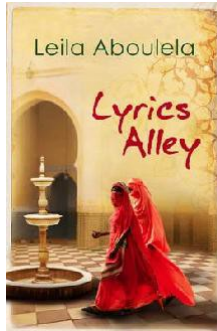


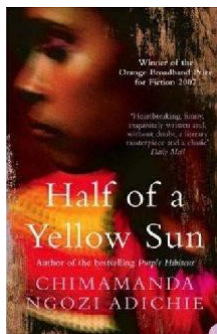
# BOOK GROUP READING LIST

## **ABOULELA, LEILA    Lyrics Alley**



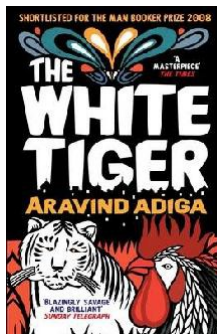
A lyrical and deeply moving novel by a twice Orange-listed rising star, set in pre-Independence Sudan, Egypt and post-war Britain.

## **ADICHIE, CHIMAMANDA NGOZI    Half of a Yellow Sun**



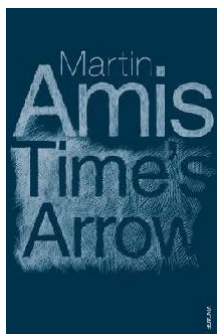
Set in Nigeria during the 1960s, at the time of a vicious civil war in which a million people died and thousands were massacred in cold blood. The three main characters in the novel are swept up in the violence during these turbulent years. As these people's lives intersect, they question their own responses to the unfolding political events.

## **ADIGA, ARAVIND    The White Tiger**



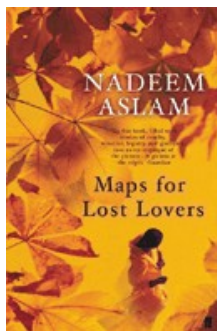
Balam, the White Tiger, was born in a backwater village on the River Ganges, the son of a rickshaw-puller. He works in a teashop, crushing coal and wiping tables, but nurses a dream of escape. When he learns that a rich village landlord needs a chauffeur, he takes his opportunity, and is soon on his way to Delhi behind the wheel of a Honda.

## **AMIS, MARTIN    Time's Arrow**



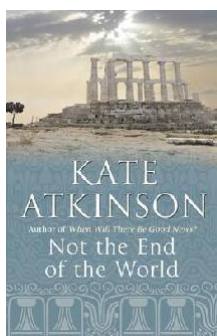
The story of a life told backwards. Its narrator, Doctor Tod T. Friendly, trapped and hurtling towards a terrible secret, moves "out of the blackest sleep" to find himself surround by doctors and on the deathbed of a man in whose body he is imprisoned.

## **ASLAM, NADEEN    Maps for Lost Lovers**



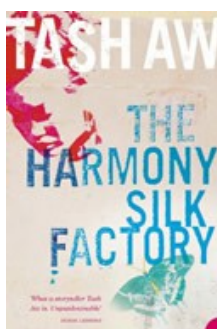
Maps for Lost Lovers opens the heart of a family at the crossroads of culture, community, nationality and religion, and expresses both their joys and their pain in a language that is arrestingly poetic.

**ATKINSON, KATE**    **Not the End of the World**



What is the real world? Does it exist, or is it merely a means of keeping another reality at bay? This collection offers a vision of another world which lurks just beneath the surface of our consciousness, a world where the myths we have banished from our lives are present and where imagination has the power to transform reality.

**AW, TASH**                    **Harmony Silk Factory**

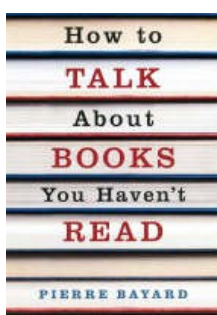


A landmark work of fiction from one of Britain's most exciting new writers: The Harmony Silk Factory is a devastating love story set against the turmoil of mid-twentieth century Malaysia.

**BAKKER, GERBRAND**        **The Twin**



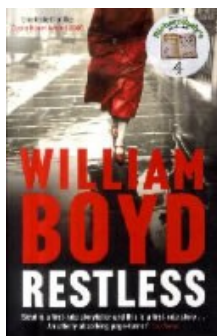
A bestseller in its native Holland, this is the story of a man forced to return to the rural Dutch lifestyle of his childhood when his twin brother dies. This debut novel has been shortlisted for and won many literary prizes.



**BAYARD, PIERRE**    **How to Talk About Books You Haven't Read**

Combining humour with pragmatism, this book examines the cultural implications of reading and non-reading, and would be the perfect gift for anyone who loves books, even if they haven't read many, or have forgotten most of those they have.

**BOYD, WILLIAM      Restless**



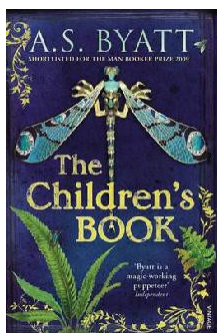
This espionage thriller intertwines the stories of Eva, a Russian émigré and erstwhile British spy, and her daughter, Ruth, a single mother who lives a more mundane life teaching English as a foreign language in Oxford. Ruth tells her story in the third person; Eva in the first, and the book opens as Eva hands Ruth a memoir of her life as a young woman in the Second World War.

**BROOKMYRE, CHRISTOPHER    A Big Boy Did it and Ran Away**

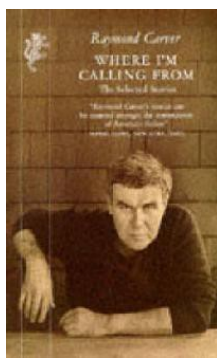


A satirical crime novel about a professional assassin. Real Life sucks. He's thirty, his dreams of becoming a rock star are long gone, and he's just discovered that responsibility has no Escape key.

**BYATT, A.S.      The Children's Book**



In their rambling house near Romney Marsh, the children play in a story-book world - but their lives, and those of their rich cousins and their friends, the son and daughter of a curator at the new Victoria and Albert Museum, are already inscribed with mystery. Each family carries its own secrets.

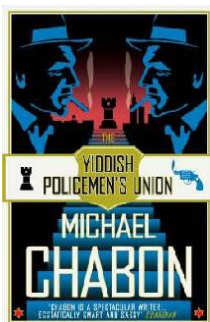


**CARVER, RAYMOND      Where I'm Calling From (Short stories)**

**Where I'm Calling**

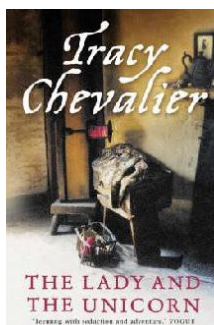
Spans twenty-five years of the author's writing career with both earlier works and original stories that explore betrayal, madness, and other reaches of human experience, in tales including *Intimacy* and *Boxes*.

### CHABON, MICHAEL     **The Yiddish Policemen's Union**



An ambitious novel from the author of *The Final Solution* and *Wonder Boys*, in which Alaska, rather than Israel, has become the homeland of the Jewish nation after WWII.

### CHEVALIER, TRACY     **The Lady and the Unicorn**

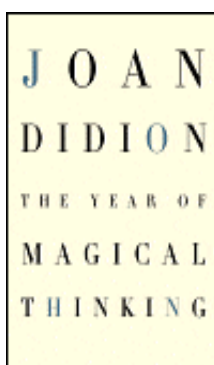


Tracy Chevalier's fourth novel about a set of six medieval tapestries, each one full of mystery and fated paths.

### DICK, PHILIP K                     **The Man in the High Castle**

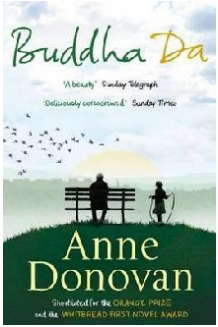


Imagine the world if the Allies had lost the Second World War. This book trips the switches of our minds with a vision of the world as it might have been: the African continent virtually wiped out, the Mediterranean drained to make farmland, and the United States divided between the Japanese and the Nazis.



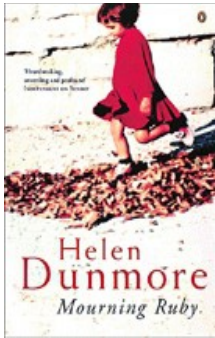
### DIDION, JOAN     **the Year of Magical Thinking**

An author known for her intellectual analysis of personal and global events reveals the limited power of intelligence to defend her against a breakdown as she struggles to cope with the death of her husband, the writer John Gregory Dunne, and the simultaneous grave illness of their daughter.



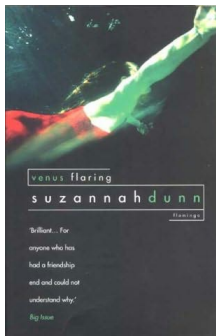
**DONOVAN, ANNE**     **Buddha Da**

An endearing, humorous yet unsentimental story of a working-class Glaswegian man who discovers Buddhism, rejects old habits and seeks a life more meaningful, only to alienate his immediate family in the process.



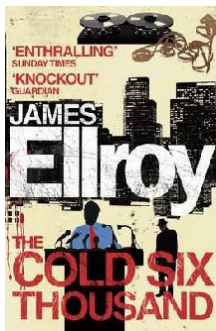
**DUNMORE, HELEN**     **Mourning Ruby**

More than thirty years ago, a mother laid her newborn baby in a shoebox and left it by the bins in the backyard of an Italian restaurant. Now the baby, Rebecca, is a mother herself, and she and her husband Adam are about to experience the greatest tragedy parents can face.



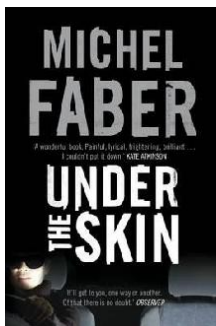
**DUNN, SUZANNAH**     **Venus Flaring**

This is a novel about obsessional love. Ornella and Veronica are the very best of friends, sharing everything, hiding nothing. Ornella, domineering and flamboyant, becomes a doctor, Veronica, observant and self-possessed, a journalist. But then something goes horribly wrong, and what was once the truest of friendships disintegrates into a nightmare of barely controlled resentment.



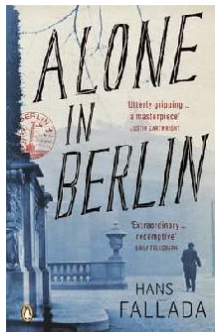
**ELLROY, JAMES**     **The Cold Six Thousand**

Dallas, November 22nd, 1963. Wayne Tedrow Jr has arrived to kill a man. The fee is \$6,000. He finds himself instead in the middle of the cover-up following JFK's assassination. There follows a hellish five-year ride through the sordid underbelly of public policy via Las Vegas, Vietnam, CIA dope dealing, Cuba, sleazy showbiz, racism and the Klan.



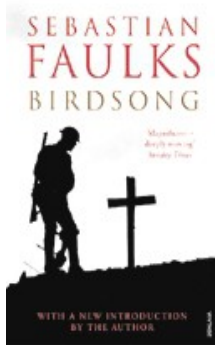
**FABER, MICHEL**     **Under the Skin**

Under the Skin introduces Isserley, a woman obsessed with picking up male hitchhikers - so long as they're well-muscled and alone. But why?



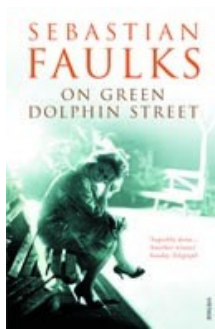
### **FALLADA, HANS Alone in Berlin**

It's Berlin, 1940, and the city is filled with fear. At the house on 55 Jablonski Strasse, its various occupants try to live under Nazi rule in their different ways: the bullying Hitler loyalists the Persickes, the retired judge Fromm and the unassuming couple Otto and Anna Quangel. Then the Quangels receive the news that their son has been killed.



### **FAULKS, SEBASTIAN Birdsong**

set before and during the Great War, this work captures the drama of that era on both a national and a personal scale. It is the story of Stephen, a young Englishman, who arrives in Amiens in 1910. His life goes through a series of traumatic experiences, from the clandestine love affair to the unprecedented experiences of the war itself.



### **FAULKS, SEBASTIAN On Green Dolphin Street**

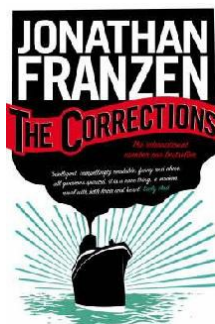
affair.

With two young children she adores, loving parents back in London, and an admired husband, Charlie, working at the British embassy in Washington, the world seems an effervescent place of parties, jazz and family happiness to Mary vander Linden. But when Frank, an American newspaper reporter, enters their lives, Mary embarks on a passionate



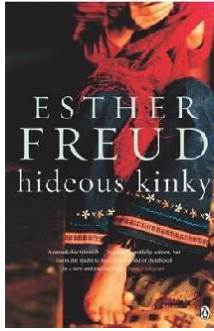
### **FLAGG, FANNIE Welcome to the World, Baby Girl**

A novel spanning late 1940s small-town America and the New York media world of the 1970s, by the author of Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe. It tells the story of a television interviewer with emotional and drink problems who was abandoned as a teenager by her mother.



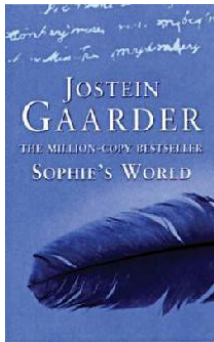
### **FRANZEN, JONATHAN The Corrections**

Framed by matriarch Enid Lambert's attempts to gather her three grown children back home for Christmas, The Corrections examines their lives: Enid's husband Alfred, sinking into dementia, her sons, banker Gary and writer Chip (now in Lithuania) and daughter Denise, a chef, busily re-evaluating her sexual identity.



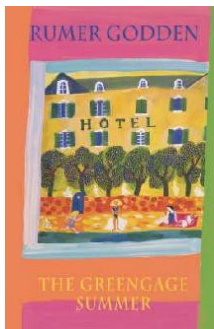
**FREUD, ESTHER Hideous Kinky**

Two little girls are taken by their mother to Morocco on a 1960s pilgrimage of self-discovery. For Mum, it is not just an escape from the grinding conventions of English life but a quest for personal fulfilment; her children, however, seek something more solid and stable amidst the shifting desert sands.



**GAARDER, JOSTEIN Sophie's World**

Sophie finds two questions in her mailbox: "Who are you?" and "Where does the world come from?" This is the start of her journey through the history of philosophy, guided by a mysterious mentor. To find the truth, we must understand the questions, but the truth is stranger than Sophie can imagine.



**GODDEN, RUMER The Greengage Summer**

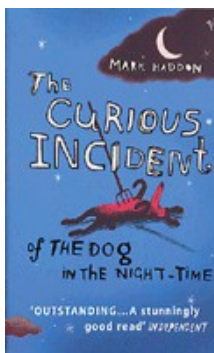
A portrait of love and deceit in the Champagne country of the Marne - which became a memorable film starring Kenneth More and Susannah York.



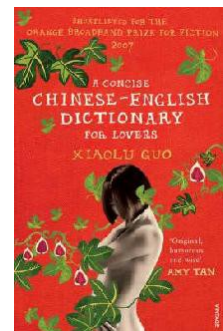
**GRUEN, SARA Water For Elephants**

A gritty, compelling New York Times bestselling novel of star-crossed lovers and circus life set in Depression-era USA.

Twenty-three-arrives in Struggling to



**HADDON, MARK Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**



**GUO, XIAOLU A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary for Lovers**

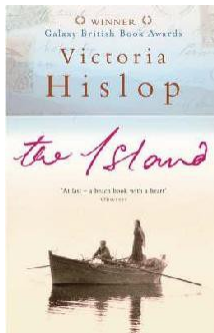
year-old Zhuang (or Z as she calls herself) London to spend a year learning English. find her way in the city, and through the puzzles of tense, verb and adverb; she falls for an older Englishman and begins to realise that the landscape of love is an even trickier terrain.

One of the most talked-about books of 2003. Haddon's stunning tale - a crossover for both the adult's and children's markets - is written from the viewpoint of a 15-year old Asperger's sufferer and transcends the usual crime mysteries by cleverly playing on the minutiae which occupy such a large part of the narrator's life.



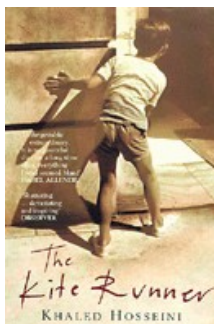
**HALL, STEVEN      The Raw Shark Texts**

Eric Sanderson wakes up in a place he doesn't recognise, unable to remember who he is. Attacked by a force he cannot see and confronted with memories he cannot ignore, Eric discovers he is being hunted by a psychic predator, a shark. This creature may exist only in his mind, but it soon starts making some very real appearances in his world.



**HISLOP, VICTORIA      The Island**

A compelling tale of family ties, with vivid characters and an authentic Cretan background. Through dramatic storytelling, Victoria Hislop charts the fate of four generations rent by war, illicit love, passion and leprosy, from the thirties through to the present day. It is certain to capture the hearts and imaginations of the nation.



**HOSSEINI, KHALED      The Kite Runner**

Twelve year old Amir is desperate to win the approval of his father Baba, one of the richest and most respected merchants in Kabul. He has failed to do so through academia or brawn, but the one area where they connect is the annual kite fighting tournament. This is a story of love, loyalty, secrets and vengeance, and of a country and a boy.

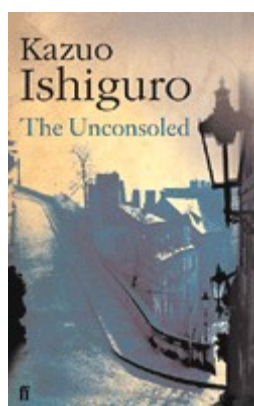


**HOWARD, ELIZABETH JANE      Falling**

Henry Kent has been looking for someone. Anyone will do, as long as she is a woman, preferably with some money. But when writer Daisy Langrish buys a cottage close by he arouses her agent's suspicions, who discovers a chilling secret.

**Unconsoled**

Ryder, a European city remember

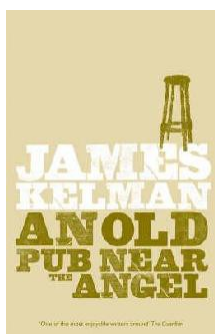


**ISHIGURO, KAZUO      The**

renowned pianist, arrives in a Central he cannot identify for a concert he cannot agreeing to give. But then as he traverses a

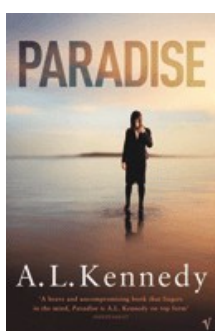


landscape by turns eerie and comical - and always strangely malleable, as a dream might be - he comes steadily to realise he is facing the most crucial performance of his life. Ishiguro's extraordinary study of a man whose life has accelerated beyond his control was met on publication by consternation, vilification - and the highest praise.



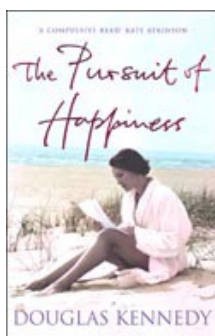
**KELMAN, JAMES An Old Pub Near the Angel**

Set among the tenements and bedsits of Glasgow, this title presents a collection of short stories which throw light on the exploits of young and old.



**KENNEDY, A.L. Paradise**

Almost forty and with nothing to show for it, Hannah Luckraft is starting to notice that her lifestyle is not entirely sustainable: her subconscious is turning against her; her soul is a little unwell. Robert, a dissolute dentist, appears to offer a love she can understand, but he may only be one more symptom of the problem she must cure.



**KENNEDY, DOUGLAS The Pursuit of Happiness**

New York, 1945 - Sara Smythe, a young, beautiful and intelligent woman, ready to make her own way in the big city attends her brother's Thanksgiving Eve party. As the party gets into full swing a US Army journalist back from a defeated Germany and a man unlike any Sara has ever met before - one who is destined to change Sara's future forever.

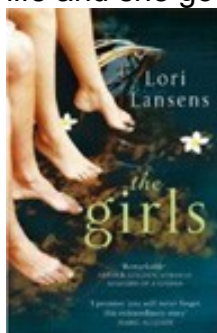


**KRAUSS, NICOLE History of Love**

In the Polish village where he was born, Leo Gursky fell in love with a young girl called Alma and wrote a book in her honour. These days he is just about surviving life in America. Meanwhile, a young girl, hoping to find a cure for her mother's loneliness, stumbles across a book that changed her mother's life and she goes in search of the author.

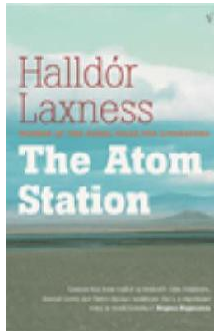
**LANSENS,**

This novel Ruby. An Girls is an everyday



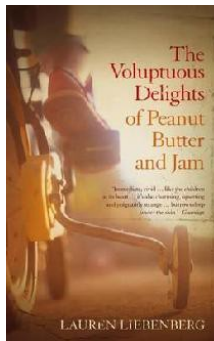
**LORI The Girls**

follows the story of conjoined twins, Rose and emotional and immensely readable novel, The enchanting blend of the extraordinary and the without any trace of mawkishness.



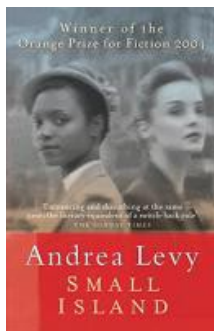
**LAXNESS, HALLDOR      The Atom Station**

When the Americans make an offer to buy Icelandic land to build an atomic war base, a storm of protest is provoked. Told by a country girl from the north, this novel follows her experiences upon taking up employment as a maid in the house of her Member of Parliament. Her observations expose the intellectual society of the south as rootless.



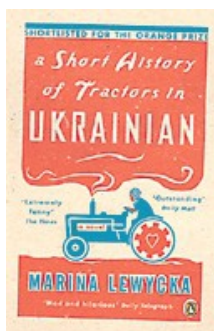
**LEIBENBERG, LAUREN  
The Voluptuous Delights of Peanut Butter and Jam**

Rhodesia in its death throes in the late 1970s is evoked through the eyes of two young sisters, growing up on a remote farm. Acclaimed literary novel exploring themes of loss, guilt and redemption in an Africa that is at once grotesque, poignant and beautiful.



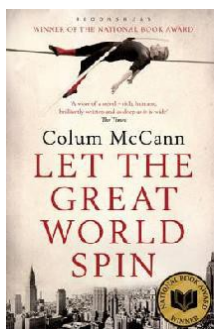
**LEVY, ANDREA                      Small Island**

In this delicately wrought and profoundly moving, multi-award winning novel, Andrea Levy handles the weighty themes of empire, prejudice, war and love, with a lightness of touch and a generosity of spirit that challenges and uplifts the reader.



**LEWYCA, MARINA  
A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian**

Sisters Vera and Nadezhda must put aside feuding to save their engineer father from gold-digger Valentina. With her proclivity for satin underwear and boil-in-the-bag cuisine, she will stop at nothing in her pursuit of wealth. But the sisters' campaign to oust Valentina unearths secrets and sends them back to roots they'd much rather forget.



**MCCANN, COLUM      Let the Great World Spin**

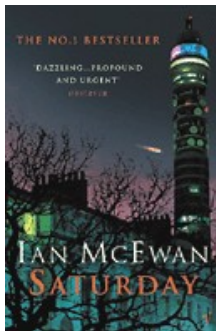
A novel which won the National Book Award in America. Set at the time of Philippe Petit's daredevil tightrope walk between the Twin Towers in 1974, it follows the diverse lives of several characters which will collide and be transformed forever.



**MCCANN, MARIA**

**As Meat Loves Salt**

An epic tale of obsession and murder, set during the English Civil War, from a promising young English writer. An intriguing and disturbing first novel which lingers in the mind. Tense with anguish, intimacy and shame, it imaginatively re-creates the mentality of a society racked with war and intoxicated by radical new ideas of freedom and change.



**MCEWAN, IAN**

**Saturday**

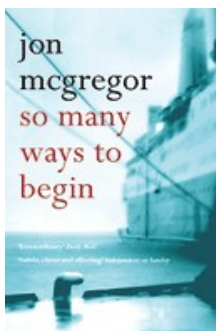
Perowne makes his way to his weekly squash game through London streets filled with hundreds of thousands of anti-war protestors. A minor car accident brings him into a confrontation with Baxter, a fidgety, aggressive, young man, on the edge of violence. To Perowne's professional eye, there appears to be something profoundly wrong with him.



**MCGREGOR, JON**

**If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things**

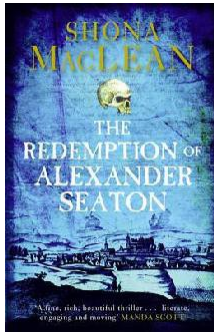
On a street in a town in the North of England, ordinary people are going through the motions of their everyday existence. A young man is in love with a neighbour who does not even know his name. An old couple make their way up to the nearby bus stop. But then a terrible event shatters the quiet of the early summer evening.



**MCGREGOR, JON**

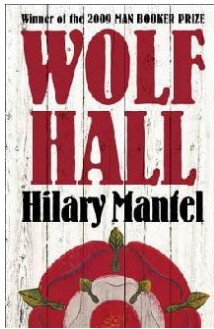
**So Many Ways to Begin**

David Carter cannot help but wish for more: that his wife Eleanor would be the sparkling girl he once found so irresistible; that his job as a museum curator could live up to the promise it once held. But a few careless words spoken by his mother's friend have left David restless with the knowledge that his life has been constructed around a lie.



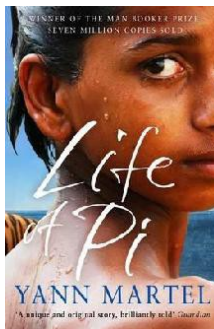
**MCLEAN, SHONA**  
**The Redemption of Alexander Seaton**

London 1620: a fallen minister investigates the seemingly motiveless poisoning of a young apothecary's apprentice, a quest that leads to the heart of darkness that lies in the souls of men. A flawless evocation of 17th Century Scotland.



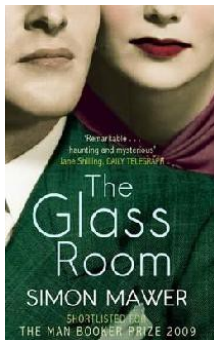
**MANTEL, HILARY**                      **Wolf Hall**

Winner of the Man Booker Prize 2009. In England, the 1520s, Henry VIII is on the throne but has no heir; Cardinal Wolsey is his chief advisor; Thomas Cromwell, Wolsey's clerk. Cromwell is a briber and a bully, an expert at manipulating people and events, and his ruthless ambition will affect politics far and wide.



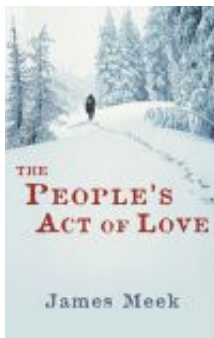
**MARTEL, YANN**    **Life of Pi**

After the tragic sinking of a cargo ship, a solitary lifeboat remains bobbing on the wild, blue Pacific. The only survivors from the wreck are a sixteen year-old boy named Pi, a hyena, a zebra (with a broken leg), a female orangutan and a 450-pound Royal Bengal tiger. A story to make you believe the impossible, it is a novel that has captured hearts and minds like no other.



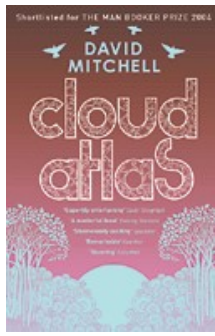
**MAWER, SIMON**                      **The Glass Room**

Inspired by a real house, this is the tale of the people that come and go from Landauer House over the years as it passes from Czech to Russian hands. Shortlisted for the Booker Prize, it follows Mawer's previous novels The Gospel of Judas, The Fall and Swimming to Ithaca.



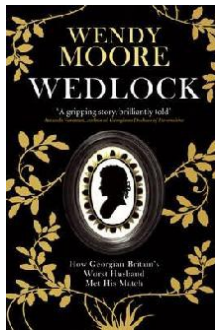
**MEEK, JAMES**    **The People's Act of Love**

In the outer reaches of a Siberian country lives a small Christian sect. Stationed in their midst is a company of Czech soldiers. Into this community trudges Samarin, an escapee from a Russian prison. His arrival intrigues many, including Anna Petrovna, a war widow, but when a shaman is found dead, suspicion and terror engulf the little town...



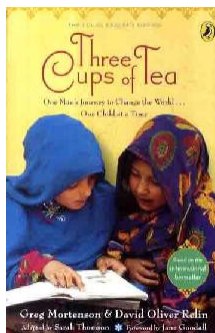
## MITCHELL, DAVID **Cloud Atlas**

A voyager crossing the Pacific in 1850; a composer blagging a livelihood in between-the-wars Belgium; a journalist in 70s California; a publisher fleeing his gangland creditors; a 'dinery server' on death-row; and Zachry, a young Pacific Islander witnessing the nightfall of science and civilisation - the narrators of Cloud Atlas hear each other's echoes down the corridor of history.



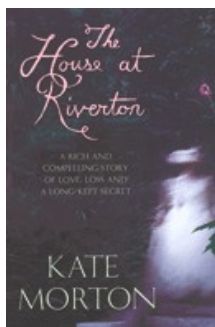
## MOORE, WENDY **Wedlock – How Georgian Britain's Worst Husband Met his Match**

The remarkable story of the Countess of Strathmore and her marriage to Andrew Robinson Stoney. It was a brutal one, and when she filed for divorce and was subsequently kidnapped, it became the scandal of the day. This account of an 18th century woman's fight for liberty and justice is told with great verve by the author of *The Knife Man*, who is comparable to Alison Weir with her populist touch.



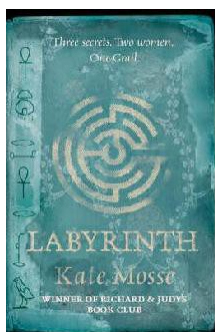
## MORTENSON, GREG **Three Cups of Tea**

In an attempt to climb K2, Greg Mortenson became lost in the mountains of Pakistan, and was rescued by local villagers. Struck by their kindness and their poverty, he decided to return and build a school. But his project has burgeoned, and now more than 60 schools have been built across Pakistan and Afghanistan. This true story was a New York Times bestseller.



## MORTON, KATE **The House at Riverton**

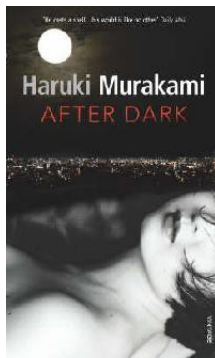
Within these four walls lay a secret that would last a lifetime. A novel about love, loss and long-buried family secrets.



## MOSSE, KATE

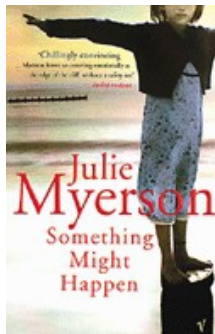
## **Labyrinth**

Alice is a young British woman working on an archaeological dig in the south of France when she discovers a cave which has been hiding secrets for centuries. The story then jumps back 800 years when another young woman, Alais, has to protect an ancient book that contains the secrets of the Holy Grail. Their stories are told in alternating chapters as both of them struggle to hide and protect their secrets.



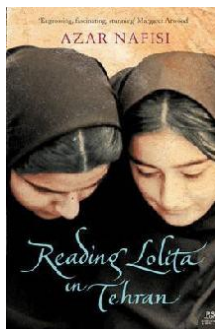
**MURAKAMI, HARUKI**                      **After Dark**

Mari sips her coffee and glances up from a book as a young man, intrudes on her solitude. Both have missed the last train home. Shortly afterwards Mari will be interrupted a second time by a girl from the Alphaville Hotel; a Chinese prostitute has been hurt by a client, the girl has heard Mari speaks fluent Chinese and requests her help.



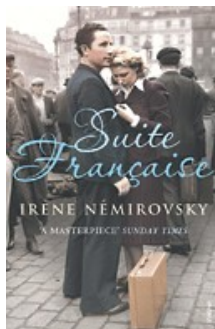
**MYERSON, JULIE**                      **Something Might Happen**

On a Monday night in October in a seaside town in Suffolk, a woman is brutally murdered. She was not an obvious victim. She just wasn't, thinks her grieving, bewildered friend Tess, the type to have something happen to her. As the police go about their routine investigation, Tess' world of nappies, school runs and baked beans begin to unravel.



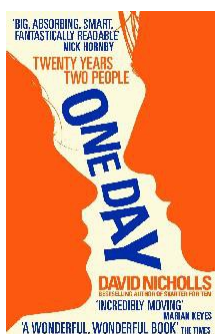
**NAFISI, AZAR**                      **Reading Lolita in Tehran**

Inspirational tale of 8 women who defied the confines of life in revolutionary Iran through the joy and power of literature. A fascinating look at life during the Iran/Iraq war.



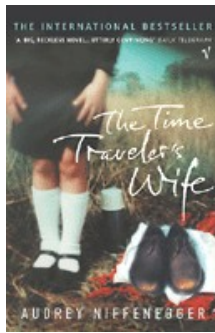
**NEMIROVSKY, IRENE**                      **Suite Française**

A lost masterpiece written in France in 1941, telling the story of a group of characters living under the Nazi occupation. The author died in Auschwitz in 1942, and was awarded the prestigious Prix Renaudot in 2005 - the first time that the prize has been awarded posthumously.



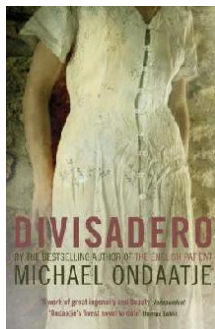
**NICHOLLS, DAVID**                      **One Day**

From being a celebrity in the 90's to having a boss with a large beard, nothing is shielded away from in this big pot of life. This book follows every 15th July from 1988 (end of their studentship) to near present day in the lives of two characters; Emma and Dexter, and their relationship with each other and others.



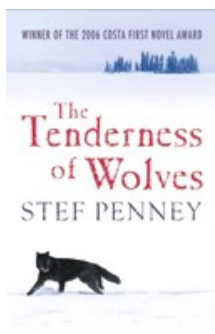
## **NIFFENEGGER, AUDREY**    **The Time Traveler's Wife**

This extraordinary, magical novel is the story of Clare and Henry who have known each other since Clare was 6 and Henry was 36, and were married when Clare was 22 and Henry 30. Impossible but true, because Henry is one of the first people diagnosed with Chrono-Displacement Disorder: periodically his genetic clock resets and he finds himself pulled suddenly into his past or future



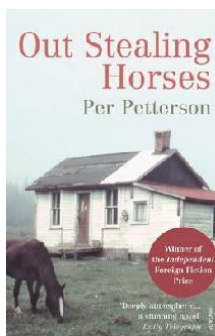
## **ONDAATJE, MICHAEL**    **Divisadero**

From the author of *The English Patient*. Beginning in 1970s northern California, it follows the lives of a makeshift family who are split apart by an incident of violence. A story of possession and loss, and the discordant demands of love and memory. Plumply imagined, deeply romantic but vividly traumatic.



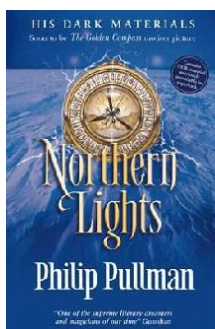
## **PENNEY, STEF**                    **The Tenderness of Wolves**

Winner of the Costa First Novel Award, this is an extraordinary debut, a panoramic epic combining murder mystery, adventure and romance, and powerfully evoking the harsh environment of an isolated settlement in Canada, 1867. Exhilarating in its scope and quality.



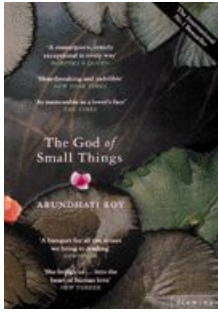
## **PETTERSON, PER**                    **Out Stealing Horses**

In 1948, when he is fifteen, Trond spends a summer in the country with his father. The events - the accidental death of a child, his best friend's feelings of guilt and eventual disappearance, his father's decision to leave the family for another woman - will change his life forever.



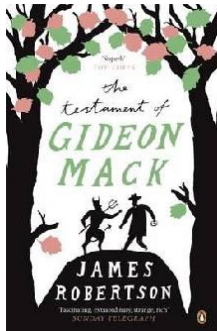
## **PULLMAN, PHILIP**    **The Northern Lights**

'Without this child, we shall all die'. Lyra Belacqua and her animal daemon live half-wild and carefree among scholars of Jordan College, Oxford. The destiny that awaits her will take her to the frozen lands of the Arctic, where witch-clans reign and ice-bears fight. Her journey will have immeasurable consequences far beyond her own world.



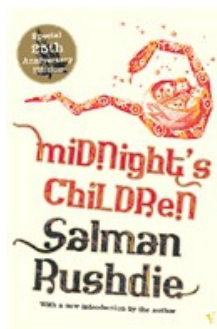
## **ROY, ARUNDHATI    The God of Small Things**

Arundhati Roy's phenomenal debut novel, which beat the favourites to the 1997 Booker Prize, and emerged as something of a surprise winner. A witty and magical piece of work, it describes the lives of two twins growing up in a factory in Kerala, southern India amidst an extended and chaotically dysfunctional family. Roy has intimated that this may be her first and last novel.



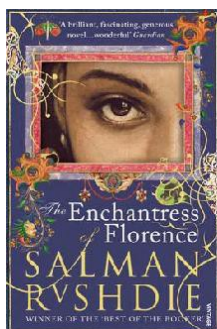
## **ROBERTSON, JAMES    The Testament of Gideon Mack**

If the devil didn't exist, would man have to invent him? For Gideon Mack, faithless minister, unfaithful husband and troubled soul, the existence of God, let alone the Devil, is no more credible than that of ghosts or fairies. Until the day he falls into a gorge and is rescued by someone who might just be Satan himself.



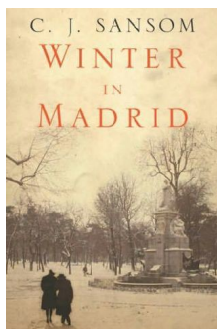
## **RUSHDIE, SALMAN                      Midnight's Children**

Saleem Sinai was born at midnight, the midnight of India's independence, and found himself handcuffed to history by the coincidence. He is one of 1,001 children born at the midnight hour, each of them endowed with an extraordinary talent. This is a family saga set against the background of the India of the 20th century.



## **RUSHDIE, SALMAN    The Enchantress of Florence**

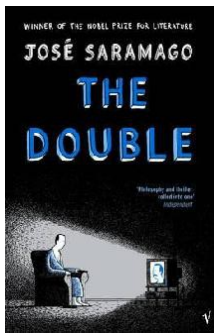
A young European traveler calling himself 'Mogor dell 'Amora', the Mughal of Love arrives at the court of Emperor Akbar. The stranger claims to be the child of a lost Mughal princess, the youngest sister of Akbar's grandfather Babar, Qara Koz, a great beauty believed to possess powers of enchantment and sorcery.



## **SANSOM, C.J.                      Winter in Madrid**

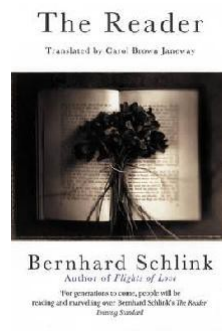
1940: The Spanish Civil War is over, and Madrid lies ruined. Into this uncertain world comes Harry Brett: a traumatised veteran of Dunkirk turned reluctant spy for the British Secret Service. In a depiction of wartime Spain, this work is a tale, which offers a sense of history unfolding, and the impact of impossible choices.





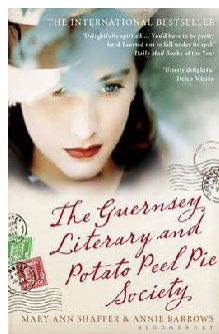
## SARAMAGO, JOSE **The Double**

What happens when Deadline Maximo Afonso, a 38-year-old professor of history, discovers that there is a man living in the same city who is identical to him on every physical detail, but not related by blood at all. And what happens when each of these men attempt to investigate each other's lives?



## SCHLINK, BERNARD **The Reader**

An exceptionally powerful novel exploring the themes of betrayal, guilt and memory against the background of the Holocaust. An international bestseller.



## SHAFFER, MARY ANN

### **The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society**

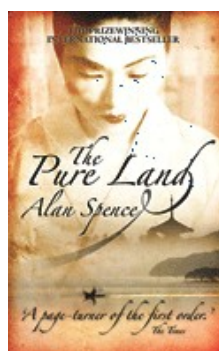
Set in 1946 and in the form of letters, mainly to and from the central character, Juliet Ashton, a successful writer who becomes, wholly coincidentally, involved with a group of people on Guernsey who lived through the wartime German Occupation. The characters are thoroughly engaging and Mary Ann Shaffer (although born in the USA) manages to capture the English voice of the time beautifully.



## SMITH, ALI

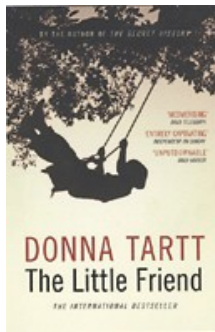
### **Hotel World**

Five people: four are living, three are strangers, two are sisters, and one is dead. This book introduces five characters and traces their intersecting lives.



## SPENCE, ALAN **The Pure Land**

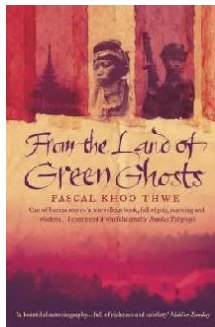
The year is 1858. Thomas Glover is a gutsy eighteen-year-old who grasps the chance of escape to foreign lands and takes a posting as a trader in Japan. Within ten years, he amasses a great fortune, learns the ways of the samurai, and, on the other side of the law, brings about the overthrow of the Shogun.



**TARTT, DONNA**

**The Little Friend**

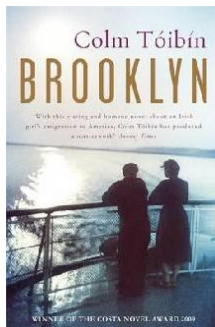
Tartt's huge selling second novel, follow up to the worldwide bestseller *The Secret History*. 12 year old Harriet's family is still suffering from the mysterious death of her brother 12 years earlier, so she sets out with her only friend to find his murderer and punish him.



**THWE, PASCAL KHOO**

**From the Land of Green Ghosts**

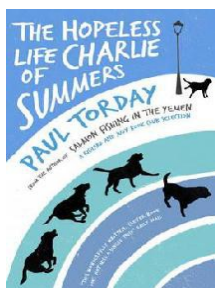
The astonishing story of a young man's upbringing in a remote tribal village in Burma and his journey from his strife-torn country to the tranquil quads of Cambridge.



**TOIBIN, COLM**

**Brooklyn**

It is Enniscorthy in the south-east of Ireland in the early 1950s. Ellis Lacey is one among many of her generation who cannot find work at home. Thus when a job is offered in America, it is clear to everyone that she must go.



**TORDAY, PAUL**      **The Hopeless Life of Charlie Summers**

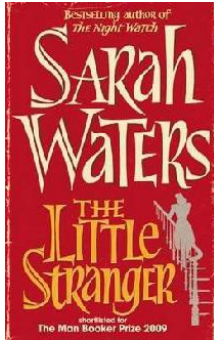
Hector has left the army; at a bit of a loose end, he agrees to help his old pal by working in his company as a greeter. But he finds himself drawn into a scheme to import luxury Japanese dog food into the UK, and ends up with an uninvited houseguest.



**TRAPIDO, BARBARA**

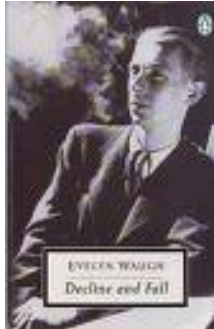
**Frankie and Stankie**

This is the story of Dinah, growing up in South Africa in the 1950s and 1960s. Living with liberal parents, she experiences apartheid with growing disgust, but nevertheless does not allow it to interfere with the importance of a first boyfriend, doing well in exams and finding best friends.



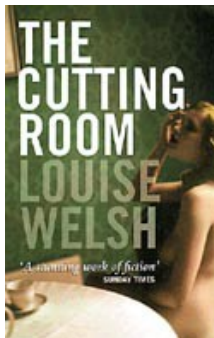
**WATERS, SARAH                      The Little Stranger**

In a 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 is now in decline. Its owners - mother, son and daughter - struggle to keep pace. But are they haunted by something more sinister than a dying way of life? Little does Dr Faraday know how closely, and how terrifyingly, their story is about to become entwined with his.



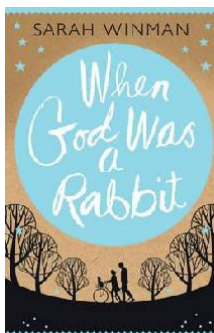
**WAUGH, EVELYN                      Decline and Fall**

Sent down from Oxford in outrageous circumstances, Paul Pennyfeather is surprised to find himself qualifying for the position of schoolmaster at Llanabba Castle. His colleagues are an assortment of misfits, rascals and fools, including Prendy (plagued by doubts) and Captain Grimes, who is always in the soup. Then Sports Day arrives, and with it the delectable Margot Beste-Chetwynde. As the farce unfolds and the young run riot, no one is safe, least of all Paul.



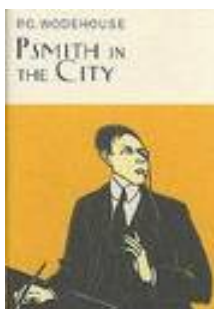
**WELSH, LOUISE                      The Cutting Room**

Rilke, an auctioneer, comes upon a hidden collection of violent erotic photographs. He feels compelled to unearth more about the deceased owner who coveted them. What follows is a journey of discovery, decadence and deviousness, steered in part by Rilke's gay promiscuity and inquisitive nature.



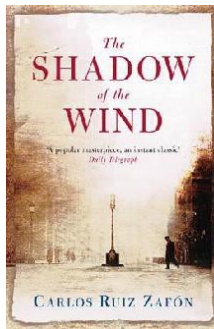
**WINMAN, SARAH                      When God Was A Rabbit**

A portrait of childhood and growing up, the loss of innocence, eccentricity and family bonds. Both funny and moving, it's the story of the bond between a brother and sister.



**WODEHOUSE, P.G.                      Psmith in the City**

In this story, Mike Jackson has to go to a bank to earn his money, instead of going to Varsity. At the bank, by an unusual and artistic coincidence he meets Psmith. Both of them loathe the bank manager for reasons of their own. What follows is plot after plot, from the attempt to gain the friendship of Mr. Rossiter to the offering of their resignation.



## ZAFON, CARLOS RUIZ Shadow of the Wind

A stunning literary thriller in the tradition of Umberto Eco. The discovery of a forgotten book leads to a hunt for an elusive author who may or may not still be alive, as every last copy of his work is collected by a stranger intent on burning them. This novel explores the obsessions humans have with literature and love and the risks we take for them.

<b>Oct 2011</b>	<b>The Catastrophist - Ronan Bennett</b>
<b>Nov 2011</b>	<b>East of the Mountains - David Guttererson</b>
<b>Dec 2011</b>	<b>The Hopeless Life of Charlie Summers - Paul Torday</b>
<b>Jan 2012</b>	<b>Out Stealing Horses - Per Petterson</b>
<b>Feb 2012</b>	<b>A Visit from the Goon Squad - Jennifer Egan</b>
<b>Mar 2012</b>	<b>The Twin - Gerbrand Bakker</b>
<b>April 2012</b>	<b>Before I go to Sleep - S.J.Watson</b>
<b>May 2012</b>	<b>We Had it so Good - Linda Grant</b>
<b>June 2012</b>	<b>Ordinary Thunderstorms - William Boyd</b>
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>The House at Riverton - Kate Morton</b>
<b>Sept 2012</b>	<b>The Silver Darlings - Neil M Gunn</b>
<b>Oct 2012</b>	<b>Trackman - Catriona Child</b>
<b>Nov 2012</b>	<b>The Memory of Love - Aminatta Forna</b>
<b>Jan 2013</b>	<b>Pao - Kerry Young</b>
<b>Feb 2013</b>	<b>Birdsong – Sebastian Faulks</b>
<b>March 2013</b>	<b>Brixton Beach - Roma Tearne</b>
<b>April 2013</b>	<b>The Master and Margerita – Mikhail Bulgakov</b>
<b>May 2013</b>	<b>The Crucible - Shona McLean</b>
<b>June 2013</b>	<b>The Moon &amp; Sixpence W Somerset Maugham</b>
<b>August 2013</b>	<b>Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel</b>
<b>Sept 2013</b>	<b>The Algebraist by Iain M Banks ?</b>
<b>11 November 2013</b>	<b>A Little History of the World by E H Gombrich</b>
<b>9 December 2013</b>	<b>A Commonplace Killing by Sian Busby</b>
<b>13 January 2014</b>	<b>Tender is the Night by F Scott Fitzgerald</b>
<b>10 February 2014</b>	<b>The Magic Mountain by Thomas Mann</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b>	<b>The Match by Romesh Gunesekara</b>
<b>14 April 2014</b>	<b>The Subtle Knife by Philip Pullman</b>
<b>May 2014</b>	<b>no book - workshop</b>
<b>June 2014</b>	<b>419 – Will Ferguson</b>
<b>August 2014</b>	<b>Bring Up the Bodies by Hilary Mantel</b>