

Order of all Books - January 2015

This Table presents all the books read by the *Last Thursday Book Club*, listed in order of quality based on the averaged numerical votes of the club members.

This list is reconstituted at the end of each calendar year to integrate the most current 12 selections. In general see the Review Summaries for details on what individual Club members liked, did not like about each book. When the book title is hyperlinked in the table below, it directly takes you to the specific LTBC summary/review for that entry.

Order	LTBC	Title	Author	Notes
1	29-Jan-98	The Grapes of Wrath	John Steinbeck	(580 pgs) Our choice for best of all
2	29-Apr-93	A River Runs Through It	Norman Maclean	
3	25-Feb-99	Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage	Alfred Lansing	
4	29-Oct-98	Lolita	Vladimir Nabokov	
5	28-Feb-08	Infidel	Ayaan Hirshi Ali	Ali was the Somali-born member of the Dutch parliament who faced death threats after collaborating on a film about domestic violence against Muslim women
6	25-May-00	To Kill a Mockingbird	Harper Lee	When he was nearly thirteen, my brother Jem got his arm badly broken at the elbow....
7	27-Feb-94	The Killer Angels	Michael Sharra	(1974)
8	26-May-94	The Good Earth	Pearl Buck	(1937)
9	27-Jul-06	The Old Man and the Sea	Ernest Hemingway	Man is not made for defeat. A man can be destroyed but not defeated. Pull the boat, fish.
10	28-Aug-94	Red Badge of Courage	Stephan Crane	
11	31-Jul-97	Undaunted Courage	Stephen Ambrose	
12	22-Aug-97	All the Pretty Horses	Cormac McCarthy	
13	30-Jul-98	A Fan's Notes	Frederick Exley	
14	27-Apr-00	The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Samuel L. Clemens	
15	28-May-09	When A Crocodile Eats The Sun	Peter Godwin	This story of a family was highly emotional. The author was watching his father die and his country die - what will it take (in time) to improve the situation in Zimbabwe? The father said whites in Africa are like Jews anywhere - waiting for the next crisis to erupt.
16	25-Apr-13	Cannery Row	John Steinbeck	"[Cannery Row's] inhabitants are, as the man once said, 'whores, pimps, gamblers, and sons of bitches,' by which he meant everybody. Had the man looked through another peephole he might have said, 'saints and angels and martyrs and holy men,' and he would have meant the same thing."
17	29-Oct-09	In Cold Blood	Truman Capote	It has been said of Mr. Clutter that his shoulders were broad, his hair had held its dark color, his square-jawed, confident face retained a healthy-hued youthfulness, and his teeth, unstained, and strong enough to shatter walnuts, were still intact.
18	28-Jul-94	Monsignor Quixote	Graham Greene	
19	28-Jan-99	All The King's Men	Robert Penn Warren	
20	27-May-99	Angela's Ashes	Frank McCourt	When I look back on my childhood I wonder how I survived at all. It was, of course, a miserable childhood: the happy childhood is hardly worth your while.
21	25-Mar-04	Life of Pi	Yann Martel	a transformative novel, an astonishing work of imagination that will delight and stun readers in equal measure.
22	22-May-08	Out Stealing Horses	Per Petterson	The author as Trond Sander: "All my life I have longed to be alone in a place like this."
23	18-Nov-04	Disgrace	JM Coetzee	the least given to sentimentality of the talented novelists to have come out of South Africa.
24	3-May-12	Peace like a River	Leif Enger	"Real miracles bother people, like strange sudden pains unknown in medical literature. It's true: They rebut every rule all we good citizens take comfort in. Lazarus obeying orders and climbing up out of the grave - now there's a miracle, and you can bet it upset a lot of folks who were standing around at the time.
25	25-Jul-96	The Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald	"In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since."

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26	31-Jan-13	Cry, The Beloved Country	Alan Paton	"Cry, the beloved country, for the unborn child that is the inheritor of our fear."
27	19-Dec-96	The Spy Who Came In From the Cold	John LeCarre	
28	25-Mar-10	Three Cups of Tea	Greg Mortensen	One man's mission to promote peace, one school at a time. In 1996, Mortensen returned to Korphe to build the promised school.
29	25-Oct-12	No Country For Old Men	Cormac McCarthy	<i>I think if you were Satan and you were settin around tryin to think up somethin that would just bring the human race to its knees what you would probably come up with is narcotics."</i>
30	30-Dec-93	The Assault	Henry Mulisch	
31	26-Jan-95	Winter of our Discontent	John Steinbeck	
32	29-Sep-05	The Actual	Saul Bellow	The worldly and clever Harry Trellman, a grand noticer of things, tells the familiar Bellow story of an old adolescent love which is finally admitted to and resumed.
33	14-Dec-10	Hitch-22	Christopher Hitchens	What do you most value in your friends? Their continued existence.
34	27-Jul-95	The Moviegoer	Walker Percy	
35	27-Mar-03	Master and Commander	Patrick O'Brian	the first in the splendid series of Jack Aubrey novels. Title provides links to Smithsonian articles on how this series came to be.
36	30-Jan-14	The Yellow Birds	Kevin Powers	"There is a sharp distinction between what is remembered, what is told and what is true."
37	31-Aug-95	A Confederacy of Dunces	John Kennedy Toole	the funniest book on the list; memorable charact
38	25-Jan-01	The Professor and the Madman	Simon Winchester	Creating the Oxford English Dictionary. One of the major contributors was a US Army surgeon who murdered a man in London and was in a lunatic asylum.
39	31-May-01	The Shipping News	E. Annie Proulx	From all outward appearances, Quoyale has gone through his first 36 years on earth as a big schlump of a loser.
40	22-Nov-01	This House of Sky: Landscapes of a Western Mind	Ivan Doig	The grandson of homesteaders and the son of a ranch hand and a ranch cook, Ivan Doig was born in Montana in 1939.
41	28-Apr-05	Housekeeping	Marilynne Robinson	I have observed that, in the way people are strange, they grow stranger, says Ruth, our narrator. When she was young, her mother returned with her and her sister to Fingerbone, Idaho. Once there, she left the two of them on the front porch of her mother's house, then committed suicide by driving her car into a nearby lake.
42	27-Mar-08	Man in the Holocene	Max Frisch	Erosion was a theme; Geiser's mind was eroding. At the same time, Geiser remembers every minute on the Matterhorn.
43	20-Nov-08	The Yiddish Policeman's Union	Michael Chabon	"He has the memory of a convict, the balls of a fireman, and the eyesight of a housebreaker." "...collecting himself like a beggar chasing scattered dimes along the sidewalk."
44	24-Jun-04	The Reader	Bernhard Schlink	the story of a man whose adolescent affair with an older woman returns to haunt him years later.
45	30-Dec-05	The Nigger of the Narcissus	Joseph Conrad	"The <i>Narcissus</i> came gently into her berth; the shadows of souless walls fell upon her, the dust of all the continents leaped upon her deck, and a swarm of strange men, clambering up her sides, took possession of her in the name of the sordid earth. She had ceased to live."
46	29-Jun-06	Gilead	Marilyn Robinson	"I have lived my life on the prairie and a line of oak trees can still astonish me."
47	30-Apr-09	The Reluctant Mr. Darwin	David Quannem	"He didn't foresee being swallowed up by barnacle taxonomy for eight years ... His study must have smelled like a pub, from the evaporation of pickling alcohol off his specimens." Darwin anecdotes: Little son George asking his playmates, "Where does your father do his barnacles?"

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48	29-Jul-10	The Big Sleep	Raymond Chandler	"I've been around," he said. "Know the boys and such. Used to do a little liquor-running down from Huenene Point. A tough racket, brother. Riding the scout car with a gun in your lap and a wad on your hip that would choke a coal chute. Plenty of times we paid off four sets of law before we hit Beverly Hills. A tough racket." "Terrible." I said He leaned back and blew smoke at the ceiling from the small tight corner of his small tight mouth. "Maybe you don't believe me," he said. "Maybe I don't." I said. "And maybe I do. And then again maybe I haven't bothered to make my mind up."
49	25-Sep-14	Shane	Jack Schaefer	"What a man knows isn't important. It's what he is that counts"
50	27-Sep-07	Deliverance	James Dickey	Dickey's writing is gripping - the rape scene actually hurt to read it. Some of his poetic descriptions were carried away. Provided unspoken interaction between the four guys, most of whom wanted to be macho like Lewis.
51	17-Dec-09	Mutiny on the Bounty	Charles Nordhoff et al	The story of the Bounty will be told as long as men sail the sea. The storytelling genius of the authors finds here a canvas filled with color, action and adventure. Readers will realize, as did the authors, that so large a drama could not be confined to the compass of an ordinary book. Nordoff and Hall chose to tell the story of the Bounty in three acts. We read the first.
52	28-Oct-93	Bless Me Ultima	Rudolpho Anaya	
53	22-Dec-94	The Painted Bird	Jerzy Kosinski	
54	23-Dec-99	The Sun Also Rises	Ernest Hemingway	Everyone enjoyed the bull fighting descriptions, wanted more.
55	27-Jul-00	Citizen Soldiers: Normandy to the Bulge	Stephen Ambrose	combines history and journalism to describe how American GIs battled their way to the Rhineland.
56	26-Feb-04	The Debt to Pleasure	John Lanchester	If Humbert Humbert had written a cookbook rather than about his nymphet, this would have been the book.
57	25-May-06	As I Lay Dying	William Faulkner	It takes two people to make you, and one people to die. That's how the world is going to end.
58	28-Sep-06	Blood Meridian or The Evening Redness in the Sky	Cormac McCarthy	War endures. ... Before man was, war waited for him. ... Men are born for games. Nothing else. ... (every child) knows too that the worth or merit of a game is not inherent in the game itself but rather in the value of that which is put at hazard.
59	25-Feb-10	The Road	Cormac McCarthy	In a novel set in an indefinite, futuristic, post-apocalyptic world, a father and his young son make their way through the ruins of a devastated American landscape, struggling to survive and preserve the last remnants of their own humanity.
60	28-Mar-13	Train Dreams	Denis Johnson	"Living up the Moyea with plenty of small chores to distract him, he forgot he was a sad man. When the hymns began, he remembered." "But they hushed, all at once and quite abruptly, when he stood still at center stage, his arms straight out from his shoulders, and went rigid, and began to tremble with a massive inner dynamism. Nobody present had ever seen anyone stand so still and yet so strangely mobile. He laid his head back until his scalp contacted his spine, that far back, and opened his throat, and a sound rose in the auditorium like a wind coming from all four directions, low and terrifying, ..."
61	27-Feb-14	The Stranger	Albert Camus	"Mother died today. Or maybe yesterday; I can't be sure."
62	29-Mar-07	Ironweed	William Kennedy	Ironweed is only secondarily about Albany. It is primarily about survival - about an ordinary man, a bum by his own admission, whose extraordinarily bad luck has brought him to rock bottom but also to the discovery, within himself, of an inner strength that he cannot understand.

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63	28-Oct-10	The Last Picture Show	Larry McMurtry	We enter the one-stoplight town of Thalia, Texas, where Duane Moore, his buddy Sonny, and his girlfriend Jacy are all stumbling along the rocky road to adulthood. The trip includes naked swimming parties, a visit to a blind heifer, mean high school coach, dancing with erections, the real Merc (1948-1951), and road trips to Mexico.
64	30-Jun-05	The Kite Runner	Khaled Hosseini	An epic tale of fathers and sons, of friendship and betrayal, that takes us from the final days of Afghanistan's monarchy to the atrocities of the present.
65	26-Aug-99	Snow Falling on Cedars	David Guterson	
66	30-Nov-00	Flashman: From the Flashman Papers	George MacDonald Fraser	
67	29-Jul-04	Benjamin Franklin: An American Life	Walter Isaacson	Transforms marble men into flesh-and-blood figures, complex and admirable if hardly perfect.
68	29-Sep-04	Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress	Dai Sijie	lot of laughs as well as having our eyes opened again concerning Mao's Cultural Revolution
69	27-Jan-05	Beowulf - the new verse translation	Seamus Heaney	In the introduction to his translation, Seamus Heaney argues that Beowulf's role as a required text for many English students obscured its mysteries and "mythic potency." We are treated to a world view in which a thane's allegiance to his lord and to God is absolute.
70	25-Aug-05	Beloved	Toni Morrison	Race, slavery, and the effects and banality of evil. Sethe, Paul D, and Stamp Paid have each endured a furious past, complete with the worst horrors imaginable.
71	24-Oct-13	Youth: A Narrative	Joseph Conrad	"oh youth! The strength of it, the faith of it, the imagination of it!"
72	31-Aug-00	Slaughterhouse Five or the Children	Kurt Vonnegut	Extra Credit: Timequake
73	30-May-02	My Antonia	Willa Cather	
74	27-Feb-03	Blue Latitudes	Tony Horwitz	Boldly Going Where Capt. Cook Has Gone Before
75	26-Jul-07	The Things They Carried	Tim O'Brien	Included The Sweetheart of Song Tra Bong (story of Mary Anne and the Greenies) and On the Rainy River (story of the old man Elroy and The Trip (almost) to Canada).
76	29-Sep-95	The Reivers	William Faulkner	more great humor
77	25-Jun-98	The Crossing	Cormac McCarthy	Extra credit: Blood Meridian
78	17-Dec-98	Cities of the Plain	Cormac McCarthy	
79	2-Aug-01	The Last Battle	Cornelius Ryan	Battle for Berlin: Ryan stressed realism and was meticulous in attention to detail and his extensive research notes.
80	30-Dec-04	The Seven Pillars of Wisdom	T. E. Lawrence	"All men dream: but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find that it was vanity: but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act out their dream with open eyes, to make it possible."
81	28-Dec-06	The Brave Cowboy	Edward Abbey	Taking place in the fictional town of "Duke City, New Mexico"
82	31-Mar-11	The Optimists Daughter	Eudora Welty	"The mystery in how little we know of other people is no greater than the mystery of how much, Laurel thought."
83	19-Dec-13	Light in August	William Faulkner	"Like a fellow running from or toward a gun ain't got time to worry whether the word for what he is doing is courage or cowardice."
84	7-Aug-08	A Thousand Splendid Suns	Khaled Hosseini	Plot more believable than The Kite Runner. A page-turner synopsis of Afghanistan with women as third class citizens. Mariam's hatred of Laila turn into Friendship.
85	18-Dec-08	What is the What	Dave Eggers	Valentino Achak Deng, the real-life hero of this engrossing epic, was a refugee from the Sudanese civil war - the bloodbath before the current Darfur bloodbath - of the 1980s and 90s. The fictionalized memoir by Salon.com's Dave Eggers.
86	30-May-13	The Poisonwood Bible	Barbara Kingsolver	"We came from Bethlehem, Georgia bearing Betty Crocker cake mixes into the jungle." "He was getting that look he gets, oh boy, like Here comes Moses tromping down off of Mount Syanide with ten fresh ways to wreck your life."

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87	29-Aug-13	Uncle Tom's Cabin	Harriet Beecher Stowe	"Of course, in a novel, people's hearts break, and they die, and that is the end of it; and in a story this is very convenient. But in real life we do not die when all that makes life bright dies to us. There is a most busy and important round of eating, drinking, dressing, walking, visiting, buying, selling, talking, reading, and all that makes up what is commonly called living, yet to be gone through..."
88	27-May-93	The Education of Little Tree	Forrest Carter	
89	22-Nov-94	Tortuga	Rudolpho Anaya	
90	26-Jan-96	Glory	Vladimir Nabokov	
91	25-Jun-96	Life on the Mississippi	Mark Twain	
92	4-Oct-96	The Best of Edward Abbey [or Slumgullion Stew]	Edward Abbey	
93	24-Oct-96	The Warrior Woman	Maxine Hong Kingston	
94	26-Jun-97	The Secret Agent	Joseph Conrad	
95	22-Sep-97	Recapitulation	Wallace Stegner	
96	18-Dec-97	Lie Down in Darkness	William Styron	
97	26-Oct-00	Cold Mountain	Charles Frazier	
98	31-Mar-05	Flyboys	James Bradley	Over the remote Pacific island of Chichi Jima, nine American flyers - Navy and Marine pilots sent to bomb Japanese communications towers were shot down. Eight were captured by Japanese soldiers on Chichi Jima and held prisoner. Then they disappeared.
99	27-Oct-05	No Ordinary Time	Doris Kearns Goodwin	A compelling chronicle of a nation and its leaders during the period when modern America was created.
100	20-Nov-14	Collected Short Stories of Saki	Hector Hugh Munro	"The censorious said she slept in a hammock and understood Yeats's poems, but her family denied both stories."
101	25-Jan-07	Saturday	Ian McEwan	a novel set within a single day -- 15 February 2003. Henry Perowne is a contented man - a successful neurosurgeon.
102	29-May-14	Unbroken	Laura Hillenbrand	"Louie found the raft offered an unlikely intellectual refuge. He had never recognized how noisy the civilized world was. Here, drifting in almost total silence, with no scents other than the singed odor of the raft, no flavors on his tongue, nothing moving but the slow procession of shark fins, every vista empty save water and sky, his time unvaried and unbroken, his mind was freed of an encumbrance that civilization had imposed on it."
103	27-Jan-00	The Perfect Storm	Sebastian Junger	an extended Reader's Digest true-adventure article, except the heroes don't survive
104	25-Apr-02	Longitude	Dava Sobel	
105	29-Aug-02	The Chosen	Chaim Potok	
106	26-Sep-02	Julian	Gore Vidal	Gore Vidal's fictional recreation of the Roman Empire teetering on the crux of Roman Empire teetering on the crux of Christianity and ruled by an emperor who was an inveterate dabbler in arcane hocus-pocus, a prig, a bigot, and a dazzling and brilliant leader.
107	23-Oct-03	Love in the Time of Cholera	Gabriel Garcia Marquez	unrequited passion so strong that it binds three people's lives together for more than fifty years.
108	29-Jan-04	Girl with A Pearl Earring	Tracy Chevalier	The novel isn't perfect, but provides a view into a fascinating period of history and a portrait of perhaps the world's greatest painter.
109	23-Feb-06	The Plot Against America	Phillip Roth	A "what-if" historical novel -- the isolationist, Nazi sympathizer, and anti-Semite Charles Lindbergh runs against Roosevelt in 1940 and wins.
110	3-Jan-08	Terrorist	John Updike	From the first chapter one hears the ticking of a bomb in the background. Ahmad was a U.S. citizen who didn't adopt to the outside world as his home country. Jack Levy defused him.

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111	26-Mar-09	Blindness	Jose Saramago	Saramago's apocalyptic novel provides yet another view of man's animal nature. Chaos seems to inevitably bring out the worst in us. On the other hand, Saramago also portrayed some of the love and tenderness we associate with human behavior.
112	19-Nov-09	The Untouchable	John Banville	It was not about spying but about relationships. Protagonist was a twit in the true English tradition. The writing was at times very special - such as "a tracery of raindrops" and "Sodden sycamore leaves lolloping about the road like injured toads."
113	26-May-11	In the Heart of the Sea	Nathaniel Philbrick	"It was," he later remembered, "the most pleasing moment of my life" - the moment he stepped aboard the whaleship Essex for the first time. He was fourteen years old, with a broad nose and an open, eager face, and like every other Nantucket boy, he'd been
114	27-Oct-11	The River of Doubt	Candace Millard	It quickly became clear that the inexperienced Father Zahm was not capable of organizing this new expedition, and a new guide was sought out. The Brazilian government provided Roosevelt with perhaps the most capable guide in all of South America, Colonel
115	21-Nov-96	God: A Biography	Jack Miles	(won Pulitzer Prize in April, 1996)
116	28-Dec-00	Invisible Man	Ralph Ellison	
117	26-Apr-01	Crossing to Safety	Wallace Stegner	<i>[be sure to see the review by the Literary Society of San Diego]</i>
118	27-Jun-02	A Bend in the River	V. S. Naipaul	Naipaul was 2001's Nobel winner in literature.
119	29-Apr-04	The Maltese Falcon	Dashiell Hammett	The best known, and considered the best, of Hammett's Sam Spade novels.
120	26-Jun-08	Lord of the Flies	William Golding	Golding described theme as an attempt to trace the defects of society back to the defects of human nature and that the "shape of society must depend on the ethical nature of the individual and not on any political system..."
121	26-Jul-12	Right Ho, Jeeves	P. G. Wodehouse	<i>The exquisite code or pointeress of the Woosters prevented me clipping her one on the ear-hole, but I would have given a shilling to be able to do it. There seemed to me something deliberately fat-headed in the way she persisted in missing the gist."</i>
122	27-Jun-13	Lucky Jim	Kingsley Amis	"If you can't annoy somebody, there is little point in writing." "... all his faces were designed to express rage or loathing. Now that something had happened which really deserved a face, he had none to celebrate it with. As a kind of token, he made his Sex Life in Ancient Rome face."
123	28-Jun-07	Bang the Drum Slowly	Mark Harris	"It might or might not probably ever happen" - Good story, clever dialogue held true throughout the 243 pages (even the doctors talked like baseball players), minor league characters working toward teamwork.
124	27-Jan-11	Still Alice	Lisa Genova	"Okay, Alice, can you spell the word water backwards for me?" he asked. She would have found this question trivial and even insulting six months ago, but today, it was a serious question to be tackled with serious effort. She felt only marginally worried
125	29-Dec-11	War Trash	Ha Jin	<i>Some of us rushed into the nearby bushes and some lay down in the roadside ditches. The planes dropped a few flash bombs, a shower of light illuminating the entire area; our troops and vehicles at once became visible. Then bombs rained down and machine guns began raking us.</i>
126	28-Oct-04	Invitation to a Beheading	Vladimir Nabokov	Cincinnattus lives.
127	26-Oct-06	White Noise	Don DeLillo	Captures the particular strangeness of life in a time where humankind has finally learned enough to kill itself. Naturally, it's a terribly funny book, and the prose is as beautiful as a sunset through a particulate-filled sky.
128	6-Nov-08	Winter in the Blood	James Welch	"...Long Knife had become shrewd in the way dumb men are shrewd. He had learned to give the illusion of work, even to the point of sweating as soon as he put his gloves on, while doing very little."

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129	29-Apr-10	Suite Francaise	Irene Nemirovsky	Published more than sixty years following the author's death at Auschwitz, a remarkable story of life under the Nazi occupation includes two parts--"A Storm in June," set amid the chaotic 1940 exodus from Paris on the eve of the Nazi invasion, and "Dolce," set in a German-occupied provincial village rife with jealousy, resentment, resistance, and collaboration.
130	20-Dec-12	The Tennis Partner	Abraham Verghese	"perhaps he was drawn to doctoring because he subconsciously thought that if he attended to the pain of others, it would take care of his own."
131	25-Mar-99	The Day of the Locust	Nathanael West	[#73; movie c. 1975]
132	30-Oct-99	A Walk in the Woods	Bill Bryson	Katz!
133	19-Dec-02	Founding Brothers	Joseph Ellis	non-fiction
134	25-Jun-03	<u>the works of Edgar Allan Poe</u>	Edgar Allan Poe	any poem, short story, work
135	30-Jul-09	Water for Elephants	Sara Gruen	Gruen framed the story with Jacob as a 90 or 93 year old, and overpopulated it with characters (over 40 named). The nursing home scenes were entertaining, but the circus story itself was not so well written and not so credible. The characters seemed to change character. E.g., Jacob the vet loves animals, but Jacob stands by while the elephant in his care is brutalized.
136	18-Nov-10	Exiles in the Garden	Ward Just	Alex had the usual habits of one who lived alone: a fixed diet, a weekly visit to the bookstore, a scrupulously balanced checkbook, and a devotion to major league baseball and the PGA Tour.
137	26-Jan-12	Caleb's Crossing	Geraldine Brooks	" <i>Life is better than death. I know this. Tequamuck says it is the coward's talk. I say it is braver, sometimes, to bend.</i> "
138	5-Jul-12	The Heart is a Lonely Hunter	Carson McCullers	" <i>This was her, Mick Kelly, walking in the daytime and by herself at night. In the hot sun and in the dark with all the plans and feelings. This music was her—the real plain her...This music did not take a long time or a short time. It did not have anything to do with time going by at all. She sat with her arms around her legs, biting her salty knee very hard.</i> "
139	30-Mar-00	Ceremony	Leslie Marmon Silko	
140	28-Sep-00	Of Love and Shadows	Isabel Allende	
141	31-Jan-02	Kim	Rudyard Kipling	
142	20-Nov-03	<u>Atonement</u>	Ian McEwan	
143	30-Jun-11	Tinkers	Paul Harding	<i>Your cold mornings are filled with the heartache about the fact that although we are not at ease in this world, it is all we have, that it is ours but that it is full of strife, so that all we can call our own is strife; but even that is better than noth</i>
144	3-May-07	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time	Mark Haddon	Focuses on one character and gives the character more autistic traits than are normally seen in one individual.
145	28-Jan-10	Italian Shoes	Henning Mankell	"I always feel more lonely when it's cold. The cold outside my window reminds me of the cold emanating from my own body. I'm being attacked from two directions. But I'm constantly resisting. That's why I cut a hole in the ice every morning. If anyone were to stand with a telescope on the ice in the frozen bay and saw what I was doing, he would think that I was crazy and was about to arrange my own death. A naked man in the freezing cold, with an axe in his hand, opening up a hole in the ice?"
146	27-Oct-95	Mozart	Marcia Davenport	[extra credit: view <i>Amadeus</i>]
147	29-Feb-96	Death Comes for the Archbishop	Willa Cather	not at all the compelling book it's made out to be
148	29-Aug-96	I Heard the Owl Call My Name	Margaret Craven	The Indian knows his village and feels for his village as no white man for his country, his town, or even for his own bit of land.
149	27-Feb-97	Heart of Darkness	Joseph Conrad	(novella, 1902)
150	29-May-97	Roughing It	Mark Twain	
151	28-May-98	Dandelion Wine	Ray Bradbury	
152	19-Nov-98	Hiroshima	John Hersey	
153	24-Feb-00	Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man	James Joyce	extra credit: Dubliners

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154	27-Sep-01	A Rumor of War	Philip Caputo	What the experience of Vietnam meant to a young college graduate, a 'gung-ho' lieutenant in the marine corps who enlisted for the 'heroic experience' of war.
155	22-Dec-01	Band of Brothers	Stephen E. Ambrose	The saga of Easy Company, whose 147 members Ambrose calls the nonpareil combat paratroopers on earth circa 1941-45.
156	29-May-03	<u>In the Electric Mist with Confederate Dead</u>	James Lee Burke	The restless specters wait in the shadows for cajun cop Dave Robicheaux
157	18-Dec-03	All the Little Live Things	Wallace Stegner	many consider one of his three best.
158	27-May-04	The Map That Changed the World	Simon Winchester	In the early years of the nineteenth century, William Smith created the first geological map of Great Britain, a time-consuming, solitary project.
159	26-Aug-04	Reading Lolita In Tehran	Azar Nafisi	a memoir based on an underground book club in Tehran.
160	24-Feb-05	The Ornament of the World	María Rosa Menocal	The history of medieval Spain under the Muslims, from the eighth through the fifteenth centuries. This was a rare period in history, when Christianity, Judaism, and Islam flourished side by side, borrowing language, art, and architecture from each other.
161	31-Jan-08	Charming Billy	Alice McDermott	The grandmother "cooking the toughness into a roast." Her belief that vegetables and Brussels sprouts had no intrinsic taste but only received flavor from the salt and butter. The young lady awaiting word from her former suitor: Tell him "I am still here."
162	25-Sep-08	To A God UnKnown	William Steinbeck	In this short novel, Steinbeck explores the relationship of man to his land. The plot follows a man, Joseph Wayne, who moves to California in order to establish a homestead, leaving his father, who soon dies.
163	25-Jun-09	The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao	Junot Diaz	The life of Oscar Wao and the fuku. The curse served as a bridge across time and space. Diaz' ability to take depressing, brutal sequences under Trujillo and get us through them with a sparkling sense of humor. Example: "And you thought <i>your</i> committee was tough!"
164	17-Nov-11	Cleopatra - A Life	Stacy Schiff	Famous long before she was notorious, Cleopatra has gone down in history for all the wrong reasons. Schiff boldly separates fact from fiction to rescue the magnetic queen whose death ushered in a new world order.
165	31-May-12	The Warmth of Other Suns	Isabel Wilkerson	<i>They traveled deep into far-flung regions of their own country and in some cases clear across the continent. Thus the Great Migration had more in common with the vast movements of refugees from famine, war, and genocide in other parts of the world, where oppressed people, whether fleeing twenty-first-century Darfur or nineteenth-century Ireland, go great distances, journey across rivers, desserts, and oceans or as far as it takes to reach safety with the hope that life will be better wherever they land."</i>
166	31-Jul-14	Last Train to Zona Verde	Paul Theroux	"The murderous, self-elected, megalomaniacal head of state with the morals of a fruit fly is an obscene feature of African life that is not likely to disappear."
167	24-Feb-11	Queen of the South	Arturo Pérez-Reverte	"There is one necessary skill in this business. Looking at a man and instantly knowing two things. First, how much he's going to sell himself for. And second, when you're going to have to kill him."
168	26-Feb-95	Farewell to Arms	Ernest Hemingway	
169	6-Jun-96	Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep	Philip K. Dick	
170	28-Feb-02	Bend Sinister	Vladimir Nabokov	
171	21-Nov-02	The Heart of the Matter	Graham Greene	
172	1-Nov-07	The Friends of Eddie Coyle	George V. Higgins	When Higgins wrote this, his first novel, he was a federal prosecutor for the Boston district.

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173	27-May-10	Pompeii	Robert Harris	Pompeii is a blend of fictional characters with the real-life eruption of Mount Vesuvius on August 24, 79 that overwhelmed Pompeii and its surrounding towns. The author references various aspects of vulcanology, use of the Roman calendar, and Roman aqueducts, which were built in all parts of the Roman Empire.
174	23-Feb-12	Winesburg, Ohio	Sherwood Anderson	<i>In that high place in the darkness the two oddly sensitive human atoms held each other tightly and waited. In the mind of each was the same thought. "I have come to this lonely place and here is this other," was the substance of the thing felt.</i>
175	30-Aug-12	The Loved One	Evelyn Waugh	<i>"Mr. Schultz, you're jealous of Whispering Glades." "And why wouldn't I be seeing all that dough going on relations they've hated all their lives, while the pets who've loved them and stood by them, never asked no questions, never complained, rich or poor, sickness or health, get buried anyhow like animals?"</i>
176	25-Jul-13	July's People	Nadine Gordimer	"you like to have some cup of tea? - July bent at the doorway and began that day for them as his kind has always done for their kind."
177	28-Apr-11	Half Broke Horses	Jeannette Walls	When people kill themselves, they think they're ending the pain, but all they're doing is passing it on to those they leave behind. If I owned hell and west Texas, he said, I do believe I'd sell west Texas and live in hell."
178	19-Feb-98	Laughing Boy	Oliver La Farge	(187 pgs)
179	23-Aug-01	The Time Machine	H. G. Wells	1894 novel (his first) describes the adventures of his hero, the time-traveler, mostly in the year A.D. 802,701, when he encounters a class-ridden battle between the decadent Eloi and the primitive Morlocks.
180	24-Oct-02	It's Not About The Bike	Lance Armstrong	
181	31-Aug-06	The Devil in the White City	Erik Larson	Their fates were linked by the magical Chicago World's Fair of 1893, nicknamed the "White City" for its majestic beauty. Architect Daniel Burnham built it; serial killer Dr. H. H. Holmes used it to lure victims to his World's Fair Hotel.
182	29-Nov-12	Three Empires on the Nile.	Dominic Green	The book touches on the crumbling of the Ottoman Empire and the ascendancy of British imperialism, with a cast of characters that includes a parade of colonial notables including Gladstone, Gordon, Kitchener and the corrupt pseudo-monarchs of the disintegrating Egyptian vassal state.
183	30-Oct-14	The Moon and Sixpence	W. Somerset Maugham	"I forget who it was that recommended men for their soul's good to do each day two things they disliked: it was a wise man, and it is a precept that I have followed scrupulously; for every day I have got up and I have gone to bed."
184	28-Aug-03	seldom disappointed: a memoir	Tony Hillerman	
185	25-Sep-03	<u>The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon</u>	Stephen King	When a young girl finds herself lost in the woods, she tunes her Walkman to a Boston Red Sox game
186	29-Jul-93	The House at Otowi Bridge	P. P. Church	
187	26-Aug-93	Sidhartha	Herman Hesse	
188	28-Aug-98	On the Road	Jack Kerouac	
189	28-Jun-01	The Sparrow	Mary Doria Russell	Religion-based framework for First Contact with clever clashing of ideas, humor & pathos.
190	30-Mar-06	Hard Line: Life and Death on the U.S.-Mexico Border	Ken Ellington	It's a timely issue, a local issue, a political issue, and a human issue of major proportions.
191	28-Aug-08	Bel Canto	Ann Patchett	Fictionalizing the Peru kidnapping. "Years later, when this period of internment was remembered by the people who were actually there, they saw it in two distinct periods: before the box and after the box." (of opera scores was brought in).
192	7-Dec-06	The World is Flat	Thomas L. Friedman	. . . A Brief History of the 21st Century

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193	26-Jun-14	The Book of Evidence	John Banville	"Oh, by the way, the plot: it almost slipped my mind. Charlie French bought my mother's pictures cheap and sold them dear to Binkie Behrens, then bought them cheap from Binkie and sold them on to Max Molyneaux. Something like that. Does it matter? Dark deeds, dark deeds. Enough."
194	30-Mar-95	If Morning Ever Comes	Anne Tyler	
195	28-Dec-95	A Thousand Acres	Jane Smiley	[extra credit: King Lear by W. Shakespeare] Iowa farmers really get down in the dirt. Jane should have left it to the bard.
196	29-Mar-01	Sons and Lovers	D. H. Lawrence	There appears to be much autobiographical material in D.H. Lawrence's Sons and Lovers.
197	28-Jul-05	Florence of Arabia	Christopher Buckley	They handed her a pamphlet titled <i>'What American Women Should Understand When They Marry a Wasabi National.'</i> The State Department's reflexive response to any American in extremis overseas is to hand them a pamphlet..."
198	29-Nov-07	That Old Ace in the Hole	Annie Proulx	Proulx presents the Texas Panhandle through the eyes of 25-year-old Bob Dollar, a newcomer arriving by car.
199	24-Jun-99	The Life of Samuel Johnson	Robert Boswell	Most read the 430 page version, abridged from the 1799 edition. One of the most-frequently quoted men of the 18th Century. One should at least become familiar with it, but don't read every word.
200	27-Apr-06	The Year of Magical Thinking	Joan Didion	Writer Joan Didion's best-selling memoir, "The Year of Magical Thinking" is about the death of her husband and her daughter's ultimately fatal illness.
201	28-Feb-13	Barney's Version	Mordecai Richler	"I don't hold with shamans, witch doctors, or psychiatrists. Shakespeare, Tolstoy, or even Dickens, understood more about the human condition than ever occurred to any of you. You overrated bunch of charlatans deal with the grammar of human problems, and the writers I've mentioned with the essence."
202	17-Nov-05	Things Fall Apart	Chinua Achebe	First published in 1958, a relentlessly unsentimental rendering of Nigerian tribal life before and after the coming of colonialism.
203	26-Aug-14	Sweet Tooth	Ian McEwan	"My needs were simple. I didn't bother much with themes or felicitous phrases and skipped fine descriptions of weather, landscapes and interiors. I wanted characters I could believe in and I wanted to be made curious about what was to happen to them."
204	24-Jun-93	Talking God	Tony Hillerman	
205	30-Sep-93	The City at the Edge of the World	V. B. Price	
206	29-Mar-94	Hard Choices: Health Care at What Cost?	Mark Jaffe et al	
207	31-Mar-96	Kingsblood Royal	Sinclair Lewis	
208	30-Jan-97	The Thief of Time	Tony Hillerman	
209	22-Oct-97	MidAir	Frank Conroy	[short stories]
210	20-Nov-97	The Bean Trees	Barbara Kingsolver	
211	26-Mar-98	Brave New World	Aldous Huxley	(270 pgs)
212	29-Apr-99	The Sea of Grass	Conrad Richter	the triangle of rancher Colonel Jim Brewton, his unstable Eastern wife Lutie, and the ambitious Brice Chamberlain.
213	23-Sep-99	Tropic of Cancer	Henry Miller	
214	29-Jun-00	Tuesdays with Morrie - Life's Greatest Lesson	Mitch Albom	
215	25-Oct-01	Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	J.K. Rowling	Harry Potter knows a miserable life with the Dursleys, his horrible aunt and uncle, and their abominable son, Dudley. Then an owl arrives.
216	31-Jul-03	<u>To The Lighthouse</u>	Virginia Woolf	
217	22-Feb-07	Young Men and Fire	Norman Maclean	Studying the Missouri River fire of 1949 was his passion for over two decades, and the book is still used as training material in firefighting schools.
218	29-Jan-09	The Other	Dave Guterson	Was John William truly "The Other" for Neil Countryman? Or a confused character who latched onto an enabler for his hare-brained schemes of wilderness and survival.

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219	29-Mar-12	The Good Soldier	Ford Madox Ford	"There is no man who loves a woman that does not desire to come to her for the renewal of his courage, for the cutting asunder of his difficulties. And that will be the mainspring of his desire for her. We are all so afraid, we are all so alone, we all so need from the outside the assurance of our own worthiness to exist."
220	27-Sep-12	The Art of Fielding	Chad Harbach	"What would he say to her, if he was going to speak truly? He didn't know. Talking was like throwing a baseball. You couldn't plan it out beforehand. You just had to let go and see what happened.
221	31-May-07	A Question of Loyalty	Douglas Waller	Plunges into the seven-week Washington trial of Gen. William "Billy" Mitchell, the hero of the U.S. Army Air Service during World War I and the man who proved in 1921 that planes could sink a battleship.
222	9/242009	The Moon is a Harsh Mistress	Robert Heinlein	Heinlein celebrating our 200th anniversary of our own revolution by having us witness it again, but this time the colony was perhaps more like Australia: a penal colony that constituted the basis of the population of the moon in 2076.
223	27-Mar-14	The Crying of Lot 49	Thomas Pynchon	"One summer afternoon Mrs Oedipa Maas came home from a Tupperware party whose hostess had put perhaps too much kirsch in the fondue to find that she, Oedipa, had been named executor, or she supposed executrix, of the estate of one Pierce Inverarity, a California real estate mogul who had once lost two million dollars in his spare time but still had assets numerous and tangled enough to make the job of sorting it all out more than honorary."
224	24-Apr-14	The Sportswriter	Richard Ford	Ralph Bascombe, the brooding antihero here, is not a Walter Matthau-style, cigar-smoking sportswriter. Rather he resembles John Updike's Rabbit Angstrom (sans cynicism). Bascombe has decided in his "mid-life crisis" years to write heartwarming articles for a glossy sports magazine, and in the literal world of sportswriting, he has found a way to avoid life's "searing regret" without sacrificing its mysteries.
225	22-Feb-01	Timeline	Michael Crichton	His Andromeda Strain was very well done, and so was Jurassic Park. Not Timeline.
226	30-Jan-03	A Little Yellow Dog	Walter Mosley	an Easy Rawlins Mystery
227	27-Oct-94	You Just Don't Understand	Deborah Tannen	
228	1-May-08	The Birth of Venus	Sarah Dunant	Historical view of Florence. The Strange Case of the Tattooed Nun.
229	24-Jun-10	The Land of Green Plums	Herta Müller	<i>The Land of Green Plums</i> is the story of a group of young people in Nicolae Ceausescu's Romania.
230	26-Aug-10	The Lone Survivor	Marcus Luttrell et al	<i>The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing</i> : Push 'em out. Gentlemen, I'm your instructor for the next two weeks. I'll help you, if you need help, over matters of personal concerns. If you get injured, go to medical and get it fixed and get back into training. I'm your instructor. Not your mother. I'm here to teach you. You stay in the track, I'll help you. You get outside the track, I'll hammer you. Understood? Get wet and get sandy.
231	4-Feb-94	The Children of Men	P. D. James	
232	28-Apr-94	Einstein's Dreams	Alan Lightman	(fiction)
233	26-Jan-06	The March of Folly	Barbara Tuchman	From Troy to Vietnam. "no experience of the failure of his policy could shake his belief in its essential excellence."
234	26-May-05	Acqua Alta	Donna Leon	Complex, moral, gracious, and fiercely loyal, Commissario Guido Brunetti is a husband, father, detective, and, above all, a proud resident of the enchanted floating city of Venice.
235	4-May-95	Hole in the Sky - A Memoir	William Kittredge	a life examined that shouldn't have been

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236	2-Apr-02	Man and Superman	George Bernard Shaw	
237	9/23/2011	The Ancient Child	N. Scott Momaday	"Set imagined it was to please, but it was to astonish God that he painted. His presumption and arrogance were pronounced and dangerous, for they would certainly lead to the Sin of Despair, thence to death and nothingness. Bent said so, half in jest, on
238	7/28/2011	The Storyteller	Mario Vargas Llosa	"But what do I have? The things I'm told and the things I tell, that's all. And as far as I know, that never yet made anyone fly."
239	21-Nov-13	The Pot Thief Who Studied Escoffier	J. Michael Orenduff	"If I stuck to my principles, the nightmare at Schnitzel never would have happened. Maybe there was a lesson there. I called Dolly and invited her for dinner. The sale of a second plate shortly before closing buoyed my spirits. If I eventually sold all one hundred, I'd gross ten thousand dollars."
240	29-Sep-94	The Devil at Home	Oliver Lange	
241	23-Apr-98	Rabbit is Rich	John Updike	extra credit: Rabbit Run and Rabbit Redux
242	23-Sep-98	Buffalo Girls	Larry McMurtry	(350 pgs)
243	24-Apr-03	<u>Ulysses</u>	James Joyce	the major imaginative work in English prose of the 20th century.
244	27-Aug-09	The Kill Artist	Daniel Silva	Story of international intrigue and the global fight against terrorism with focus on Israeli intelligence efforts. Some intriguing questions about morality, particularly on the part of Ari Shamron who allowed the killing of a terrorist who was dying of a brain tumor.
245	26-Sep-13	On Top Of Spoon Mountain	John Nichols	Come that future day Ben would kneel beside my half-exposed skull on which bleached tufts of ancient pelage were fluttering while Miranda rustled through the weathered knapsack: "Hey Ben, look! Here's one of those antique cameras with a snapshot inside of our reasonable, responsible, and respected dad on his 65th birthday when he perished of heatstroke, a heart attack, and lethal naivete combined."
246	22-Jun-95	Magister Ludi: The Glass Bead Game	Herman Hesse	intellectual life vs. real life: choose one
247	22-Apr-97	Ride With Me Mariah Montana	Ivan Doig	
248	30-Aug-07	The Castle	Franz Kafka	the new translation by the Kafka scholar, Mark Harman, who, according to the The New York Times, has "made it more faithful to Kafka's dreamlike style."
249	25-May-95	The Witches of Eastwick	John Updike	
250	18-Jul-02	Swift as Desire	Laura Esquivel	LAURA ESQUIVEL is the award-winning and bestselling author of Like Water for Chocolate.
251	22-Nov-93	One	Richard Bach	
252	25-Apr-96	Bluefeather Fellini in the Sacred Realm	Max Evans	My eternal source of shame, but not as bad as my brothers claim
253	27-Mar-97	One Hundred Years of Solitude	Gabriel Garcia-Marquez	
254	25-Jul-99	Jonathan Livingstone Seagull	Richard Bach	
255	30-Sep-10	Jemez Spring	Rudolpho Anaya	With "Jemez Spring," Rudolfo Anaya again centers on the literate and spiritual private investigator, Sonny Baca. We have a corpse. But not just any dead body. Sonny is beckoned to crack the mystery behind the death of New Mexico's governor whose bloated, half-cooked body is found in the Bath House at Jemez Springs.
256	30-Jun-94	Albuquerque	Rudolpho Anaya	
	26-Feb-09	Just Coffee	Don Tubesing	Don Tubesing has already received the highest award from the LTBC - no further voting is necessary, no greater accolade is possible. May he rest in Wisconsin.