KUWAIT/EGYPT
Jarrar, Randa
A Map of Home
Nadali, the rebellious daughter of an Egyptian-Greek mother and a Palestinian father, narrates her story from her childhood in Kuwait, her early teenage years in Egypt (where the family fled during the Iraqi invasion) to her family’s last flight to Texas.

NETHERLANDS
Young, Sara
My Enemy’s Cradle
Hiding out from the Nazis with her Dutch relatives, Cyria, a half-Jewish girl, is confronted by a terrifying choice between certain discovery in her cousin’s home and — knowing that her cousin Annika is pregnant with the child of a German soldier—taking her place in the Lebensborn, a maternity home for Aryan girls carrying German babies.

PAKISTAN
Ahmed, Jamil
The Wondering Falcon
A debut novel set in the Federally Administered Tribal lands at the intersection of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan follows the story of banished refugees’ son Tor Baz, who travels throughout the region while considering his prestigious lineage and witnessing the effects of extreme culture and geography on the lives of those he encounters.

SAUDI ARABIA
Alsaneya, Rajaa
Girls of Riyadh
A bold new voice from Saudi Arabia spins a fascinating tale of four young women attempting to navigate the narrow straits between love, desire, fulfillment, and Islamic tradition. In her debut novel Rajaa Alsaneya reveals the social, romantic, and sexual tribulations of four young women from the elite classes of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

TURKEY
Shafak, Elif
The Architect’s Apprentice
In 1540, twelve-year-old Jahan arrives in Istanbul. As an animal tamer in the sultan's menagerie, he looks after the exceptionally smart elephant Chota and befriends (and falls for) the sultan’s beautiful daughter, Princess Mihrimah. A palace education leads Jahan to Mimar Sinan, the empire's chief architect, who takes Jahan under his wing as they construct (with Chota's help) some of the most magnificent buildings in history.
BELGIAN CONGO
Kingsolver, Barbara
*The Poisonwood Bible*
The *Poisonwood Bible* is a story told by the wife and four daughters of Nathan Price, a fierce, evangelical Baptist who takes his family and mission to the Belgian Congo in 1959.

BOSNIA
Brooks, Geraldine
*People of the Book*
This is the story of the journey of a rare illuminated prayer book through centuries of war, destruction, theft, loss, and love.

CAMBODIA
Fay, Kim
*Map of Lost Memories*
Seeking to restore her reputation after being passed over for a curator position, Irene Blum teams up with temple-robber Simone Merlin in 1925 Shanghai to find a priceless set of scrolls believed to contain the lost history of Cambodia.

Ratner, Vaddey
*In the Shadow of the Banyan*
Told from the tender perspective of a young girl who comes of age amid the Cambodian killing fields, this searing first novel--based on the author's personal story--is one of survival, endurance, and forced exodus.

CHILE
Allende, Isabel
*Ines of My Soul*
Based on the amazing true story of Ines Suarez who left Spain to find her husband in the New World. When she learned that he had died, she continued her journey and ends up in Chile. A fascinating look at the New World colonization in South America during the 1500s.

CHINA
See, Lisa
*Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*
In nineteenth century China, in a remote Hunan county, a girl named Lily, at the tender age of seven, is paired with a laotong, or "old same," in an emotional match that will last a lifetime. The two women exchange messages written on silk fans and handkerchieves using nushu, a unique language that women created in order to communicate in secret, sharing their experiences, but when a misunderstanding arises, their friendship threatens to tear apart.

EGYPT
Beauman, Sally
*The Visitors*
Recreation of the hunt for Tutankhamun’s tomb in Egypt’s Valley of the Kings—a dazzling blend of fact and fiction that brings to life a lost world of exploration, adventure, and danger, and the audacious men willing to sacrifice everything to find a lost treasure.

ENGLAND
Shaffer, Mary Ann
*The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*
In 1946, as England emerges from the shadow of WWII, writer Juliet Ashton finds inspiration for her next book in her correspondence with a native of Guernsey and his eccentric friends, who tell her about their island, the books they love, the German occupation and the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society book club.

FRANCE
Mayle, Peter
*A Year in Provence*
Here is the month-by-month account of the charms and frustrations that Peter Mayle and his wife experience their first year in Provence restoring a two-centuries-old stone farmhouse that they bought on sight. *This is a nonfiction book, but a great read!*

Mosse, Kate
*Labyrinth*
In the Pyrenees mountains at an archaeology dig, Alice stumbles into a cave and makes a startling discovery—two crumbling skeletons, strange writings on the walls, and the pattern of a labyrinth which is linked to a brutal crusade 800 years earlier.

GERMANY
Zusak, Markus
*The Book Thief*
Set during World War II in Germany, this is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing books.

IRELAND
Mehran, Marsha
*Pomegranate Soup*
Three Iranian sisters flee the turmoil of Iran and seek refuge in Ireland where they open the exotic Babylon Café. Is meat and potatoes Ireland ready for the spicy tastes of Iran?

KENYA
Zweig, Stefanie
*Nowhere in Africa*
When the Nazi regime comes to power, Jewish attorney Walter Redlich flees Germany with his family and finds refuge in Kenya, where the family must learn to adapt to their new life.

KOREA
Kim, Eugenia
*The Calligrapher’s Daughter*
In early-twentieth-century Korea, Najin Han, the privileged daughter of a calligrapher, longs to choose her own destiny. Smart and headstrong, she is encouraged by her mother—but her stern father is determined to maintain tradition, especially as the Japanese steadily gain control of his beloved country.