

BOOK CLUB 2 GO



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New Titles Available for 2010

The Elegance of the Hedgehog by Muriel Barbery

Narrator Renee Michel is a 54 year old woman who has worked for decades as concierge of a small Parisian apartment building. Renee grew up poor and quit school at age twelve, but throughout her life she has studied philosophy secretly, searching for knowledge about who she is and how she fits into the grand scheme of life.

Corelli's Mandolin by Louis De Bernieres

Set on the Greek isle of Cephalonia during World War II, this novel is an exuberant mixture of history and romance.

One Thousand White Women: the journals of May Dodd by Jim Fergus

An imaginative fictional account of the participation of American women in the clandestine US government "Brides for Indians" program, intended to instruct "savages" in the ways of civilization and to assimilate the Indians into white culture through the offspring of these unions.

The Widow of the South by Robert Hicks

Based on true events in Hicks' hometown, this follows the saga of Carrie McGavock , a lonely Confederate wife who finds purpose transforming her Tennessee plantation into a hospital and cemetery during the Civil War.

She's Come Undone by Wally Lamb

An extraordinary coming-of-age odyssey about Dolores Price a dysfunctional, comical young heroine and her wild journey to love, pain and renewal.

Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann

National Book Award winner offers a dazzling and hauntingly rich vision of the loveliness, pain and mystery of life in New York City in the 1970's.

The Dive from Clausen's Pier by Ann Packer

It begins with a disaster that could happen, out of the blue, in anybody's life, and it forces us to ask how we would bear up in the face of tragedy and what we know, or think we know, about our deepest allegiances.

Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay

De Rosnay's U.S. debut fictionalizes the 1942 Paris roundups and deportations, in which thousands of Jewish families were arrested, held at the Vélodrome d'Hiver outside the city, then transported to Auschwitz.

East of Eden by John Steinbeck

Spanning from the American Civil War through World War I, the novel highlights the conflicts of two generations of brothers living in California's Salinas Valley: the kind, gentle Adam Trask and his wild brother Charles, symbolic recreations of the biblical brothers Cain and Abel.

The Shack: where tragedy confronts eternity by William P. Young

Four years after the brutal murder of his daughter, Mack Philips receives a note, apparently from God, inviting him back to the shack where she was killed. He arrives at the shack on wintry afternoon and walks back into his darkest nightmare.

In Cold Blood: a true account of a multiple murder & its consequences by Truman Capote

Two two-time losers living in a lonely house in western Kansas are out to make the heist of their life, but when things don't go as planned, the robbery turns ugly. From there, this groundbreaking book is a real-life look into murder, prison, and the criminal mind. **(non-fiction)**

Under the Tuscan Sun: at home in Italy by Frances Mayes

An enchanting, lyrical look at the life, traditions, and the cuisine of Tuscany, in the spirit of Peter Mayle's "A Year in Provence." Frances Mayes entered a wondrous new world when she began restoring an abandoned villa in the spectacular Tuscan countryside **(non-fiction)**

Me Talk Pretty One Day by David Sedaris

Sedaris's fourth book of essays mines poignant comedy from his peculiar childhood in North Carolina, his bizarre career path, and his move with his lover to France. The theme in these hilarious reminiscences is the inability of humans to communicate **(autobiography)**

The Bookseller of Kabul by Asne Seierstad

Norwegian journalist Seierstad penned this astounding portrait of a nation recovering from war, undergoing political flux and mired in misogyny and poverty, based on her three months' residence in Kabul. **(non-fiction)**

(Avail 3/10) The Lost City of Z: a tale of deadly obsession in the Amazon by David Grann

After stumbling on hidden diaries, Grann sets out to solve the greatest exploration mystery of the 20th century: what happened to British explorer Percy Fawcett and his quest for the Lost City of Z? **(non-fiction)**

(Avail 4/10) Half the Sky: turning oppression into opportunity for women worldwide by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl Wu Dunn

Reporters make a strong case for investing in the health and autonomy of women worldwide as a strategy for overcoming poverty in third-world nations. **(non-fiction)**

(Avail 10/10) The Help by Kathryn Stockett

Debut novel set during the 1962 civil rights movement in Jackson, Mississippi where black women were trusted to raise white children but not to polish the household silver.

More Fiction Titles Available

***Open House* by Elizabeth Berg** A woman recreates her life after divorce by opening up her house and her heart.

***Caramelo* by Sandra Cisneros** The author's long-awaited second novel is a sweeping, fictionalized history of her Mexican American family

***The Hours* by Michael Cunningham** The life and work of Virginia Woolf is intertwined with contemporary characters struggling with conflicting claims of love, hope and despair

***The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards** A moving story of two families bound by a secret that both eats away at relationships and eventually helps to create new ones.

***Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides** An astonishing tale about what it means to occupy the complex middle ground between male and female, Greek and American, past and present.

***Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* by Jonathan S. Foer** Oskar Schell is not your average nine-year-old. A budding inventor, he spends his time imagining wonderful creations. When his father dies in the World Trade Center collapse, Oskar shifts his energy to a quest for answers.

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon** A bitterly funny debut novel which is a murder mystery of sorts--one told by an autistic version of Adrian Mole.

***The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett** A treasure worth killing for, a cynical private eye known as Spade, a grifter named Cairo, the fat man Gutman, and beautiful, treacherous Brigid O'Shaughnessy. These are the ingredients of a gem of detective fiction that has haunted three generations of readers.

***Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan** This debut novel blends fact and fiction brilliantly to tell the dramatic love story of architect Frank Lloyd Wright and his mistress Mamah Cheney.

***The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini** An epic tale of fathers and sons, of friendship and betrayal, that takes us on a journey in Afghanistan from the time of the monarch's overthrow to the tyranny of the Taliban.

***Stones from the River* by Ursula Hegi.** A stunning novel about ordinary people living in extraordinary times--set in a small German town and spanning both world wars.

***The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd.** It tells the tale of a 14-year-old white girl who is raised by an elderly African American woman after her mother's death.

***Fall on your Knees* by Ann-Marie MacDonald** Set in Cape Breton Nova Scotia, the drama of the Piper family and its four unforgettable daughters is a story of inescapable family bonds, of terrible secrets, racial strife and miracles.

***Atonement* by Ian McEwan** On a summer day in 1935, thirteen year old Briony misinterprets a flirtation between her older sister and the son of a servant. Briony's mistake brings about a crime that will change all of their lives.

***One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez** The magical story of the birth and death of the mythical town of Macondo through the history of the Buendía family.

***Life of Pi* by Yann Martel** Evokes Kipling's "Just So Stories" with "Jonah and the Whale," as Pi, the son of a zookeeper, is marooned aboard a lifeboat with a hyena, a wounded zebra, an orangutan, and a tiger.

***Best Friends* by Barbara Moody** This debut novel examines the dynamics of friendship between two very different women who meet as college roommates.

***While I Was Gone* by Sue Miller.** Thirty years after she discovers her best friend murdered, Jo Becker finds her now-happy life unraveling.

***Suite Francaise* by Irene Nemiroksy** Nemirovsky died in Auschwitz in 1942, before she could complete these five novellas about France during the Nazi occupation.

***The Shawl* by Cynthia Ozick** An award-winning short story and novella intertwine to offer a study of the Holocaust and its aftermath.

***Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett**

Based on the Lima crisis, this novel is about a group of terrorists who hold high executives and people of high political standing hostage. It explores how the terrorists and hostages cope with living together for several months.

***Change of Heart* by Jodi Picoult** Shay Bourne, a 33-year-old carpenter, has been sentenced to death in New Hampshire for the murders of a police officer and his stepdaughter. Their surviving wife/mother was pregnant at the time, and now her 11-year-old daughter needs a heart transplant. Guess who wants to help, and who seems to be performing miracles in prison.

***The Tenth Circle* by Jodi Picoult** Trixie Stone is fourteen years old, a straight-A student, and adores her father. When her world is turned upside down with a single act of violence everything

***The Plot against America* by Philip Roth** What would the world have been like if Charles Lindbergh had been elected President and the US hadn't entered World War II? Roth presents a compelling alternative history of the 1940's.

***The Reader* by Bernhard Schlink** This is a story of love and secrets, horror and compassion, unfolding against the haunted landscape of postwar Germany.

***The Lovely Bones* by Alice Sebold** A powerful first novel, narrated by 14 year old Susie Salmon, from heaven. Brutally raped and murdered by a neighbor, Susie watches over her family and friends as they struggle to cope with her death.

***Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See** Lily, 80 years old, narrates the story of her life and her friendship with Snow Flower in 19th century China. Together these women face foot-binding, arranged marriages and abuse. Lily reflects upon her friendship and her betrayal.

***The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows** In 1946, writer Juliet Ashton receives a letter from a stranger, a founding member of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society. So begins a remarkable tale of the island of Guernsey during the German occupation, and of a society as extraordinary as its name.

***The Space Between Us* by Thrity Umrigar** Set in modern-day India, it's an intimate portrait about how the lives of two women, one rich and one poor, and their families are intrinsically connected.

More Non-Fiction Titles Available

***Running with Scissors* by Augusten Burroughs** Hilarious true story of a boy whose mother (an aspiring, talentless poet) gave him away to be raised by her psychiatrist, a dead ringer for Santa as well as a lunatic.

***The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson** Larson intertwines the true tale of two men --the brilliant architect behind the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, and the serial killer who used the fair to lure victims to their death.

***The Worst Hard Time* by Timothy Egan** Traces the fortunes of representative settlers of the southern Great Plains, and the impact of the Depression-era dust bowl on their lives and the environment.

***Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert** The author, a well-traveled journalist, chronicles her quest for emotional and spiritual balance following her divorce and disastrous love affair, Gilbert flees New York for sojourns to Italy, India and Indonesia to reconnect with a healer.

***Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin** The author discovered an impoverished Pakistan village during a failed attempt to climb K2. Moved by the inhabitants' kindness, he promised to return and build a school. He went on to build fifty-five schools in the terrain that gave birth to the Taliban.

***Vanished Smile: The Mysterious Theft of Mona Lisa* by R.A. Scotti** Part love story, part mystery, this reopens the case of the most audacious and perplexing art theft ever committed--the theft of Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" from the Paris Louvre on August 21, 1911.

***The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls (a Memoir)** The author grew up with parents whose ideals and stubborn nonconformity were their curse and salvation. Walls tells a story of triumph against all odds, about how her flawed family 's love gave her the determination to succeed on her own terms