

Book Club Kits

[Ariadne, by Jennifer Saint \(308 pages\)](#). Ariadne, Princess of Crete and daughter of the fearsome King Minos, grows up hearing stories of gods and heroes. But beneath the golden palace something else stirs, the hoofbeats and bellows echoing from the Labyrinth below. Every year its captive, the Minotaur - Ariadne's brother - demands blood. 2021.

[The Bear and the Nightingale, by Katherine Arden \(322 pages\)](#). "Wild maiden" Vasya has grown up wandering the grounds of her father's rural estate, befriending the spirits of the natural world. But when her pious stepmother joins forces with an ambitious young priest to force the villagers to forsake the old ways (and the old gods), they set in motion a tragedy that only Vasya can avert. 2017.

[The Beekeeper of Aleppo, by Christy Lefteri \(327 pages\)](#). A beekeeper and his artist wife have their lives upended and must flee after war destroys their home in Aleppo, Syria, and they set off on a dangerous journey through Turkey and Greece, towards an uncertain future in England. 2019.

[Bluebird, Bluebird, by Attica Locke \(320 pages\)](#). East Texas plays by its own rules--a fact that Darren Mathews, a black Texas Ranger, knows all too well. He travels up Highway 59 to the small town of Lark, where two murders--a black lawyer from Chicago and a local white woman--have stirred up a hornet's nest of resentment. Darren must solve the crimes--and save himself in the process--before Lark's long-simmering racial fault lines erupt. 2018.

[The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek, by Kim Michelle Richardson \(320 pages\)](#). A last-of-her-kind outcast and member of the Pack Horse Library Project braves the hardships of Kentucky's Great Depression and hostile community discrimination to bring the near-magical perspectives of books to her neighbors. 2019.

[Born a Crime, by Trevor Noah \(304 pages\)](#). This is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his mother, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life. 2019.

[Demon Copperhead, by Barbara Kingsolver \(560 pages\)](#). **COMING SOON!** Based on Charles Dickens' *David Copperfield* from his experience as a survivor of institutional poverty and its damages to children in his society, *Demon Copperhead* speaks for a new generation of lost boys, and all those born into beautiful, cursed places they can't imagine leaving behind. 2022.

[The Dutch House, by Ann Patchett \(352 pages\)](#). A tale set over the course of five decades traces a young man's rise from poverty to wealth and back again as his prospects center around his family's lavish Philadelphia estate. 2019.

[The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell, by Robert Dugoni \(448 pages\)](#). Born with ocular albinism, small-town eye doctor Sam Hill, who was called "Devil Boy" in his youth, 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 so he can finally realize what truly matters. 2018.

[The Gown: A Novel of the Royal Wedding, by Jennifer Robson \(371 pages\).](#)

When Heather Mackenzie discovers that the embroidered flowers among her grandmother's possessions are the same pattern from Queen Elizabeth II's wedding gown, she sets out to discover why they were in her possession. 2019.

[Great Circle, by Maggie Shipstead \(672 pages\).](#) **NEW! The unforgettable story of a daredevil female aviator determined to chart her own course in life, at any cost, through Prohibition and World War II, from Montana to London, to present-day Hollywood. 2022.**

[The Guncle, by Steven Rowley \(368 pages\).](#) **NEW! A warm and deeply funny novel about a once-famous gay sitcom star whose unexpected family tragedy leaves him with his niece and nephew for the summer. 2022.**

[Hamnet, by Maggie O'Farrell \(320 pages\).](#) Presents the evocative story of a young Shakespeare's marriage to a talented herbalist before the ravaging death of their 11-year-old son shapes the production of his greatest play. 2020.

[Hidden Valley Road, by Robert Kolker \(400 pages\).](#) Tells the heartrending story of a midcentury American family with 12 children, 6 of them diagnosed with schizophrenia, that became science's great hope in the quest to understand the disease. 2020.

[Honor, by Thrity Umrigar \(352 pages\).](#) **NEW! Tells the story of two couples and the sometimes dangerous and heartbreaking challenges of love across a cultural divide, showing us two courageous women trying to navigate how to be true to their homelands and themselves at the same time. 2022.**

[How High We Go in the Dark, by Sequoia Nagamatsu \(320 pages\).](#) **NEW! A profoundly prescient debut that follows a cast of intricately linked characters over hundreds of years as humanity struggles to rebuild itself in the aftermath of a climate plague. 2023.**

[How Much of These Hills is Gold, by C Pam Zhang \(336 pages\).](#) Two orphaned Chinese immigrant siblings flee the threats of their gold rush mining town across an unforgiving landscape where their survival is tested by family secrets, sibling rivalry and disparate goals. 2020.

[In Five Years, by Rebecca Serle \(288 pages\).](#) An ambitious young lawyer on the brink of having it all disregards a vivid dream about how different her life will be in five years, before meeting the man in her vision nearly five years later. 2020.

[Interior Chinatown, by Charles Yu \(288 pages\).](#) A stereotyped character actor stumbles into the spotlight before uncovering surprising links between his family and the secret history of Chinatown. 2020.

[IQ, by Joe Ide \(352 pages\)](#). A resident of one of LA's toughest neighborhoods, who solves cases the LAPD ignores, investigates threats against a rap mogul, a case that becomes more far-reaching and dangerous as he encounters a vengeful ex-wife and a hit man regarded as a lunatic by his peers. 2017.

[The Island of Sea Women, by Lisa See \(374 pages\)](#). While working as divers with the all-female diving collective on a small Korean island, Mi-ja and Young-sook find their friendship challenged by their differences and forces outside their control. 2019.

[The Jetsetters, by Amanda Eyre Ward \(384 pages\)](#). Winning the grand prize in an essay contest, a single mother reunites her estranged adult children on a 10-day cruise while confronting long-buried secrets from their dysfunctional shared past. 2021.

[Joan: A Novel of Joan of Arc, by Katherine Chen \(368 pages\)](#). A thrilling epic, a triumph of historical fiction, as well as a feminist celebration of one remarkable—and remarkably real—woman who left an indelible mark on history. 2022.

[The Last Nomad: Coming of Age in the Somali Desert, by Shugri Said Salh \(304 pages\)](#). Salh tells her inspiring story about leaving Africa, learning English, finding love, and embracing a new horizon for herself and her family. Honest and tender, *The Last Nomad* is a riveting coming-of-age story of resilience, survival, and the shifting definitions of home. 2022.

[The Last Painting of Sara de Vos, by Dominic Smith \(295 pages\)](#). Artist Sara de Vos's masterpiece, *At the Edge of a Wood*, is stolen from Manhattan attorney Marty de Groot in 1957 and replaced with a skillfully executed forgery that remains a secret for decades -- until museum curator Ellie Shipley, who created the fake, is confronted by the two versions of the painting. 2016.

[The Lions of Fifth Avenue, by Fiona Davis \(384 pages\)](#). A New York Public Library superintendent's wife reevaluates her priorities upon joining a woman's suffrage group in 1913, decades before her granddaughter's efforts to save an exhibit expose tragic family secrets. 2020.

[A Long Petal of the Sea, by Isabel Allende \(368 pages\)](#). Sponsored by the poet Pablo Neruda to flee the violence of the Spanish Civil War, a pregnant widow and an army doctor unite in an arranged marriage, only to be swept up by the early days of World War II. 2020.

[Maid: hard work, low pay and a mother's will to survive, by Stephanie Land \(273 pages\)](#). An economic hardship journalist describes the years she worked in low-pay domestic work under wealthy employers, contrasting the privileges of the upper-middle class to the realities of the overworked laborers supporting them. 2020.

[Mexican Gothic, by Silvia Moreno-Garcia \(334 pages\)](#). After receiving a frantic letter from her newly-wed cousin begging for someone to save her from a mysterious doom, Noemi Taboada heads to High Place, a distant house in the Mexican countryside. She's not sure what she will find but as Noemi digs deeper she unearths stories of violence and madness. 2020.

[The Mystery of Mrs. Christie, by Marie Benedict \(336 pages\)](#). In December 1926, Agatha Christie goes missing. Investigators find her empty car on the edge of a deep, gloomy pond, the only clues some tire tracks nearby and a fur coat left in the car—strange for a frigid night. Her World War I veteran husband and her daughter have no knowledge of her whereabouts, and England unleashes an unprecedented manhunt to find the up-and-coming mystery author. Eleven days later, she reappears, just as mysteriously as she disappeared, claiming amnesia and providing no explanations for her time away. 2021.

[The Nickel Boys, by Colson Whitehead \(213 pages\)](#). When Elwood Curtis, a black boy growing up in 1960s Tallahassee, is unfairly sentenced to a juvenile reformatory called the Nickel Academy, he finds himself trapped in a grotesque chamber of horrors. Elwood's only salvation is his friendship with fellow "delinquent" Turner. 2020.

[The Night Tiger, by Yangsze Choo \(384 pages\)](#). A vivacious dance-hall girl in 1930s colonial Malaysia is drawn into unexpected danger by the discovery of a severed finger that is being sought by a young houseboy who would protect his late master's soul. 2019.

[The Nine, by Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg \(325 pages\)](#). When well-meaning helicopter mom Hannah Webber enrolls her brilliant son and the center of her world, Sam, into the boarding school of her dreams, neither of them is prepared for what awaits: an illicit underworld where decades of privileged conspiracy threaten not only Sam but also his fragile family. 2019.

[Nothing to See Here, by Kevin Wilson \(288 pages\)](#). Agreeing to help her former college roommate care for two stepchildren who possess the ability to spontaneously combust when agitated, Lillian endeavors to keep her young charges cool in the face of an astonishing revelation. 2019.

[Of Women and Salt, by Gabriela Garcia \(224 pages\)](#). A sweeping, masterful debut about a daughter's fateful choice, a mother motivated by her own past, and a family legacy that begins in Cuba before either of them was born. 2022.

[The Personal Librarian, by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray \(352 pages\)](#). A remarkable novel about J. P. Morgan's personal librarian, Belle da Costa Greene, the Black American woman who was forced to hide her true identity and pass as white in order to leave a lasting legacy that enriched our nation. 2022.

[The Silent Patient, by Alex Michaelides \(359 pages\)](#). Alicia Berenson is a famous painter married to an in-demand fashion photographer, living in a posh area of London. One evening, her husband Gabriel returns home late. Alicia shoots him five times in the face and then never speaks another word. 2021.

[The Smallest Lights in the Universe, by Sara Seager \(321 pages\)](#). An MIT astrophysicist reinvents herself in the wake of tragedy and discovers the power of

connection on this planet, even as she searches our galaxy for another Earth. 2020.

[So Big, by Edna Ferber \(288 pages\).](#) **NEW!** A powerful and stirring portrait of one of the most memorable women in American literature, and still resonates today with its unflinching views of poverty, sexism, and the drive for success. 2019.

[The Sweetness of Water, by Nathan Harris \(368 pages\).](#) An award-winning debut about the unlikely bond between two freedmen who are brothers and the Georgia farmer whose alliance will alter their lives, and his, forever. 2022.

[Tapestry, by Beth Duke \(346 pages\).](#) 21-year old Skye Willis and her grandmother, who believes her ancestors were Muscogee Creek, research their ancestry through genetic testing, launching them both on a path filled with surprises and life-changing events. 2020.

[This is Your Mind on Plants, by Michael Pollan \(288 pages\).](#) Michael Pollan dives deep into three plant drugs—opium, caffeine, and mescaline—and throws the fundamental strangeness, and arbitrariness, of our thinking about them into sharp relief, reckoning with the powerful human attraction to psychoactive plants. 2021.

[We Are Not Like Them, by Christine Pride \(336 pages\).](#) Told from alternating perspectives, an evocative and riveting novel about the lifelong bond between two women, one Black and one white, whose friendship is indelibly altered by a tragic event--a powerful and poignant exploration of race in America today and its devastating impact on ordinary lives. We Are Not Like Them is a story of enduring friendship--a love that defies the odds even as it faces its most difficult challenges. 2021.

[Where the Lost Wander, by Amy Harmon \(347 pages\).](#) The Overland Trail, 1853: Naomi May never expected to be widowed at twenty. Eager to leave her grief behind, she sets off with her family for a life out West. But life in a wagon train is fraught with hardship, fear, and death. 2020.

[A Woman of No Importance, by Sonia Purnell \(352 pages\).](#) The never-before-told story of one woman's heroism that changed the course of the Second World War In 1942, the Gestapo sent out an urgent transmission: "She is the most dangerous of all Allied spies. We must find and destroy her." This spy was Virginia Hall, a young American woman--rejected from the foreign service because of her gender and her prosthetic leg. 2019.