appendix 'Twelve tips for a healthy sleep'...	10	2017 342 pages Non fiction
Wall, Barbara <i>Our Own Matilda</i> 	Matilda Evans arrived in South Australia in 1852. Her life was arduous and difficult, but she battled on to become a successful writer, school teacher and parent. She published fourteen novels, all set in Adelaide or the surrounding countryside. Her books were read widely in Australia and overseas. A great book to read and travel to the places mentioned in this extraordinary book...this will add to your discussion.	9	1994 170 pages Non Fiction Biography History
Walter, Bob <i>There's nothing wrong with me: the veteran's journey into the PTSD minefield</i>	Forty years after his army service in Vietnam, the author was diagnosed with chronic late onset post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). He was but one of the many veterans affected. While undergoing rehabilitation at the Repatriation Hospital, Bob found that it helped to express his thoughts and feelings through poetry. He later discovered other veterans and their partners who had written poems or short stories about their own journey with PTSD and its impact on their lives. This books offers insights, encouragement, and above all, hope. It also assists the wider community to understand the human costs incurred on the veteran and their family throughout their lives.	10	2012 50 pages Non fiction
Waters, Sarah <i>The little stranger</i>	Shortlisted for the 2009 Man Booker Prize – In a dusty post-war summer in rural Warwickshire a doctor is called to a patient at lonely Hundreds Hall. Home to the Ayres family for over two centuries, the Georgian house, once grand and handsome, is now in decline, its masonry crumbling, its gardens choked with weeds, the clock in the stable yard permanently fixed at twenty to nine. Its owners – mother, son and daughter – are struggling to keep pace with a changing society, as well as conflicts of their own. But are the Ayres haunted by something more sinister than a dying way of life?	10	2009 499 pages Haunted houses
Waters, Sarah <i>The night watch</i>	This is the story of four Londoners - three women and a young man with a past, drawn with absolute truth and intimacy. Kay, who drove an ambulance during the war and lived life at full throttle, now dresses in mannish clothes and wanders the streets with a restless hunger, searching and Helen, clever, sweet, much-loved, harbouring a painful secret and Viv, glamour girl, stubbornly, even foolishly loyal to her soldier lover Duncan, an apparent innocent, who has had his own demons to fight during the war. Their lives and their secrets connect in sometimes startling ways. War leads to strange alliances. Tender, tragic and beautifully poignant set against the backdrop of feats of heroism both epic and ordinary here is a novel of relationships that offers up subtle surprises and twists.	10	2006 470 pages Historical fiction
Watson, Don <i>The Bush: Travels in the heart of Australia</i> 	Most Australians live in cities and cling to the coastal fringe, yet our sense of what an Australian is – or should be – is drawn from the vast and varied inland called the bush. Starting with his forebears' battle to drive back nature and eke a living from the land, Don Watson explores the bush as it was and as it now is: the triumphs and the ruination, the commonplace and the bizarre, the stories we like to tell about ourselves and the national character, and those we don't. Via mountain ash and Mallee, the birds and the beasts, slaughter, fire, flood and drought, swagmen, sheep and their shepherds, the strange and the familiar, the tragedies and the follies – here is a journey that only our leading writer of non-fiction could take us on.	10	2014 378 pages Non fiction Australian landscape

Westover, Tara <i>Educated</i>	Tara Westover grew up preparing for the End of Days, watching for the sun to darken, for the moon to drip as if with blood. She spent her summers bottling peaches and her winters rotating emergency supplies, hoping that when the World of Men failed, her family would continue on, unaffected. She hadn't been registered for a birth certificate. She had no school records because she'd never set foot in a classroom, and no medical records because her father didn't believe in doctors or hospitals. According to the state and federal government, she didn't exist. As she grew older, her father became more radical, and her brother, more violent. At sixteen Tara decided to educate herself. Her struggle for knowledge would take her far from her Idaho mountains, over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge. Only then would she wonder if she'd travelled too far. If there was still a way home.	10	2018 377 pages Memoir Non fiction
Wharton, Edith <i>The Age of Innocence</i>	Newland Archer and May Welland are the perfect couple. He is a wealthy young lawyer and she is a lovely sweet-natured girl. All seems set for success until the arrival of May's unconventional cousin, Ellen Olenska, who returns from Europe without her husband and proceeds to shake up polite New York society. To Newland, she is a breath of fresh air and a free spirit, but the bond that develops between them throws his values into confusion and threatens his relationship with May.	10	1920 308 pages Classic Romance
White, Patrick <i>Flaws in the Glass</i> 	With candour, force and emotion, Patrick White writes of his youth in Australia, his English boarding school, his life at Cambridge and trips to Germany, London during the Blitz, RAF wartime intelligence in the Middle East and his first meeting with the man who was to become the central focus of his life.	10	1981 257 pages Non fiction Memoir
Wilkins, Damien <i>Max Gate</i>	It's 1928. Thomas Hardy is on his deathbed at his Dorset home <i>Max Gate</i> . A tug-of war is taking place over his legacy and the eventual fate of his mortal remains. What counts for him: the wishes of his family and his dutiful second wife Florence or the opinion of his literary friends? What about his own express desires or the will of the Nation? An entertaining insight into the eccentricities of a writer's life and a raw, intriguing tale of torn loyalty, ownership and jealousy.	10	2016 219 pages Legacy Relationships
Williams, Eley <i>The Liar's Dictionary</i>	A charming and funny debut from Eley Williams. Swansby's dictionary is riddled with fictitious entries known as mountweazels. It's up to a young intern, Mallory, to uncover these before the dictionary can be digitised for modern readers.	10	2020 265 pages Absurdist Historical LGBT fiction
Williams, Pip <i>The Bookbinder of Jericho</i>	In 1914, when the war draws the young men of Britain away to fight, it is the women who must keep the nation running. Two of those women are Peggy and Maude, twin sisters who work in the bindery at Oxford University Press in Jericho. Peggy is intelligent, ambitious and dreams of going to Oxford University, but for most of her life she has been told her job is to bind the books, not read them. Maude, meanwhile, wants nothing more than what she has. She is extraordinary but vulnerable. Peggy needs to watch over her. When refugees arrive from the devastated cities of Belgium, it sends ripples through the community and through the sisters' lives. Peggy begins to see the possibility of another future where she can use her intellect and not just her hands, but as war and illness reshape her world, it is love, and the responsibility that comes with it, that threaten to hold her back. 2 Book Sets available	10	2023 432 pages Historical fiction
Williams, Pip <i>The Dictionary of Lost Words</i> 	Motherless and irrepressibly curious, Esme spends her childhood in the Scriptorium, a garden shed in Oxford where her father and a team of lexicographers are gathering words for the very first Oxford English Dictionary. Over time Esme realises some words are considered more important than others, and that words and meanings relating to women's experiences often go unrecorded. She begins to collect words for another dictionary: The Dictionary of Lost Words.	10	2020 265 pages Historical Fiction & Biographical

Winch, Tara June <i>Swallow the Air</i> 	<i>Winner of the David Unaipon Award for Indigenous Writers</i> - When May's mother dies suddenly, she and her brother Billy are taken in by Auntie. However, their loss leaves them both searching for their place in a world that doesn't seem to want them. While Billy takes his own destructive path, May sets off to find her father and her Aboriginal identity. Her journey leads her from the Australian east coast to the far north, but it is the people she meets, not the destinations that teach her what it is to belong. In this startling debut, Tara June Winch uses a fresh voice and unforgettable imagery to share her vision of growing up on society's fringes.	10	2006 216 pages Hardcover Family saga Indigenous
Winch, Tara June <i>The Yield</i> 	<i>Miles Franklin Award Winner 2020</i> Knowing that he will soon die, Albert 'Poppy' Gondiwindi takes pen to paper. His life has been spent on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River at Prosperous House, on Massacre Plains. Albert is determined to pass on the language of his people and everything that was ever remembered.	10	2019 312 pages Family saga Indigenous
Winchester, Simon <i>Exactly: how precision engineers changed the world</i>	Precision is the key to the modern world. Many items we value in our daily lives – cameras, phones, computers, bicycles, cars – sport components that fit together with precision and operate with near perfection. How and when did precision begin to transform the world? Who invented and perfected it? Can the precise and the natural coexist in society?	10	2018 355 pages Non Fiction
Winman, Sarah <i>Still Life</i>	1944, in the ruined wine cellar of a Tuscan villa, as the Allied troops advance and bombs fall around them, two strangers meet and share an extraordinary evening together. Ulysses is a young British soldier; Evelyn is an art historian and possible spy who has come to Italy to salvage paintings. These two unlikely people find kindred spirits in each other and Evelyn's talk of truth and beauty plants a seed in Ulysses' mind that will shape the trajectory of his life – and of those who love him – for the next four decades. Moving from the Tuscan Hills and piazzas of Florence, to the smog of London's East End this is a sweeping, joyful, richly-peopled novel about beauty, love, family and fate. <i>(Description from Booktopia)</i>	10	2021 436 pages Historical fiction
Winman, Sarah <i>Tin Man</i>	It begins with a painting won in a raffle: fifteen sunflowers, hung on the wall by a woman who believes that men and boys are capable of beautiful things. And there are two boys, Ellis and Michael, who are inseparable. And the boys become men, and then Annie walks into their lives, and it changes nothing and everything.	10	2017 195 pages Literary fiction
Winterson, Jeanette <i>Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit</i>	<i>Winner of the 1985 Whitbread Award for a First Novel</i> - tells the story of a young girl's coming of age. Jeanette is an orphan who is adopted into a strict religious family. During the process of being trained to become a missionary, she falls in love with another woman. The main story is interrupted by several metaphorical fairy tales. This thought-provoking story traces Jeanette's struggles between her mother, her Christian community, and her sexual preference.	10	1995 171 pages Autobiographical fiction
Winton, Tim <i>The Boy Behind the Curtain</i> 	A remarkable work of nonfiction taking us behind the scenes, sharing the extraordinarily powerful true stories that have influenced his view of the world and fuelled his fiction. Like those of his characters, Tim Winton's life has been shaped by havoc. This book shows the unexpected links between car crashes and religious faith, between surfing and writing, and how going to the wrong movie at the age of eight opened him up to a life of the imagination.	10	2016 296 pages Non fiction Biography

Winton, Tim <i>The Shepherd's Hut</i> 	"For the first time in my life I know what I want and I have what it takes to get there. But it wasn't always like this. I been through fire to get here." For years, Jaxie Clackton has dreaded going home. His beloved Mum is dead and he wishes his dad were too, until one terrible moment leaves his life stripped to nothing. No one ever told Jaxie to be careful what he wishes for. So Jaxie runs. There is just one person in the world who understands him, but to reach her he will have to cross the salt lands of Western Australia. It is a place that harbours criminals and threatens to kill those who haven't reckoned with its hot, waterless vastness. This is a journey that only a dreamer – or a fugitive – would attempt.	10	2018 <i>267 pages</i> Psychological
Wood, Charlotte <i>The Weekend</i> 	Three older women gather at their recently deceased friend's beach house, at Christmas time – not for festivities but to clean the place out before it is sold. The Weekend explores growing old and growing up, and what happens when we are forced to uncover the lies we tell ourselves.	10	2019 <i>256 pages</i> Literary fiction
Wright, Clare <i>The forgotten rebels of Eureka</i> 	<i>The Stella Prize 2014 Winner (and others)</i> – The Eureka Stockade is one of Australia's foundation legends – yet the story has always been told as if half the participants weren't there. But what if the hot-tempered free-spirited gold miners we learned about at school were actually husbands and fathers, brothers and sons? What if there were women and children right there beside them, inside the Stockade, when the bullets started flying? And how do the answers to these questions change what we thought we know about the so-called "birth of Australian democracy"?	10	2013 <i>474 pages</i> History Ballarat Victoria
Wyld, Evie <i>All the birds singing</i>	Jake Whyte is the sole resident of an old farmhouse on an unnamed British island, a place of ceaseless rains and battering winds. It is just her, her untamed companion, Dog, and a flock of sheep. But something is coming for the sheep – every few nights it picks one off, leaves it in rags. It could be anything. There are foxes in the woods, a strange boy and a strange man, rumours of an obscure formidable beast.	10	2013 <i>229 pages</i> Thriller
Yeldham, Peter <i>A Bitter Harvest I</i> 	Senator William Patterson, wealthy and influential, hides a scandal from his past that could ruin him. Stefan Muller, a young penniless immigrant, seeks a promised new life in a land that does not welcome him. When the senator's cherished daughter Elizabeth falls in love with the impoverished Stefan, it creates a family conflict that threatens to destroy them. From a tumultuous and vibrant Sydney to the lyrical landscape of the Barossa Valley, A Bitter Harvest is an epic saga of prejudice, political turmoil and lasting love from one of Australia's favourite storytellers.	10	1997 <i>578 pages</i> Crime
Zable, Arnold <i>Café Scheherazade</i> 	Takes the reader on a journey that ranges from Kobe to Paris, from Vilna to Melbourne. It remains faithful to the experiences of Jewish survivors of World War II whose lives reflect the courage of refugees everywhere.	10	2001 <i>223 pages</i> Historical fiction
Zevin, Gabrielle <i>The collected works of A. J. Fikry</i>	A J Fikry owns an ailing bookshop. His life is a wreck. His wife has just died, and his rare and valuable first edition has just been stolen. Maya is the baby left on A J's bookshope floor with a note. This is a story of how unexpected love can rescue you with characters that you will come to love.	10	2014 <i>243 pages</i> Relationships Realistic Fiction
Zevin, Gabrielle <i>Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow</i>	When Sam catches sight of Sadie at a crowded train station one winter morning he is catapulted back to the time they spent playing together as children.	10	2022 <i>478 pages</i> Adventure fiction

Zusak, Markus <i>The Book Thief</i> 	Set during World War II in Germany, this is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside Munich. Liesel scratches out a meagre existence for herself by stealing, when she encounters something she can't resist – books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbours during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement before he is marched to Dachau. This is an unforgettable story about the ability of books to feed the soul.	10	2005 <i>560 pages</i> WW2 Holocaust
Zusak, Markus <i>Bridge of Clay</i> 	The Dunbar boys bring each other up in a house run by their own rules. A family of ramshackle tragedy - their mother is dead, their father has fled - they love and fight, and learn to reckon with the adult world. It is Clay, the quiet one, who will build a bridge; for his family, for his past, for his sins. He builds a bridge to transcend humanness; to survive. <i>{Description from Dymocks}</i> .	10	2018 <i>579 pages</i> Family saga
Zusak, Markus <i>The Messenger</i> 	Only after a bank robbery young Ed Kennedy begins to live his life. He's far from the ordinary person he thinks he is because he has been chosen to be The Messenger.	10	2002 <i>386 pages</i> Magical realism
Zusak, Markus <i>Three Wid dogs</i> 		10	2024 219 pages Autobiography