

Ordered List of All Books Read by Last Thursday Book Club (30 Dec 2017)

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	1/28/2016	All The Light We Cannot See	Anthony Doerr	"He says, "You are very brave." She lowers the bucket. "What is your name?" He tells her. She says, "When I lost my sight, Werner, people said I was brave. When my father left, people said I was brave. But it is not bravery; I have no choice. I wake up and live my life. Don't you do the same?"
10	27-Jul-06	<u>The Old Man and the Sea</u>	Ernest Hemingway	Man is not made for defeat. A man can be destroyed but not defeated. Pull the boat, fish.
11	28-Aug-94	Red Badge of Courage	Stephan Crane	
12	31-Jul-97	Undaunted Courage	Stephen Ambrose	
13	22-Aug-97	All the Pretty Horses	Cormac McCarthy	
14	30-Jul-98	A Fan's Notes	Frederick Exley	
15	27-Apr-00	The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Samuel L. Clemens	
16	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.
17	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."
18	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.
19	28-Jul-94	Monsignor Quixote	Graham Greene	
20	28-Jan-99	All The King's Men	Robert Penn Warren	
21	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.
22	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.
23	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."

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24	8/25/2016	Being Mortal	Atul Gawande	"In the end, people don't view their life as merely the average of all its moments—which, after all, is mostly nothing much plus some sleep. For human beings, life is meaningful because it is a story. A story has a sense of a whole, and its arc is determined by the significant moments, the ones where something happens. Measurements of people's minute-by-minute levels of pleasure and pain miss this fundamental aspect of human existence. A seemingly happy life may be empty. A seemingly difficult life may be devoted to a great cause. We have purposes larger than ourselves."
25	18-Nov-04	Disgrace	JM Coetzee	the least given to sentimentality of the talented novelists to have come out of South Africa.
26	5/3/2012	Peace like a River	Leif Enger	<i>"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.</i>
27	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."
28	31-Jan-13	Cry, The Beloved Country	Alan Paton	"Cry, the beloved country, for the unborn child that is the inheritor of our fear."
29	1/29/2015	How Green Was My Valley	Richard Llewellyn	"There is beautiful you are." "No," said Marged, between a sigh and a sob. "Yes," said Owen. "No," said Marged, not so certain. "Behold," Owen said, from Solomon. "thou art fair. Thou hast dove's eyes." "Dove's eyes are small." Marged said. "Yours are so big they are my whole world," said Owen."
30	9/29/2016	Breakfast at Tiffany's	Truman Capote	"It calms me down right away, the quietness and the proud look of it; nothing very bad could happen to you there, not with those kind men in their nice suits, and that lovely smell of silver and alligator wallets. If I could find a real-life place that made me feel like Tiffany's, then I'd buy some furniture and give the cat a name."
31	2/23/2017	The Sympathizer	Viet Thanh Nguyen	"Some will undoubtedly find this episode obscene. Not I! Massacre is obscene. Torture is obscene. Three million dead is obscene. Masturbation, even with an admittedly nonconsensual squid? Not so much. I, for one, am a person who believes that the world would be a better place if the word "murder" made us mumble as much as the word "masturbation."
32	19-Dec-96	The Spy Who Came In From the Co	John LeCarre	
33	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.
34	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>
35	30-Dec-93	The Assault	Henry Mulisch	

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36	26-Jan-95	Winter of our Discontent	John Steinbeck	
37	29-Sep-05	<u>The Actual</u>	Saul Bellow	The worldly and clever Harry Trelman, a grand noticer of things, tells the familiar Bellow story of an old adolescent love which is finally admitted to and resumed.
38	14-Dec-10	Hitch-22	Christopher Hitchens	What do you most value in your friends? Their continued existence.
39	27-Jul-95	The Moviegoer	Walker Percy	
40	27-Mar-03	<u>Master and Commander</u>	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.
41	30-Jan-14	The Yellow Birds	Kevin Powers	"There is a sharp distinction between what is remembered, what is told and what is true."
42	31-Aug-95	A Confederacy of Dunces	John Kennedy Toole	the funniest book on the list; memorable charac
43	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.
44	31-May-01	The Shipping News	E. Annie Proulx	From all outward appearances, Quoyle has gone through his first 36 years on earth as a big schlump of a loser.
45	22-Nov-01	This House of Sky: Landscapes of a	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.
46	28-Apr-05	<u>Housekeeping</u>	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.
47	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.
48	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."
49	9/24/2015	The Death of Ivan Ilyich	Leo Tolstoy	"All his life the example of a syllogism he had studied in Kiesewetter's logic - "Caius is a man, men are mortal, therefore Caius is mortal" - had seemed to him to be true only in relation to Caius the man, man in general, and it was quite justified, but he wasn't Caius and he wasn't man in general, and he had always been something quite, quite special apart from all other beings; he was Vanya, with Mama, with Papa, with Mitya and Volodya, with his toys and the coachman, with Nyanya, then with Katenka, with all the joys, sorrows, passions of childhood, boyhood, youth.
50	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.
51	30-Dec-05	<u>The Nigger of the Narcissus</u>	Joseph Conrad	"The <i>Narcissus</i> came gently into her berth; the shadows of soulless 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."
52	29-Jun-06	Gilead	Marilyn Robinson	"I have lived my life on the prairie and a line of oak trees can still astonish me."

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53	5/25/2017	Hillbilly Elegy	J.D. Vance	"But yeah, like everyone else in our family, they could go from zero to murderous in a fucking heartbeat."
54	27-Feb-14	The Stranger	Albert Camus	"Mother died today. Or maybe yesterday; I can't be sure."
55	25-Sep-14	Shane	Jack Schaefer	"What a man knows isn't important. It's what he is that counts"
56	6/25/2015	109 East Palace	Jennet Conant	"For the first few weeks in Santa Fe, Oppenheimer and his key staff worked out of the office at 109 East Palace Avenue in the early mornings and made daily trips up to Los Alamos to inspect the progress of the construction. "The laboratories at the site were in a sketchy state, but that did not deter the workers," Dorothy wrote of those hectic early days. "In the morning buses, consisting of station wagons, sedans, or trucks, would leave 109 and pick up the men at the ranches and take them up the Hill. Occasionally, a driver would forget to stop at one or another of the ranches and the stranded and frustrated scientists would call in a white heat."
57	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?"
58	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."
59	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.
60	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.
61	28-Oct-93	Bless Me Ultima	Rudolpho Anaya	
62	22-Dec-94	The Painted Bird	Jerzy Kosinski	
63	23-Dec-99	The Sun Also Rises	Ernest Hemingway	Everyone enjoyed the bull fighting descriptions, wanted more.
64	27-Jul-00	Citizen Soldiers: Normandy to the B	Stephen Ambrose	combines history and journalism to describe how American GIs battled their way to the Rhineland.

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65	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.
66	25-May-06	<u>As I Lay Dying</u>	William Faulkner	It takes two people to make you, and one people to die. That's how the world is going to end.
67	28-Sep-06	<u>Blood Meridian</u> <u>or The Evening Redness in the Sky</u>	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.
68	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.
69	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 terrifyinging. ..."
70	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."
71	5/28/2015	The Boys in the Boat	Daniel James Brown	"Standing there, watching them, it occurred to me that when Hitler watched Joe and the boys fight their way back from the rear of the field to sweep ahead of Italy and Germany seventy-five years ago, he saw, but did not recognize, heralds of his doom. He could not have known that one day hundreds of thousands of boys just like them, boys who shared their essential natures—decent and unassuming, not privileged or favored by anything in particular, just loyal, committed, and perseverant—would return to Germany dressed in olive drab, hunting him down."
72	8/27/2015	King Lear	William Shakespeare	"When we are born, we cry that we are come to this great stage of fools." "As flies to wanton boys are we to the gods. They kill us for their sport."
73	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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74	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.
75	30-Jun-05	<u>The Kite Runner</u>	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.
76	6/30/2016	Ghost Soldiers	Hampton Sides	"When Lieutenant Sato was satisfied that all 150 prisoners were dead, he ordered his men to heave the stray bodies back into the smoky pits. The soldiers splattered additional gasoline inside and reignited the trenches. They tossed in more grenades as well as sticks of dynamite to make it appear as though the victims had perished in an air raid after all, with the shelters receiving 'direct hits' from American bombs. The immense pall of smoke curling from the three subterranean pyres was noted by observers five miles distant, across Puerto Princesa Bay."
77	26-Aug-99	Snow Falling on Cedars	David Guterson	
78	30-Nov-00	Flashman: From the Flashman Papers	George MacDonald Fraser	
79	29-Jul-04	Benjamin Franklin: An American Life	Walter Isaacson	Transforms marble men into flesh-and-blood figures, complex and admirable if hardly perfect.
80	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
81	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.
82	25-Aug-05	<u>Beloved</u>	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.
83	24-Oct-13	Youth: A Narrative	Joseph Conrad	"oh youth! The strength of it, the faith of it, the imagination of it!"
84	7/27/2017	Querencia	Stephen Bodio	"In the bullring, the terrified bull always returns to same spot as if it is a place of safety. It is called the querencia. In writing, I had found my querencia. My place, my passion."
85	31-Aug-00	Slaughterhouse Five or the Children	Kurt Vonnegut	Extra Credit: Timequake
86	12/15/2016	God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater	Kurt Vonnegut	"Hello, babies. Welcome to Earth. It's hot in the summer and cold in the winter. It's round and wet and crowded. At the outside, babies, you've got about a hundred years here. There's only one rule that I know of, babies—God damn it, you've got to be kind."
87	30-May-02	My Antonia	Willa Cather	
88	27-Feb-03	<u>Blue Latitudes</u>	Tony Horwitz	Boldly Going Where Capt. Cook Has Gone Before

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89	3/26/2015	A Canticle for Leibowitz	Walter L. Miller Jr.	We are the centuries... We have your eoliths and your mesoliths and your neoliths. We have your Babylons and your Pompeiis, your Caesars and your chromium-plated (vital-ingredient impregnated) artifacts. We have your bloody hatchets and your Hiroshimas. We march in spite of Hell, we do – Atrophy, Entropy, and Proteus vulgaris, telling bawdy jokes about a farm girl name of Eve and a traveling salesman called Lucifer. We bury your dead and their reputations. We bury you. We are the centuries. Be born then, gasp wind, screech at the surgeon's slap, seek manhood, taste a little godhood, feel pain, give birth, struggle a little while, succumb: (Dying, leave quietly by the rear exit, please.)
90	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).
91	29-Sep-95	The Reivers	William Faulkner	more great humor
92	25-Jun-98	The Crossing	Cormac McCarthy	Extra credit: Blood Meridian
93	17-Dec-98	Cities of the Plain	Cormac McCarthy	
94	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.
95	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."
96	28-Dec-06	The Brave Cowboy	Edward Abbey	Taking place in the fictional town of "Duke City, New Mexico"
97	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."
98	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."
99	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.
100	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.
101	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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102	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..."
103	27-May-93	The Education of Little Tree	Forrest Carter	
104	22-Nov-94	Tortuga	Rudolpho Anaya	
105	26-Jan-96	Glory	Vladimir Nabokov	
106	25-Jun-96	Life on the Mississippi	Mark Twain	
107	4-Oct-96	The Best of Edward Abbey [or Slumgullion Stew]	Edward Abbey	
108	24-Oct-96	The Warrior Woman	Maxine Hong Kingston	
109	26-Jun-97	The Secret Agent	Joseph Conrad	
110	22-Sep-97	Recapitulation	Wallace Stegner	
111	18-Dec-97	Lie Down in Darkness	William Styron	
112	26-Oct-00	Cold Mountain	Charles Frazier	
113	31-Mar-05	<u>Flyboys</u>	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.
114	27-Oct-05	<u>No Ordinary Time</u>	Doris Kearns Goodwin	A compelling chronicle of a nation and its leaders during the period when modern America was created.
115	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."
116	9/28/2017	Code Talker	Chester Nez	"We Navajos believe in witchcraft. Cut hair and fingernail clippings should be gathered and hidden or burned. Such things could be used to invoke bad medicine against their owner. People should not leave parts of themselves scattered around to be picked up by someone else. Even the smallest children knew that."
117	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.
118	27-Jan-00	The Perfect Storm	Sebastian Junger	an extended Reader's Digest true-adventure article, except the heroes don't survive
119	25-Apr-02	Longitude	Dava Sobel	
120	29-Aug-02	The Chosen	Chaim Potok	
121	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.
122	23-Oct-03	<u>Love in the Time of Cholera</u>	Gabriel Garcia Marquez	unrequited passion so strong that it binds three people's lives together for more than fifty years.
123	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.
124	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.

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125	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.
126	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.
127	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."
128	5/26/2011	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
129	10/27/2011	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
130	21-Nov-96	God: A Biography	Jack Miles	(won Pulitzer Prize in April, 1996)
131	28-Dec-00	Invisible Man	Ralph Ellison	
132	26-Apr-01	Crossing to Safety	Wallace Stegner	<i>[be sure to see the review by the Literary Society of San Diego]</i>
133	27-Jun-02	A Bend in the River	V. S. Naipaul	Naipaul was 2001's Nobel winner in literature.
134	29-Apr-04	The Maltese Falcon	Dashiel Hammett	The best known, and considered the best, of Hammett's Sam Spade novels.
135	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..."
136	26-Jul-12	Right Ho, Jeeves	P. G. Wodehouse	<i>"The exquisite code of politeness 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>
137	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."
138	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."
139	7/30/2015	Catcher in the Rye	J. D. Salinger	"What really knocks me out is a book that, when you're all done reading it, you wish the author that wrote it was a terrific friend of yours and you could call him up on the phone whenever you felt like it. That doesn't happen much, though."

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Order	LTBC	Title	Author	Notes
140	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.
141	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
142	12/29/2011	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>
143	28-Oct-04	Invitation to a Beheading	Vladimir Nabokov	Cincinnattus lives.
144	26-Oct-06	<u>White Noise</u>	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.
145	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."
146	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.
147	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."
148	11/19/2015	Up Front	Bill Mauldin	"When you lose a friend [in battle] you have an overpowering desire to go back home and yell in everybody's ear, "This guy was killed fighting for you. Don't forget him--ever. Keep him in your mind when you wake up in the morning and when you go to bed at night. Don't think of him as the statistic which changes 38,788 casualties to 38,789. Think of him as a guy who wanted to live every bit as much as you do. Don't let him be just one of 'Our Brave Boys' from the old home town, to whom a marble monument is erected in the city park, and a civic-minded lady calls the newspaper ten years later and wants to know why that 'unsightly stone' isn't removed."
149	25-Mar-99	The Day of the Locust	Nathanael West	[#73; movie c. 1975]
150	30-Oct-99	A Walk in the Woods	Bill Bryson	Katz!
151	19-Dec-02	Founding Brothers	Joseph Ellis	non-fiction
152	25-Jun-03	<u>the works of Edgar Allan Poe</u>	Edgar Allan Poe	any poem, short story, work

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Order	LTBC	Title	Author	Notes
153	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.
154	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.
155	1/26/2012	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>
156	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>
157	30-Mar-00	Ceremony	Leslie Marmon Silko	
158	28-Sep-00	Of Love and Shadows	Isabel Allende	
159	31-Jan-02	Kim	Rudyard Kipling	
160	20-Nov-03	Atonement	Ian McEwan	
161	3/30/2017	My Old Man and the Sea	David Hays	Some fathers and sons go fishing together. Some play ball. David Hays and Daniel Hays sailed 17,000 miles through the world's most feared and fabled waters in a little boat they built together. This is their story.
162	6/30/2011	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>
163	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.
164	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?"
165	27-Oct-95	Mozart	Marcia Davenport	[extra credit: view <i>Amadeus</i>]
166	29-Feb-96	Death Comes for the Archbishop	Willa Cather	not at all the compelling book it's made out to be
167	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.
168	27-Feb-97	Heart of Darkness	Joseph Conrad	(novella, 1902)
169	29-May-97	Roughing It	Mark Twain	
170	28-May-98	Dandelion Wine	Ray Bradbury	

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Order	LTBC	Title	Author	Notes
171	19-Nov-98	Hiroshima	John Hersey	
172	24-Feb-00	Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man	James Joyce	extra credit: Dubliners
173	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.
174	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.
175	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
176	18-Dec-03	All the Little Live Things	Wallace Stegner	many consider one of his three best.
177	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.
178	26-Aug-04	Reading Lolita In Tehran	Azar Nafisi	a memoir based on an underground book club in Tehran.
179	24-Feb-05	<u>The Ornament of the World</u>	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.
180	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."
181	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.
182	25-Jun-09	The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar W	Junot Diaz	The life of Oscar Wao and the fukú. 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!"
183	11/17/2011	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.
184	5/31/2012	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, deserts, and oceans or as far as it takes to reach safety with the hope that life will be better wherever they land."</i>

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185	4/30/2015	Nemesis	Phillip Roth	"It was impossible to believe that Alan was lying in that pale, plain pine box merely from having caught a summertime disease. That box from which you cannot force your way out. That box in which a twelve-year-old was twelve years old forever. The rest of us live and grow older by the day, but he remains twelve. Millions of years go by, and he is still twelve."
186	12/17/2015	Mayflower	Nathaniel Philbrick	"There are two possible responses to a world suddenly gripped by terror and contention. There is the Moseley way: get mad and get even. But as the course of King Philip's War proved, unbridled arrogance and fear only feed the flames of violence. Then there is the (Benjamin) Church way. Instead of killing him, try to bring him around to your way of thinking. First and foremost, treat him like a human being. For Church, success in war was about coercion rather than slaughter, and in this he anticipated the welcoming, transformative beast that eventually became, once the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were in place, the United States."
187	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."
188	4/27/2017	The Shape of Water	Andrea Camilleri	"In grammar school he'd had an old priest as his religion teacher. "Truth is light," the priest had said one day. Montalbano, never very studious, had been a mischievous pupil, always sitting in the last row. "So that must mean that if everyone in the family tells the truth, they save on the electric bill."
189	10/26/2017	Song of the Sirens	Ernest K. Gann	"We were not in any danger except the remote possibility of cannibalism if the calm continued. We persevered at the pumps mainly because it was something to do. Still, our doctor, who had been a stalwart at the pumps, now came down with the affliction known as the GIs. We nursed him with tender sarcasms about physicians healing themselves ..."
190	26-Feb-95	Farewell to Arms	Ernest Hemingway	
191	6-Jun-96	Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep	Philip K. Dick	
192	28-Feb-02	Bend Sinister	Vladimir Nabokov	
193	21-Nov-02	The Heart of the Matter	Graham Greene	
194	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.
195	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.

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196	2/23/2012	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>
197	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>
198	25-Jul-13	July's People	Nadine Gordimer	<i>"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."</i>
199	26-Jun-14	The Book of Evidence	John Banville	<i>"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."</i>
200	2/26/2015	A Higher Call	Adam Makos	<i>"Von Faulhaber had authored "With Burning Concern" in 1937, and in 1941, von Galen had spoken out so vehemently against The Party and the Gestapo that the British had copied his sermons and dropped them from planes across Europe. German soldiers, civilians, and occupied peoples read them, including the future Pope John Paul II, who found a flyer in Krakow, Poland."</i>
201	4/28/2011	Half Broke Horses	Jeannette Walls	<i>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." ff I owned hell and west Texas, he said, I do believe I'd sell west Texas and live in hell."</i>
202	19-Feb-98	Laughing Boy	Oliver La Farge	<i>(187 pgs)</i>
203	23-Aug-01	The Time Machine	H. G. Wells	<i>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.</i>
204	24-Oct-02	It's Not About The Bike	Lance Armstrong	
205	31-Aug-06	<u>The Devil in the White City</u>	Erik Larson	<i>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.</i>
206	30-Oct-14	The Moon and Sixpence	W. Somerset Maugham	<i>"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."</i>
207	29-Nov-12	Three Empires on the Nile.	Dominic Green	<i>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.</i>
208	28-Aug-03	<u>seldom disappointed: a memoir</u>	Tony Hillerman	

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209	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
210	29-Jul-93	The House at Otowi Bridge	P. P. Church	
211	26-Aug-93	Sidhartha	Herman Hesse	
212	28-Aug-98	On the Road	Jack Kerouac	
213	28-Jun-01	The Sparrow	Mary Doria Russell	Religion-based framework for First Contact with clever clashing of ideas, humor & pathos.
214	30-Mar-06	<u>Hard Line: Life and Death on the U.S.-Mexico Border</u>	Ken Ellington	It's a timely issue, a local issue, a political issue, and a human issue of major proportions.
215	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).
216	7-Dec-06	<u>The World is Flat</u>	Thomas L. Friedman	. . . A Brief History of the 21st Century
217	10/29/2015	A Slight Trick of the Mind	Mitch Cullin	"Ultimately, Roger learned only of the encounter with the urban bees. The boy remained thoroughly fascinated by what he heard nonetheless, his blue-eyed stare never once straying from Holmes; his visage passive and accepting, his eyes wide, Roger's pupils stated fixed on those venerable, reflective eyes, as though the boy were seeing distant lights shimmering along an opaque horizon, a glimpse of something flickering and alive existing beyond his reach.
218	30-Mar-95	If Morning Ever Comes	Anne Tyler	
219	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.
220	29-Mar-01	Sons and Lovers	D. H. Lawrence	There appears to be much autobiographical material in D.H. Lawrence's Sons and Lovers.
221	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..."
222	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.
223	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.

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224	4/28/2016	The Life We Bury	Allen Eskens	"What if, in all the eons of eternity, this was the one and only time that I would be alive. How would I live my life if that were the case? Know what I mean? What if this was all there is?" "Well, I guess there'd be a lot of disappointed dead priests," I said. Carl chuckled. "Well, there's that," he said. "But it also means that this is our heaven. We are surrounded every day by the wonders of life, wonders beyond comprehension that we simply take for granted. I decided that day that I would live my life-not simply exist. If I died and discovered heaven on the other side, well, that'd be just fine and dandy. But if I didn't live my life as if I was already in heaven, and I died and found only nothingness, well...I would have wasted my life. I would have wasted my one chance in all of history to be alive."
225	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.
226	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."
227	2/25/2016	The Longest Road	Philip Caputo	"I really believe that when we start talking ourselves back, we'll have more to offer the world." he [Woodenkinfe] said. "I don't want a gray world." "You mean taking back our cultures and where we come from." "Absolutely! You want to talk about the fabric of this country, that's it." "So rather than a melting pot, it would be a..." "A blanket of color, all sewn in the shape of the U.S."
228	6/29/2017	Deep Down Dark	Hector Tobar	"We aren't the best men, but Lord, have pity on us," Henríquez begins. It's a simple statement, but it strikes several of the men hard."
229	8/31/2017	Hidden Figures	Margot Lee Shetterly	"That so many of them were African American, many of them my grandmother's age, struck me as simply a part of the natural order of things: growing up in Hampton, the face of science was brown like mine.
230	17-Nov-05	<u>Things Fall Apart</u>	Chinua Achebe	First published in 1958, a relentlessly unsentimental rendering of Nigerian tribal life before and after the coming of colonialism.
231	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."

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232	5/26/2016	Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates	Brian Kilmeade	"Dale hoped that the sight of the frigate, its hull lined with gun ports though which its dozens of guns could be seen, would inspire awe and deter the would-be pirates of all stripes from challenging unarmed American vessels."
233	24-Jun-93	Talking God	Tony Hillerman	
234	30-Sep-93	The City at the Edge of the World	V. B. Price	
235	29-Mar-94	Hard Choices: Health Care at What Cost?	Mark Jaffe et al	
236	31-Mar-96	Kingsblood Royal	Sinclair Lewis	
237	30-Jan-97	The Thief of Time	Tony Hillerman	
238	22-Oct-97	MidAir	Frank Conroy	[short stories]
239	20-Nov-97	The Bean Trees	Barbara Kingsolver	
240	26-Mar-98	Brave New World	Aldous Huxley	(270 pgs)
241	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.
242	23-Sep-99	Tropic of Cancer	Henry Miller	
243	29-Jun-00	Tuesdays with Morrie - Life's Greatest	Mitch Albom	
244	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.
245	31-Jul-03	<u>To The Lighthouse</u>	Virginia Woolf	
246	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.
247	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.
248	3/29/2012	The Good Soldier	Ford Madox Ford	<i>"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."</i>
249	27-Sep-12	The Art of Fielding	Chad Harbach	<i>"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."</i>
250	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.

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251	12/18/2014	Humboldt's Gift	Saul Bellow	"The physical body is an agent of the spirit and its mirror. It is an engine and a reflection of the spirit. It is the spirit's ingenious memorandum to itself and the spirit sees itself in my body, just as I see my own face in a looking glass. My nerves reflect this. The earth is literally a mirror of thoughts. Objects themselves are embodied thoughts. Death is the dark backing that a mirror needs if we are to see anything."
252	3/24/2016	Flashman and the Tiger	George Macdonald Fraser	"The advantage to being a wicked bastard is that everyone pesters the Lord on your behalf; if volume of prayers from my saintly enemies means anything, I'll be saved when the Archbishop of Canterbury is damned. It's a comforting thought." "I've been a Danish prince, a Texas slave-dealer, an Arab sheik, a Cheyenne Dog Soldier, and a Yankee navy lieutenant in my time, among other things, and none of 'em was as hard to sustain as my lifetime's impersonation of a British officer and gentleman."
253	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.
254	9/24/2009	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.
255	1/26/2017	Go Set A Watchman	Harper Lee	"I need a watchman to tell me this is what a man says but this is what he means, to draw a line down the middle and say here is this justice and there is that justice and make me understand the difference."
256	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."
257	11/30/2017	The Dharma Bums	Jack Kerouac	"I felt like lying down by the side of the trail and remembering it all. The woods do that to you, they always look familiar, long lost, like the face of a long-dead relative, like an old dream, like a piece of forgotten song drifting across the water, most of all like golden eternities of past childhood or past manhood and all the living and the dying and the heartbreak that went on a million years ago and the clouds as they pass overhead seem to testify (by their own lonesome familiarity) to this feeling."
258	22-Feb-01	Timeline	Michael Crichton	His Andromeda Strain was very well done, and so was Jurassic Park. Not Timeline.
259	30-Jan-03	<u>A Little Yellow Dog</u>	Walter Mosley	an Easy Rawlins Mystery
260	27-Oct-94	You Just Don't Understand	Deborah Tannen	

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Order	LTBC	Title	Author	Notes
261	1-May-08	The Birth of Venus	Sarah Dunant	Historical view of Florence. The Strange Case of the Tattooed Nun.
262	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.
263	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.
264	11/17/2016	Kit Carson's Autobiography	Milo Quaife	"The foregoing I hereby transfer to Mr. Jesse B. Turly to be used as he may deem proper for our joint benefit."
265	4-Feb-94	The Children of Men	P. D. James	
266	28-Apr-94	Einstein's Dreams	Alan Lightman	(fiction)
267	26-Jan-06	<u>The March of Folly</u>	Barbara Tuchman	From Troy to Vietnam. "no experience of the failure of his policy could shake his belief in its essential excellence."
268	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.
269	4-May-95	Hole in the Sky - A Memoir	William Kittredge	a life examined that shouldn't have been
270	2-Apr-02	Man and Superman	George Bernard Shaw	
271	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
272	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."
273	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."
274	29-Sep-94	The Devil at Home	Oliver Lange	
275	23-Apr-98	Rabbit is Rich	John Updike	extra credit: Rabbit Run and Rabbit Redux
276	23-Sep-98	Buffalo Girls	Larry McMurtry	(350 pgs)
277	24-Apr-03	<u>Ulysses</u>	James Joyce	the major imaginative work in English prose of the 20th century.
278	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.

Ordered List of All Books Read by Last Thursday Book Club (30 Dec 2017)

Order	LTBC	Title	Author	Notes
279	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."
280	22-Jun-95	Magister Ludi: The Glass Bead Game	Herman Hesse	intellectual life vs. real life: choose one
281	7/28/2016	The Thanatos Syndrome	Walker Percy	"The breakfast was delicious. Where does the water come from?" Elmo Jenkins laughs. "Don't worry about it, Doc. You not drinking river water. That's Abita Springs water, right from our back yard, the best in the world, as you know." "I know. What do the prisoners on the farm drink?" "That's river water, treated so it's safe, but I can taste the chemicals." "You mean from the Ratliff intake?" "Right, Doc. Seems like you know this country around here." "A little." "Enjoy your walk, Doc."
282	10/27/2016	Reminiscences of a Stock Operator	Edwin Lefevre	"I was looking over the quotation board, noticing the changes - they were mainly advances - until I came to Union Pacific. I got a feeling that I ought to sell it. I can't tell you more. I just felt like selling it."
283	22-Apr-97	Ride With Me Mariah Montana	Ivan Doig	
284	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."
285	25-May-95	The Witches of Eastwick	John Updike	
286	18-Jul-02	Swift as Desire	Laura Esquivel	LAURA ESQUIVEL is the award-winning and bestselling author of Like Water for Chocolate.

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Order	LTBC	Title	Author	Notes
287	22-Nov-93	One	Richard Bach	
288	25-Apr-96	Bluefeather Fellini in the Sacred Realm	Max Evans	My eternal source of shame, but not as bad as my brothers claim
289	27-Mar-97	One Hundred Years of Solitude	Gabriel Garcia-Marquez	
290	25-Jul-99	Jonathan Livingstone Seagull	Richard Bach	
291	30-Sep-10	Jemez Spring	Rudolpho Anaya	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.
292	30-Jun-94	Albuquerque	Rudolpho Anaya	
293	26-Feb-09	Just Coffee	Don Tobesing	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.