The Afterlife of Stars (fiction)  
Joseph Kertes  
Fleeing the 1956 Hungarian Revolution with their family to Paris, the young Beck brothers, driven by natural curiosity, uncover alarming family secrets.

All My Puny Sorrows (fiction)  
Miriam Toews  
Yoli is desperate to prevent the suicide of her sister Elf, a celebrated and happily married pianist; blending sadness and humour, this is a heartfelt account of Toews' own tragedies.

The Back of the Turtle (fiction)  
Thomas King  
Gabriel, a brilliant scientist, is riddled with guilt over an environmental disaster but when he saves a young girl's life, something magical and mysterious begins to happen.

The Cartographer of No Man's Land (fiction)  
P. S. Duffy  
Angus joins the war to find his beloved brother-in-law who has gone missing at the front in 1916, while his son navigates escalating hostility in their Nova Scotian village.

Ellen in Pieces (fiction)  
Caroline Adderson  
In middle age, Ellen McGinty steps out for a first tentative foray into real contentment – directly into the path of a man twenty years her junior.

Etta & Otto & Russell & James (fiction)  
Emma Hooper  
Eighty-two year-old Etta decides to walk from Saskatchewan to Halifax to see the ocean before she dies; 'tender-hearted and enchanting'.

The Ever After of Ashwin Rao (fiction)  
Padma Viswanathan  
A sweeping narrative of a Brahmin family explores the emotional and political consequences of the 1985 Air India bombing.

For Today I Am a Boy (fiction)  
Kim Fu  
Peter, the prized only son in a Chinese-Canadian family, knows he is really a girl; a lyrical coming-of-age tale like no other.

Landing Gear (fiction)  
Kate Pullinger  
Yacub, a Pakistani stowaway, falls from a plane onto Harriet's car in suburban London, catapulting Harriet and her family into a series of life-changing events.

Maddaddam (fiction)  
Margaret Atwood  
In this final volume of Atwood's apocalyptic trilogy, the survivors of 'Oryx and Crake' and 'Year of the Flood' establish a compound where they await a final showdown.

Medicine Walk (fiction)  
Richard Wagamese  
Sixteen-year-old Franklin Starlight accompanies his estranged and dying father through the dramatic landscape of the BC interior so he may be buried in the traditional Ojibway manner.

Moving Forward Sideways Like a Crab (fiction)  
Shani Mootoo  
After years of searching, Jonathan reconnects with his cherished mother, who had mysteriously left his father when Jonathan was nine, and finds her now living as a man in her native Trinidad.

My October (fiction)  
Claire Holden Rothman  
The lives of Luc, Hannah, and their troubled teenage son, Hugo, are interwoven with the history of Quebec's sovereignty movement.

The Promised Land (fiction)  
Bill Conall  
Bill Conall follows the amusing adventures of a group of Cape Breton hippies from when they went 'back to the land' in 1970 until forty years later, when they welcome a young female doctor to their community.

Road Ends (fiction)  
Mary Lawson  
Ranging from the Ontario silver rush of the early 1900s to swinging sixties London, the author details the intricacies of family life and the push and pull of responsibility versus individual desire.

A Siege of Bitterns (mystery)  
Steve Burrows  
British Inspector Jejune, an avid birdwatcher, investigates the murder of a prominent ecological activist in a small Norfolk town while dealing with unwelcome public acclaim and the mistrust of colleagues.

Sweetland (fiction)  
Michael Crummey  
A beautifully crafted and emotional tale of Moses Sweetland's struggle to maintain his way of life on a remote Newfoundland island despite his community's acceptance of the government's resettlement package.

Tell (fiction)  
Frances Itani  
Kenan, a damaged WWI soldier, tries to readjust to marriage and life in small-town Deseranto, Ontario while his family copes with their own private sorrows.

They Left Us Everything (non-fiction)  
Plum Johnson  
After the deaths of their elderly parents, the author and her brothers must empty and sell their beloved family home in Oakville; a funny and touching memoir.

The Wind Is Not a River (fiction)  
Brian Payton  
A spellbinding portrait of writer John Easley, shot down and lost over the Aleutian Islands in 1943, and his wife Helen, determined to find her husband herself.

* also available in spoken word CD format

* a Good Canadian Read
Brilliant Blunders (non-fiction)  Mario Livio

drawing on the lives of five great scientists who have changed our understanding of life and the universe, Livio shows how the scientific method advances through error

The Children Act (fiction)  Ian McEwan

a London judge, childless and facing a crisis in her marriage, has to rule on a complex case involving a seventeen year-old boy who refuses treatment for leukemia on religious grounds

Deadly Wandering (non-fiction)  Matt Richtel

an exploration of technology's vast influence on the human mind and society, dramatically told through the lens of a tragic 'texting-while-driving' car crash that killed two people

Elizabeth is Missing (fiction)  Emma Healey

Maud is certain her friend Elizabeth has disappeared and in her deepening dementia, starts to look for her, a search which triggers memories of her sister's disappearance decades ago

The End of Absence (non-fiction)  Michael Harris

Canadian Harris explores the massive changes the Internet has caused and argues that the greatest loss may be that of simple absence, of silence and solitude

Family Life (fiction)  Akhil Sharma

an immigrant Indian family's dreams of a better life are shattered when a tragedy befalls the eldest son; this novel 'will cut your heart to pieces but make you rejoice'

Furious Cool (non-fiction)  David Henry

in-depth appreciation of black comedian Richard Pryor's talent and lasting influence, as well as an insightful examination of the world that shaped him and his art

The Good Spy (non-fiction)  Kai Bird

compelling portrait of the remarkable life and death of Robert Ames, one of the most influential and effective CIA operatives in the Middle East

Kinder Than Solitude (fiction)  Yiyun Li

the story of three people whose lives are changed by a murder one of them may have committed; a breathtaking page-turner

Like Family: Growing Up in Other People's Houses (non-fiction)  Paula McLain

powerful and haunting memoir by novelist McLain about the years she and her two sisters spent as foster children after being abandoned by both parents

Love and Treasure (fiction)  Ayelet Waldman

novel built around the true story of the Gold Train; full of treasures stolen from Hungarian Jews by the Nazis, it was intercepted by the US Army and plundered yet again

Lowland (fiction)  Jhumpa Lahiri

social activist Udayan's death brings scientist Subhash home to India where he marries his brother's pregnant widow in a misguided attempt to set things right

Me, Myself and Why (non-fiction)  Jennifer Ouellette

Ouellette draws on cutting-edge research in genetics, neuroscience and psychology – enlivened by her signature sense of humor – to explore the mysteries of human identity and behavior

Me Who Dove Into the Heart of the World (fiction)  Sabina Berman

Karen Nieto, the autistic heir to a Mexican tuna fishery, uses her 'gifts' to try to save the family business; 'poetic, humorous, magical'

Mortality (non-fiction)  Christopher Hitchens

Hitchens chronicles his year-and-a-half battle with esophageal cancer, facing death in the same brave, confrontational and unsentimental manner in which he faced life

Motherland (fiction)  Maria Hummel

Leisl marries a widower who is drafted into the Nazi Army, leaving her to care for his children in an unravelling Berlin

My Real Children (fiction)  Jo Walton

an old woman remembers two lives – as Trish, a housewife and mother of four and as Pat, a successful travel writer and mother of three; which one is real?

The Narrow Road to the Deep North (fiction)  Richard Flanagan

despite himself, Australian doctor Dorrigo Evans becomes a hero in a Japanese POW camp on the Thai-Burma Death Railway; a profound meditation on life and time

The Silent History (fiction)  Eli Horowitz

an epidemic is spreading among newborns – they are normal in every way except their brains seem to lack a language centre; 'thoughtful, imaginative and unputdownable'

The Sixth Extinction (non-fiction)  Elizabeth Kolbert

Kolbert traces the evolution of extinction up to the present mass extinction unfolding before our eyes, an event which is likely to be mankind's most lasting legacy

* also available in spoken word CD format
Delicious! (fiction)  Ruth Reichl
when the iconic New York food magazine Delicious is suddenly shut down, newly hired Billie Breslin stays behind to man the complaints and recipe hotline, rather than return home

Everything is Perfect When You're a Liar (non-fiction)  Kelly Oxford
Canadian Twitter sensation and popular writer Oxford uses her trademark blend of biting wit and self-deprecation to find hilarity in everyday life

The Extra Ordinary Life of Frank Derrick, Age 81 (fiction)  J. B. Morrison
with her appalling parking and cheerful resilience, Frank Derrick's new home helper turns his previously mundane existence upside down

How to Build a Girl (fiction)  Caitlin Moran
after shaming herself on local TV, teenager Johanna Morgan reinvents herself as Dolly Wilde, a fast-talking, hard-drinking Goth heroine with, as she is about to discover, a fatal flaw

The Hundred-Year House (fiction)  Rebecca Makkai
set on an historic American estate and former arts colony, Makkai's novel is a generational saga in reverse as it seeks to uncover the mysteries that surround this strange house and its residents

Hyperbole and a Half (non-fiction)  Allie Brosh
part graphic novel, part confessional, overall delightful; in her typical self-deprecating manner comic genius Brosh tells personal stories of fear, love, depression and hope

Jeeves and the Wedding Bells (fiction)  Sebastian Faulks
Bertie Wooster (young man about town) and his butler Jeeves (the very model of the modern manservant) return in their first new novel in nearly forty years

Lost & Found (fiction)  Brooke Davis
two octogenarians unite to help seven-year-old Millie Bird find her newly widowed mother who has abandoned her in this heartbreaking and funny Australian novel

Love, Nina (non-fiction)  Nina Stibbe
a laugh-out-loud memoir of the trials and tribulations of an eccentric London family, as seen through the eyes of their even more eccentric nanny

Lucky Us (fiction)  Amy Bloom
half-sisters Iris and Eva journey across 1940s America in search of fame and fortune; 'filled with gorgeous writing, memorable characters and surprising events'

A Man Called Ove (fiction)  Fredrik Backman
the neighbourhood curmudgeon finds his solitary world turned upside down when a boisterous young family moves in next door in this Swedish bestseller

My Salinger Year (non-fiction)  Joanna Rakoff
tasked with answering J. D. Salinger's voluminous fan mail, Rakoff abandons the form response and begins writing back, discovering her own voice in the process

The Sleepwalker's Guide to Dancing (fiction)  Mira Jacob
Amina returns home when she learns her surgeon father has begun acting strangely and once again becomes immersed in her dysfunctional Indian immigrant family

Still Life with Bread Crumbs (fiction)  Anna Quindlen
in an effort to salvage her finances, a once world-famous photographer rents a cabin in rural New York and ends up completely changing her life

The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry (fiction)*  Gabrielle Zevin
a gruff widower gets a second chance at happiness when a baby is abandoned in his bookstore but all is not smooth sailing

Tigerman (science fiction)  Nick Harkaway
Sergeant Lester Ferris is just putting in his time until retirement when he inadvertently complicates his life by befriending a brilliant, comic book-obsessed street kid

The Unexpected Waltz (fiction)  Kim Wright
a middle-aged widow with too much time and money on her hands signs up for a ballroom dancing class on a whim

Us (fiction)  David Nicholls
the story of one man's efforts to salvage his marriage – and repair his troubled relationship with his teenage son – during the course of a trip around Europe

The Vacationers (fiction)  Emma Straub
the Posts' vacation in Mallorca with extended family and friends doesn't go exactly as planned for anyone; 'a darkly funny domestic drama'

What I Was Doing While You Were Breeding (non-fiction)  Kristin Newman
in need of escape from her fast-paced job as a sitcom writer, Newman traveled the world for several weeks each year, falling in love with the planet and, often, the locals

* also available in spoken word CD format
Ancillary Justice (science fiction) Ann Leckie
debut novel that has won every major sci-fi award; all that is left of the colossal starship Justice of Toren is Breq and she is out for revenge

Empress Dowager Cixi (non-fiction) Jung Chang
Chang challenges orthodox Chinese history in this exciting biography of Cixi, the concubine who went on to rule patriarchal China for over fifty years

Every Day is for the Thief (fiction) Teju Cole
an expatriate Nigerian returns to Lagos for a visit and in spare, precise prose reflects on the changes that have taken place in his country and himself; “funny, mournful and acerbic”

Flappers (non-fiction) Judith Mackrell
in marvelous portrayals, Mackrell explores how six icons of the Jazz Age presaged the sexual revolution and shaped the role of women for generations to come

The Fortune Hunter (fiction) Daisy Goodwin
in 1875, the bored Empress of Austria comes to England to hunt and attracts the attention of Captain Bay Middleton who is engaged to the clever and wealthy Charlotte

Lawrence in Arabia (non-fiction) Scott Anderson
a compelling account of how T. E. Lawrence, along with other Western interests, tried to create a particular Middle-Eastern world and the repercussions this has had on the volatile region

The Luminaries (fiction) * Eleanor Catton
set during New Zealand’s gold rush, this is a sweeping novel of love, lust, murder and greed in which three unsolved crimes link the fates and fortunes of twelve men

The Martian (science fiction) * Andy Weir
a dust storm forces the evacuation of the first manned mission to Mars, leaving astronaut Mark Watney stranded behind; how long can he survive? should he bother?

Mastering the Art of Soviet Cooking (non-fiction) * Anya Von Bremzen
an award-winning food writer, whose family fled the Soviet Union when she was ten, decides to revisit the past by cooking her way through every decade of the Soviet experience

Mosquitoland (teen fiction) David Arnold
when she learns that her mother is sick, Mim sets out on a thousand-mile odyssey from Mississippi to Cleveland that forces her to confront her demons

My Brilliant Friend (fiction) Elena Ferrante
the first book in the internationally acclaimed Neapolitan Trilogy that follows the lives of two female best friends, starting with their 1950s childhood in a poor neighborhood of Naples

One Summer: America 1927 (non-fiction) * Bill Bryson
in this hugely entertaining book, Bryson tells a story of eccentric personalities and brawling adventures that brings to life a summer when America came of age and defined itself

Out There (fiction) Sarah Stark
convinced that the book he carried in Iraq saved his life, young Army veteran Jefferson sets out on a motorcycle trip to Mexico City intending to meet the author

Paris Letters (non-fiction) Janice MacLeod
delightful memoir in which Canadian MacLeod saves up, quits her job and heads off to Paris for two years where she falls in love on many levels

in 1970, James Beard, M. F. K. Fisher and Julia Child found themselves together in the south of France; they cooked and ate, talked and argued, and launched the modern food movement

Station Eleven (fiction) * Emily St. John Mandel
in a post-pandemic world, a violent prophet threatens the existence of a small troupe of actors and musicians dedicated to keeping the remnants of art and humanity alive

The Telling Room (non-fiction) Michael Paterniti
while on another assignment in Spain, journalist Paterniti decides to track down a cheese claimed to be the best and most expensive in the world

The Valley of Amazement (fiction) * Amy Tan
starting in the decadent world of early 20th century Shanghai, this is a deeply moving narrative of family secrets and the profound connections between mothers and daughters

While the Gods Were Sleeping (non-fiction) Elizabeth Enslin
love and marriage bring American anthropologist Enslin to a remote village in the plains of Nepal where she experiences a foreign culture firsthand

The Wife, the Maid and the Mistress (fiction) Ariel Lawhon
wickedly entertaining novel inspired by a real-life unsolved mystery – the 1930 disappearance of Judge ‘Good Time Joe’ Carter

* also available in spoken word CD format
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All the Light We Cannot See (fiction) *</td>
<td>Anthony Doerr</td>
<td>a blind girl who navigates the streets of Paris using a miniature city built by her father crosses paths in Nazi-occupied France with an orphaned German boy who is a master at tracking down Resistance members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astonish Me (fiction)</td>
<td>Maggie Shipstead</td>
<td>a Russian ballet dancer's career eclipses that of the woman who helped him defect; years later when her son becomes a ballet prodigy, they are brought together again</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Blazing World (fiction)</td>
<td>Siri Hustvedt</td>
<td>artist Harriet Burden claims that, after years of watching her work ignored or dismissed by critics, she showcased her art using three male personae and received widespread acclaim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy, Snow, Bird (fiction)</td>
<td>Helen Oyeyemi</td>
<td>a reimagined fairytale about a Caucasian woman named Boy who gives birth to a dark-skinned child exposing her new husband's family as African-Americans passing for white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everything I Never Told You (fiction) *</td>
<td>Celeste Ng</td>
<td>the eldest child of a blended Chinese American family disappears in small town Ohio leaving the parents to wonder if their own personal and cultural rifts are somehow responsible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Farm (adventure) *</td>
<td>Tom Rob Smith</td>
<td>A retired English couple's new life on a remote farm in rural Sweden goes horribly wrong in this gripping psychological thriller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Fever (mystery)</td>
<td>Megan Abbott</td>
<td>teenage girls are falling victim to violent seizures which land them in hospital in life-threatening comas; eventually all eyes turn to the one girl who hasn't been affected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Girl on the Train (mystery) *</td>
<td>Paula Hawkins</td>
<td>a fast paced Hitchcockian thriller narrated alternately by three women whose lives intersect when one of them goes missing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Goldfinch (fiction) *</td>
<td>Donna Tartt</td>
<td>when a terrorist bombing at a museum kills his mother, young survivor Theo inadvertently steals a painting of a goldfinch that becomes his anchor and his albatross during years of loneliness and loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Gravity of Birds (fiction)</td>
<td>Tracy Guzman</td>
<td>a famous painter asks an art history professor and an art authenticator to sell a portrait for him on the condition they locate the two women in the painting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Husband's Secret (fiction) *</td>
<td>Liane Moriarty</td>
<td>discovering a letter that says to open only in the event of her husband's death, Cecilia is unable to resist and discovers a secret that shatters her life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Life I Left Behind (mystery)</td>
<td>Colette McBeth</td>
<td>a voice from beyond the grave helps a young woman who was attacked and left for dead find the clues that may help her track down a killer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Map Thief (non-fiction)</td>
<td>Michael Blanding</td>
<td>the history of a fascinating high-stakes criminal who spent years doubling as an antiquarian map dealer and the inside story of the industry that consumed him</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Life in Middlemarch (non-fiction) *</td>
<td>Rebecca Mead</td>
<td>a deeply felt mix of literary criticism, biography and memoir that describes the author's complicated lifelong relationship with the book 'Middlemarch' and its author, George Eliot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Paris Architect (fiction) *</td>
<td>Charles Belfoure</td>
<td>an architect is paid handsomely to devise secret hiding spaces for Jews in Nazi-occupied Paris but struggles with risking his life for a cause he is ambivalent about</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow Hunters (fiction)</td>
<td>Paul Yoon</td>
<td>traces the extraordinary journey of Yohan, who defects from his country at the end of the Korean War, leaving friends and family behind to seek a new life in Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Rise Again at a Decent Hour (fiction) *</td>
<td>Joshua Ferris</td>
<td>a laugh out loud funny tale about a dentist with less than perfect interpersonal skills, whose online life is hijacked and becomes a better version of the real thing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Unnecessary Woman (fiction)</td>
<td>Rabih Alameddine</td>
<td>seventy-two year-old Aaliya Saleh, living alone in her Beirut apartment surrounded by her beloved books, is faced with a disaster that threatens to shatter the little life she has left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why I Read (non-fiction)</td>
<td>Wendy Lesser</td>
<td>magazine editor Lesser draws on a lifetime of pleasure reading to describe her passion for literature; ‘iconoclastic, conversational and full of insight’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You Should Have Known (fiction)</td>
<td>Jean Hanff Korelitz</td>
<td>a New York therapist who writes a book on women's blindness to the failings of men is confronted with some disturbing discoveries about the life of her own husband</td>
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</tbody>
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