

See, Lisa

Lady Tan's Circle of Women

From the author of *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* comes an incredible story inspired by the true life of a Tan Yunxian, the granddaughter of one of the only female physicians from 15th-century China. *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* is a captivating story of women helping other women.

Shearer, Eleanor

River Sing Me Home

The story of a mother's journey across the Caribbean in the 1830s to find her lost children in the aftermath of slavery.

Willig, Lauren

Two Wars and a Wedding

In 1896, Betsy Hayes goes to Athens to break into the field of excavation and ends up as a war nurse in the conflict between Greece and Turkey. She then finds herself heading to Cuba to treat the soldiers of the Spanish-American war.

Wingate, Lisa

The Book of Lost Friends

A dramatic story of three young women on a journey in search of family amidst the destruction of the post-Civil War South. Wingate brings to life startling stories from actual "Lost Friends" advertisements that appeared in Southern newspapers after the Civil War, as freed slaves desperately searched for loved ones who had been sold off.

Zhang, Jenny

Four Treasures of the Sky

A dazzling novel set against the backdrop of the Chinese Exclusion Act, about a Chinese girl, Daiyu, who was kidnapped and smuggled across an ocean from China to America. Relinquishing the home and future she imagined for herself, Daiyu is forced to keep reinventing herself to survive as she fights to claim her place in the 1880s American West.

Zhang, C Pam

How Much of These Hills is Gold

The story of two orphaned children of Chinese immigrants during the Gold Rush of the American West, who set out on a journey to bury their father.

Historical Fiction 2023 edition



Abe, Shana

The American Beauty

Set in the Gilded Age, this story is inspired by Arabella Huntington whose remarkable beauty was surpassed by her exceptional business grit to make her one of the wealthiest self made woman in America.

Benedict, Marie

Her Hidden Genius

Rosalind Franklin's relentless research in DNA led to the discover of the double helix. A powerful novel about the woman who sacrificed her life to discover the nature of our DNA, only to have others lay claim to her incredible accomplishments.

Edwards, Shaunna & Alyson Richman

The Thread Collectors

Two women risk everything for love and freedom during the Civil War when their two paths converge in New Orleans.

Follett, Ken

The Pillars of the Earth

A classic historical fiction novel full of intrigue, fast-paced action and romance. The story is set in 12th century feudal England and revolves around the building of a glorious cathedral.

Fowler, Karen Joy

Booth

An epic and intimate novel about the family behind one of the most infamous figures in American history: John Wilkes Booth.

Frazier, Charles

The Trackers

The author of *Cold Mountain* returns with a new novel about Depression-era Wyoming and the journey of painter Val Welch.

Gerstenblatt, Julie

Daughters of Nantucket

A story of friendship and courage set on Nantucket in 1846. The lives of three women: Eliza Macy, a whaler's wife, Meg Wright, a pregnant free Black woman and Maria Mitchell, an astronomer –are changed forever when a deadly fire breaks out on the island.



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Updated 2023

Gunning, Sally

Painting the Light

Set on Martha's Vineyard in 1898, Sally Gunning's latest book is the story of Ida Russell who finds her confidence to be independent and pursue her life dreams. Author of *Monticello* and *The Widow's War*.

Harmel, Kristin

The Book of Lost Names

During WWII Eva fled Paris to take refuge in a small town in the Free Zone, where she began forging identity documents for Jewish children fleeing to Switzerland. To preserve the real names of the children who are too young to remember who they really are, she created the Book of Lost Names.

Jenoff, Pam

Code Name Sapphire

Inspired by incredible true stories, Jenoff's latest historical fiction is the story of Hannah Martel who joins the Sapphire Line, a secret resistance network in France. When her cousin's family is arrested and slated for deportation to Auschwitz, Hannah must find a way to save them.

Johnson, Sadequa

Yellow Wife

Pheby Delores Brown is an enslaved woman who is forced to barter love and freedom while living in the most infamous slave jail, Devil's Half Acre, in Richmond, Virginia, where the enslaved are broken, tortured, and sold every day. Also recommend: *The House of Eve*.

Kadish, Rachel

The Weight of Ink

Set in London during the 1660s and the early twenty-first century, an interwoven tale of two women. Ester Velasquez, an emigrant from Amsterdam, is the scribe for a blind rabbi, just before the plague hits the city; and historian Helen Watt, is tasked with examining the seventeenth-century Jewish documents to determine the identity of the documents' scribe, the elusive "Aleph."

Labuskes, Brianna

The Librarian of Burned Books

Based on the true story of the Council of Books in Wartime, this is the tale of three women in various settings – 1933 Berlin, 1936 Paris and 1944 New York City – on paths that will intertwine for generations.

Lehane, Dennis

Small Mercies

This historical thriller is set in Boston in the summer of 1974. Two seemingly unconnected murders take place in the midst of a tumultuous time when the city's desegregation of its public schools exploded in violence and the Irish mob rules "Southie."

Loesch, Kristen

The Last Russian Doll

Told in dual timelines, 1917 and 1991, the story traces the lives of three generations of women and the great love that connects them all.

McLain, Paula

Circling the Sun

Set in colonial Kenya in the 1920s, McLain's story brings to life a fearless and captivating woman-- Beryl Markham, a record-setting aviator caught up in a passionate love triangle with safari hunter Denys Finch Hatton and Karen Blixen, author of the classic memoir *Out of Africa*. Also recommended: *The Paris Wife*

Miller, Madeline

The Song of Achilles

A captivating retelling of Homer's *The Iliad* and events leading up to it through the point of view of Patroclus, the childhood friend and close wartime companion of Achilles. Also recommended: *Circe*

O'Farrell, Maggie

Hamnet: A Novel of the Plague

A fictional account of the death of Shakespeare's young son in 15th century Britain, the years leading up to the production of the great play, Hamlet. Also recommended *The Marriage Portrait*.

Perkins-Valdez, Dolen

Take My Hand

Inspired by true events that rocked the nation, a searing and compassionate novel set in 1973 about Civil Townsend, a Black nurse in post-segregation Montgomery, Alabama who blows the whistle on a terrible injustice done to the poor, Black, rural patients.

Rutledge, Lynda

West with Giraffes

Based on the inspiring true events during depression-era America, Rutledge tells the story of two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic and the twelve-day road trip in a custom truck to deliver Southern California's first giraffes to the San Diego Zoo.