Bad Endings (stories)  Carleigh Baker  
character digressions, bad decisions and misconceptions abound in these ironic short stories by a prize-winning Vancouver writer

Birds Art Life (non-fiction)*  Kyo Maclear  
a yearlong adventure of urban birding that turns into a meditation on the nature of creativity and a quest for a good and meaningful life

Boat People (fiction)  Sharon Bala  
a gripping novel, inspired by a real event, about a group of refugees who survive a perilous ocean voyage to reach Canada – only to face the threat of deportation and accusations of terrorism

Brother (fiction)  David Chariandy  
exploring questions of masculinity, family and race as the lives of two teenage brothers, sons of Trinidadian immigrants, are shattered by a tragic shooting

Dancehall Years (fiction)  Joan Haggerty  
an elegy to a cultural tradition and a complex family saga that begins on Bowen Island in the summer of 1939 and follows three generations into the 1980's

The Figgs (fiction)  Ali Bryan  
June Figgs is looking forward to a quiet retirement — if only she can get her three adult children to finally, finally move out of the house — when things become even more complicated

Full Disclosure (mystery)  Beverley McLachlin  
a riveting thriller by the former Chief Justice of Canada in which Jilly Truit, an ambitious criminal lawyer, takes on what seems an impossible case — the defense of affluent Vincent Trussardi accused of murdering his wife

The Heaviness of Things That Float (fiction)  Jennifer Manuel  
Bernadette, long-time community nurse to a remote West Coast First Nations reserve, is weeks from retirement when the young man she loves like a son, goes missing

Little Sister (fiction)  Barbara Gowdy  
during violent thunderstorms, sensible Rose begins fainting and having vivid realistic dreams of being inside the body of another woman

The Lonely Hearts Hotel (fiction)*  Heather O'Neill  
set in Montreal and New York between the world wars, a spellbinding story about two talented orphans who, as children, dream up a plan for an extraordinary circus show

Malagash (fiction)  Joey Comeau  
Sunday's family have brought her father home to Nova Scotia to die but the teen has decided he will live forever — she will record everything he says and encrypt it into a computer virus

The Marrow Thieves (teen)  Cherie Dimaline  
in this dystopian tale, the indigenous people of North America are being hunted and harvested for their bone marrow which can restore an ability which the rest of the population has lost

Minds of Winter (fiction)  Ed O'Loughlin  
Fay and Nelson have each come to Inuvik researching family history when they realize their respective relatives have a weird connection — the chronometer which reappeared in Britain more than 100 years after it was lost with the Franklin expedition

The Original Face (fiction)  Guillaume Morissette  
Daniel and Grace navigate their aspirations, insecurities and ambitions in a culture obsessed with selfies and identity in this sharp and funny tale of modern love by a young Montreal writer

The Parcel (fiction)  Anosh Irani  
a retired transgender sex worker in the red-light district of Bombay is forced to train a 'parcel' — a young girl from the provinces trafficked by her aunt

So Much Love (fiction)  Rebecca Rosenblum  
when young wife Catherine Reindeer mysteriously vanishes from the parking lot outside the restaurant where she works, an entire community is shattered

Son of a Trickster (fiction)  Eden Robinson  
everyday teen existence meets indigenous beliefs, crazy family dynamics, and talking ravens and murdering otters in this compelling coming-of-age novel

Stranger (fiction)  David Bergen  
learning her baby was taken to the US, a young Guatemalan woman makes her way north through Mexico, crossing illegally into America, determined to reclaim her 'stolen' daughter

The Unfinished Dollhouse (non-fiction)  Michelle Alfano  
in this intimate and honest memoir, Alfano recounts her experiences as the mother of a transgender child and the unique challenges the entire family faced

The Whisky King (non-fiction)  Trevor Cole  
the fascinating history of Canada's first celebrity mobster, Rocco Perri, 'King of the Bootleggers', and the man who was determined to put him away, Canada's first undercover Mountie

* also available in spoken word CD format
WHEN YOU WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT

The Accusation (stories) Bandi
these stories, smuggled out of North Korea, tell of ordinary men and women facing the terrible absurdity of daily life in this totalitarian state

American War (fiction)* Omar El Akkad
in 2014, a Second Civil War breaks out in a US devastated by global warming and Sarat Chestnut must transform herself to survive

Being Mortal (non-fiction)* Atul Gawande
a doctor's moving and clear-eyed look at aging and death and the harm we do in turning it into a medical problem rather than a human one

Exit West (fiction) Mohsin Hamid
the plight of young lovers in a city torn apart by war is used to explore the refugee experience in this magical realist novel

Forgiveness (non-fiction) Mark Sakamoto
a uniquely Canadian memoir about Sakamoto's family which includes a grandfather who was a POW of the Japanese and a Japanese-Canadian grandmother who was sent to a work camp in Alberta

Ghachar Ghochar (fiction) Vivek Shanbhag
in this sardonic tale of moral decay, a young Bangalore man's close-knit family begins to change after they achieve financial success

Go, Went, Gone (fiction) Jenny Erpenbeck
a retired widower's life changes when he becomes involved with a group of African refugees who are staging a hunger strike in Berlin's Alexanderplatz

The Golden Legend (fiction) Nadeem Aslam
for weeks someone has been broadcasting people's secrets from the minaret of the local mosque, striking fear in Christians and Muslims alike

I Contain Multitudes (non-fiction)* Ed Yong
an informative and entertaining examination of the most significant revolution in biology since Darwin – the importance of the microbiome

Killers of the Flower Moon (non-fiction)* David Grann
the horrifying story of the mysterious murders of members of the Osage Nation in Oklahoma and how solving it helped to shape the then fledgling FBI

The Refugees (stories) Viet Thanh Nguyen
these stories by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author give voice to the dreams and hardships of immigration, to lives led between two worlds

Salt Houses (fiction) Hala Alyan
chronicles three generations of a Palestinian family, from the 1967 Six-Day War to the aftermath of 9/11, as they are continually displaced by Middle East politics

Seven Fallen Feathers (non-fiction) Tanya Talaga
between 2000 and 2011, seven indigenous high school students died in Thunder Bay, Ontario; Talaga uses their stories to explore indigenous suffering and Canadian complicity and racism

Sing, Unburied, Sing (fiction)* Jesmyn Ward
a black woman takes her two children on a road trip to pick up their white father who is being released from a Mississippi prison in this tale that is haunted by ghosts

The Songs of Trees (non-fiction) David George Haskell
in this lyrical study, biologist Haskell repeatedly visits a dozen trees in different environments, exploring their connections with people, microbes, fungi and other plants and animals

The Stranger in the Woods (non-fiction)* Michael Finkell
in 1986, twenty-year-old Christopher Knight, craving solitude, disappeared into the Maine woods where he managed to survive undetected for the next twenty-seven years

21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act (non-fiction) Bob Joseph
based on an article that went viral, this book is an essential guide to understanding the 1876 Indian Act and its terrible repercussions, shaping and constraining the lives and opportunities of indigenous peoples in Canada

Waking Lions (fiction) Ayelet Gundar-Goshen
happily married with two young sons, neurosurgeon Eitan Green has the perfect life until one night, speeding home after a late shift at the hospital, he hits and kills an African migrant

Why Time Flies (non-fiction) Alan Burdick
in this witty and informative exploration, Burdick takes readers on a personal quest to understand the nature of time; 'a huge joy with many small treasures'

* also available in spoken word CD format
JUST FOR FUN

The Animators (fiction) Kayla Rae Whitaker
Cracks begin to appear in the relationship between a pair of women animators, longtime friends and collaborators, just as they are on the brink of making it big

The Antiques (fiction) Kris D'Agostino
Three estranged and dysfunctional siblings are trying to plan their father's memorial service at the old family home when a hurricane tears through town

The Arrangement (fiction) Sarah Dunn
Hilarious and emotionally charged novel about a young exurban couple who decide to try a six-month experiment with open marriage

Chemistry (fiction) Weike Wang
Three years into her graduate studies, the narrator realizes chemistry may not be what she wants to pursue but how to tell her ambitious parents and her scientist fiancé?

Dumplin’ (teen)* Julie Murphy
Willadean, a large Texas teen, has let love erode her self-image and decides to regain her confidence by entering a beauty pageant

Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine (fiction)* Gail Honeyman
Eleanor has no social skills and no filters and leads a carefully calibrated life until she and Raymond, a nerdy fellow office-worker, help an elderly man who has fallen

The Flood Girls (fiction)* Richard Fifield
Rachel Flood has returned to her very small Montana hometown hoping to make amends for her past and, with the help of the world’s most fabulous twelve-year-old, just might do it

Goodbye, Vitamin (fiction) Rachel Khong
Ruth, having broken up with her fiancé and quit her job, returns to the security of her parents’ home only to find that her father has Alzheimer’s

The Heirs (fiction) Susan Rieger
Five adult sons are thrown into turmoil when, six months after their father’s death, a woman appears claiming she has her own family by him; their mother, on the other hand, doesn’t seem phased at all

A Horse Walks into a Bar (fiction)* David Grossman
In a dive bar in a small Israeli city, Dov Greenstein, a comedian a bit past his prime, takes the stage for his final show

Less (fiction) Andrew Sean Greer
A struggling almost fifty-year-old novelist decides to ‘travel the world’ by attending second-rate literary events in order to avoid the wedding of his ex-long-term boyfriend

The Misfortune of Marion Palm (fiction) Emily Culliton
Over the years Marion has embezzled a small fortune from her children’s private school but a pending audit forces her to make a run for it, leaving her baffled family behind

Once and For All (teen)* Sarah Dessen
Can charming serial-dater Ambrose win over Louna whose mother’s wedding planning business and the tragic end of her first love have made cynical about romance?

Rich People Problems (fiction) Kevin Kwan
Wealthy Singapore matriarch Su Yi is on her deathbed and the entire Shang-Young clan has convened from all corners of the globe, some with less than pure motives

Saints for All Occasions (fiction) J. Courtney Sullivan
A sudden death forces two estranged sisters, who immigrated from Ireland fifty years earlier, to confront the choices that drove them apart

Small Admissions (fiction)* Amy Poeppel
Depressed and unemployed, Kate finds a job in the admissions department of a New York private school and enters an absurd, cutthroat and hilariously outrageous world

Sputnik’s Children (fiction) Terri Favro
Cult comic book creator Debbie is trying to think of a new plot for her 25 year superhero series ‘Sputnik Chick’ and decides on an origin story but whose origin is it?

This is How It Always Is (fiction)* Laurie Frankel
Five-year-old Claude wants to be a girl and his family is fine with that – they’re just not ready to share it with the world

The Windfall (fiction) Diksha Basu
Mr. Jha comes into an enormous and unexpected sum of money and moves his family to the rich side of Delhi – a move that rocks his neighbours, his marriage and his son

Young Jane Young (fiction) Gabrielle Zevin
When middle-aged Jane Young decides to run for public office, a sex scandal from her youth threatens to derail her life yet again

* also available in spoken word CD format
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Alice Network (fiction)</td>
<td>Kate Quinn</td>
<td>In 1947, two women – an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin and a former spy in World War I France – are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augustown (fiction)</td>
<td>Kei Miller</td>
<td>A magical and haunting novel, set in the backlands of Jamaica, about one woman's struggle to rise above the brutal vicissitudes of history, race, class and myth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Book of Joan (fiction)</td>
<td>Lidia Yuknavitch</td>
<td>A retelling of the story of Joan of Arc in a near future where world wars have transformed the earth into an unending radioactive battleground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borne (fiction)</td>
<td>Jeff VanderMeer</td>
<td>From one of her scavenging missions through a city littered with discarded biotech experiments, Rachel brings home Borne, who is little more than a green lump – plant or animal? – but one that exudes a strange charisma.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celine (mystery)*</td>
<td>Peter Heller</td>
<td>An unorthodox Brooklynite Celine has made a career out of tracking down missing persons; her latest case is a National Geographic photographer who disappeared in Yellowstone Park twenty years ago.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do Not Say We Have Nothing (fiction)*</td>
<td>Madeleine Thien</td>
<td>An epic tale of two generations of Chinese musicians – those who lived through Mao's Cultural Revolution and their children, the students protesting in Tiananmen Square.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Essex Serpent (fiction)</td>
<td>Sarah Perry</td>
<td>Newly widowed Cora Seaborne leaves Victorian London with her young son for coastal Essex where she becomes fascinated both by the rumours that a mythical serpent has reappeared and by the attractive and sincere local vicar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flaneuse: Women Walk the City (non-fiction)</td>
<td>Lauren Elkin</td>
<td>Cultural critic Elkin explores through literature, art, history and film what the creative potential of great cities has meant to women; 'deliciously spiky and seditious'.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Footsteps (non-fiction)</td>
<td></td>
<td>An anthology of literary pilgrimages, exploring the geographic muses behind great writers, that ranges from Ferrante's Naples to Duras' Saigon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Heart's Invisible Furies (fiction)</td>
<td>John Boyne</td>
<td>A sweeping novel, full of humour and heart, about the course of an ordinary man's life amid the story of Ireland from the 1940s to today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hum If You Don't Know the Words (fiction)</td>
<td>Bianca Marais</td>
<td>The alternating perspectives of Robin, an orphaned white girl living with her aunt, and Beauty, the Xhosa woman hired to care for her, create a perceptive and searing look at Apartheid-era South Africa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Impossible Fortress (teen)</td>
<td>Jason Rekulak</td>
<td>A hilarious coming-of-age novel about a 14-year-old New Jersey nerd that is also a love letter to the 1980's and the dawn of the computer age.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lost City of the Monkey God (non-fiction)*</td>
<td>Douglas Preston</td>
<td>In 2012 Preston joined a team of scientists in their search for a fabled lost city hidden in the Honduran interior; a true life Indiana Jones adventure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pachinko (fiction)*</td>
<td>Min Jin Lee</td>
<td>In this compelling saga, four generations of a poor Korean immigrant family fight to control their destiny in 20th century Japan, exiled from a home they never knew.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ready Player One (teen)*</td>
<td>Ernest Cline</td>
<td>Teenager Wade Watts loves to escape the ugly reality of 2044 in the virtual game world of OASIS and now the game's billionaire creator has died, leaving his fortune to whoever can solve the puzzles it hides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Rising Man (fiction)</td>
<td>Abir Mukherjee</td>
<td>Captain Sam Wyndham, recruited to head up the new CID in 1919 Calcutta, is confronted with a highly charged case: a British official has been murdered and a 'quit India' note stuffed in his mouth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Garden (fiction)</td>
<td>Tomoka Shibasaki</td>
<td>Taro and Nishi, neighbours in a Tokyo block of apartments slated for demolition, are drawn together by their mutual fascination with the sky blue house next door.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underground Airlines (mystery)</td>
<td>Ben Winters</td>
<td>Set in a modern US where the Civil War never occurred, a black bounty hunter is on the trail of a runaway slave when he starts to have doubts about the case.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wedding Bush Road (fiction)</td>
<td>David Francis</td>
<td>A young lawyer in LA is called back to his family's farm in rural Australia when his mother falls ill and is plunged into complex family dynamics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Woman Next Door (fiction)</td>
<td>Yewande Omotoso</td>
<td>A tale of two elderly widows, one black, one white, neighbours in a Capetown community, who after twenty years of mutual animosity may be forced to help each other.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Also available in spoken word CD format*
**JUST A GOOD READ**

**After the Fire** (fiction)  
Henning Mankell  
an elderly Swedish recluse is forced to open himself up to a world he'd left behind when his house on an isolated island burns to the ground

**Anything Is Possible** (stories)  
Elizabeth Strout  
the characters in the small town central to 'My Name is Lucy Barton' struggle to understand themselves and others in these stunning interconnected stories

**Behold the Dreamers** (fiction)*  
Imbolo Mbue  
a young Cameroonian couple are starting to make a new life for themselves in New York City when the 2008 financial crisis upends the economy

**Boy in Winter** (fiction)  
Rachel Seiffert  
in 1941, only weeks after the German invasion, a small Ukrainian town is overrun by the SS – the story of the devastating three days that follow

**The Dark Flood Rises** (fiction)  
Margaret Drabble  
Fran may be old but she still enjoys her job and a glass of red wine; a masterly and often funny meditation on what makes a good life and a good death

**The Gustav Sonata** (fiction)  
Rose Tremain  
past WWII Switzerland as seen through the lives of two kindergarten friends, from vastly different families, who follow divergent paths

**History of Wolves** (fiction)  
Emily Fridlund  
in the woods of northern Minnesota, fourteen-year-old Linda starts babysitting for the family across the lake and is drawn into secrets she doesn't understand

**In the Great Green Room** (non-fiction)*  
Amy Gary  
the extraordinary life of the woman behind the beloved children's classic 'Goodnight Moon' comes alive in this fascinating biography of Margaret Wise Brown

**Lincoln in the Bardo** (fiction)*  
George Saunders  
Abraham Lincoln's beloved eleven-year-old son Willie has died and the boy is now in the bardo, Tibetan purgatory, where the voices of the dead debate his fate

**Manhattan Beach** (fiction)*  
Jennifer Egan  
Anna Kerrigan, the first female diver in the Brooklyn Naval Yard during WWII, bumps into Dexter Styles, a man who might have an explanation for why her father disappeared

**Marlena** (fiction)  
Julie Buntin  
a vivid portrait of a friendship between two girls in a troubled community that captures the heartache of adolescence and its legacy into adulthood

**Midnight at the Bright Ideas Bookstore** (mystery)  
Matthew Sullivan  
when a patron commits suicide in a Denver bookstore, his favourite store clerk must unravel the puzzle he's left behind, a puzzle that might involve a past she's tried very hard to forget

**Moonglow** (fiction)*  
Michael Chabon  
the deathbed confession of an old man to his grandson, 'Moonglow' explores war, family, madness and technology in a life that spanned two continents and the heart of the 20th century

**Mozart's Starling** (non-fiction)  
Lyanda Lynn Haupt  
the intertwined stories of Mozart's beloved pet and Haupt's own starling provide an unexpected window into human-animal friendships, music, bird behavior and the nature of creative inspiration

**Persons Unknown** (mystery)  
Susie Steiner  
Detective Manon Bradshaw's already complicated life becomes even more so when the victim of a fatal stabbing turns out to be her sister's ex and the prime suspect is even closer to home

**Prussian Blue** (mystery)*  
Philip Kerr  
when his cover is blown, former Berlin policeman Bernie Gunther is forced to reenter a cat-and-mouse game that continues to shadow his life a decade after Germany's defeat in WWII

**Standard Deviation** (fiction)  
Katherine Heiny  
in the midst of the difficulties and delights of marriage and child-rearing, the reappearance of his first wife sets Graham wondering about the path not taken in this 'comic masterpiece'

**The Sunshine Sisters** (fiction)*  
Jane Green  
three very different sisters are called home by their film star mother's terminal illness, a mother whose narcissism and disinterest alienated them all

**Swing Time** (fiction)*  
Zadie Smith  
a big social novel that ranges from childhood friendship to international aid, from world-famous singers to unemployed single mothers in a story at once intimate and global

**Transit** (fiction)  
Rachel Cusk  
a divorce becomes the catalyst for a number of transitions – personal, moral, artistic, practical – as Faye endeavours to construct a new life for herself and her sons

*also available in spoken word CD format