

OPRAH'S BOOK CLUB & BOOK CLUB 2.0

Below is a listing of books highlighting authors and selections chosen by Oprah Winfrey for viewers of her former TV show to read and discuss. Started in 1996, it began as a monthly book club, but now, titles are added sporadically by.

DATE	TITLE, AUTHOR, CALL NUMBER & DESCRIPTION
09/1996	<p><u>THE DEEP END OF THE OCEAN</u>, by Jacquelyn Mitchard Call Number: F MITCHARD It happened in a flash. One minute Beth Cappadora was the happily married mother of three. The next, one of them, 3-year-old Ben, was missing. Was he kidnapped? No one knew, and as minutes lengthened into hours, days, weeks, months, years, even the woman police officer obsessed with the case gave up hope. But suddenly something so unexpected happens, it changes everything.</p>
10/1996	<p><u>SONG OF SOLOMON</u>, by Toni Morrison Call Number: F MORRISON Milkman Dead was born shortly after a neighborhood eccentric hurled himself off a rooftop in a vain attempt at flight. For the rest of his life he, too, will be trying to fly. With this brilliantly imagined novel, Toni Morrison transfigures the coming-of-age story as audaciously as Saul Bellow or Gabriel García Márquez.</p>
11/1996	<p><u>THE BOOK OF RUTH</u>, by Jane Hamilton Call Number: Available on Hoopla Winner of the 1989 PEN/Hemingway Foundation Award for best first novel, this exquisite book confronts real-life issues of alienation and violence from which the author creates a stunning testament to the human capacity for mercy, compassion and love.</p>
12/1996	<p><u>SHE'S COME UNDONE</u>, by Wally Lamb Call Number: eBook on OverDrive Meet Dolores Price. She's 13, wise-mouthed but wounded, having bid her childhood goodbye. Stranded in front of her bedroom TV, she spends the next few years nourishing herself with the Mallomars, potato chips, and Pepsi her anxious mother supplies. When she finally orbits into young womanhood at 257 pounds, Dolores is no stronger and life is no kinder. But this time she's determined to rise to the occasion and give herself one more chance before she really goes under.</p>
02/1997	<p><u>STONES FROM THE RIVER</u>, by Ursula Hegi Call Number: University Holdings From the author of Floating in My Mother's Palm. Born in the small German town of Burdorf, Trudi Montag is a Zwerg--a dwarf--who yearns to stretch and grow and be like everyone else. But as she matures to become the town's librarian and unofficial historian, Trudi learns that being different is a secret that everybody shares.</p>
04/1997	<p><u>THE RAPTURE OF CANAAN</u>, by Sheri Reynolds Call Number: eAudiobook on Hoopla Growing up in a closed religious community deep in the rural South, 15-year-old Ninah Huff painstakingly and obediently follows her church's many rules-she knows that public humiliation follows the smallest transgression. But lately she can't stop thinking about how handsome James is, even when she should be praying. Ashamed and confused, she hides her feelings. However, when the elders assign James as her prayer partner, she takes her first steps down a path away from the security and blind belief of her upbringing.</p>

05/1997	<p>THE HEART OF A WOMAN, by Maya Angelou Call Number: 92 ANGELOU</p> <p>This engaging book chronicles the changes in Maya Angelou's life as she enters the hub of activity that is New York. There, at the Harlem Writers Guild, she re-dedicating herself to writing, and finds love at an unexpected moment. Reflecting on her many roles--from northern coordinator of Martin Luther King's history-making quest to mother of a rebellious teenage son--Angelou eloquently speaks to an awareness of the heart within us all.</p>
06/1997	<p>SONGS IN ORDINARY TIME, by Mary McGarry Morris Call Number: eBook on Hoopla</p> <p>Songs in Ordinary Time is set in the summer of 1960 - the last of quiet times and America's innocence. It centers on Marie Fermoye, a strong but vulnerable woman whose loneliness and ambition for her children make her easy prey for the dangerous con man Omar Duvall.</p>
09/1997	<p>A LESSON BEFORE DYING, by Ernest J. Gaines Call Number: F GAINES</p> <p>From the author of A Gathering of Old Men and The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman comes a deep and compassionate novel. A young man who returns to 1940s Cajun country to teach visits a black youth on death row for a crime he didn't commit. Together they come to understand the heroism of resisting.</p>
10/1997	<p>A VIRTUOUS WOMAN, by Kaye Gibbons Call Number: F GIBBONS</p> <p>For Blinking Jack Stokes, everything started with Ruby Pitt--from the day he spotted her sitting under a tree. Never mind that Jack was a skinny 40-year-old tenant farmer, and Ruby the carefully raised daughter of Carolina gentry. Jack found he could talk to Ruby, unlike other women. And Ruby knew she could trust Jack to take care of her, unlike her first husband.</p>
10/1997	<p>ELLEN FOSTER, by Kaye Gibbons Call Number: eBook on Hoopla</p> <p>"When I was little I would think of ways to kill my daddy." With that opening sentence we enter the childhood world of one of the most appealing young heroines in contemporary fiction. Her courage, her humor, and her wisdom are unforgettable as she tells her own story with stunning honesty and insight.</p>
12/1997	<p>THE BEST WAY TO PLAY, by Bill Cosby Call Number: E COSBY</p> <p>Little Bill and his friends, avid fans of the television show "Space Explorers," clamor to get the video game version, but they find that they have more fun using their imagination while playing outside.</p>
01/1998	<p>PARADISE, by Toni Morrison Call Number: F MORRISON</p> <p>A mother was knocked down the stairs by her cold-eyed daughter. Four damaged infants were born in one family. Daughters refused to get out of bed. Brides disappeared on their honeymoons. Two brothers shot each other on New Year's Day. And what went on at the Oven these days was not to be believed...The proof they had been collecting since the terrible discovery in the spring could not be denied: the one thing that connected all these catastrophes was in the Convent. And in the Convent were those women.</p>
03/1998	<p>HERE ON EARTH, by Alice Hoffman Call Number: Interlibrary Loan</p> <p>After nineteen years in California, March Murray returns to the small Massachusetts town where she grew up. For all this time, March has been avoiding her own troubled history, but when she encounters Hollis—the boy she loved so desperately, the man who has never forgotten her—the past collides with the present as their reckless love is reignited.</p>

04/1998	<p>BLACK AND BLUE, by Anna Quindlen Call Number: F QUINDLEN</p> <p>In Black and Blue, Fran Benedetto tells a spellbinding story: how at nineteen she fell in love with Bobby Benedetto, how their passionate marriage became a nightmare, why she stayed, and what happened on the night she finally decided to run away with her ten-year-old son and start a new life under a new name.</p>
05/1998	<p>BREATH, EYES, MEMORY, by Edwidge Danticat Call Number: eAudiobook on Hoopla</p> <p>At the age of 12, Sophie Caco is sent from her impoverished village of Croix-des-Rosets to New York, to be reunited with a mother she barely remembers. There she discovers secrets no child should ever know, and a legacy of shame that can be healed only when she returns to Haiti. What ensues is a passionate journey through a landscape charged with the supernatural and scarred by political violence.</p>
06/1998	<p>I KNOW THIS MUCH IS TRUE, by Wally Lamb Call Number: F LAMB</p> <p>Dominick Birdsey, a forty-year-old housepainter living in Three Rivers, Connecticut, finds his subdued life greatly disturbed when his identical twin brother Thomas, a paranoid schizophrenic, commits a shocking act of self-mutilation. Dominick is forced to care for his brother as well as confront dark secrets and pain he has buried deep within himself.</p>
09/1998	<p>WHAT LOOKS LIKE CRAZY ON AN ORDINARY DAY, by Pearl Cleage Call Number: eBook on Hoopla</p> <p>After a decade of elegant pleasures and luxe living with the Atlanta brothers and sisters with the best clothes and biggest dreams, Ava Johnson has temporarily returned home to Idlewild--her fabulous career and power plans smashed to bits by cold reality. But what she imagines to be the end is, instead, a beginning.</p>
10/1998	<p>MIDWIVES, by Chris Bohjalian Call Number: F BOHJALIAN</p> <p>A talented midwife is arrested for murder when she saves a baby by performing a Caesarean section once she believes the mother has died--only to have her assistant insist later that the woman was still very much alive. Told in the mesmerizing voice of the midwife's daughter, Midwives depicts the aftermath of the tragedy.</p>
12/1998	<p>WHERE THE HEART IS, by Billie Letts Call Number: F LETTS</p> <p>Pregnant, overweight, and convinced about her inherent bad luck, Novalee Nation hopes for a new life in a new state with her boyfriend but is dumped along the way in Oklahoma, where she finds her spirit renewed.</p>
01/1999	<p>JEWEL, by Bret Lott Call Number: Interlibrary Loan</p> <p>In the backwoods of Mississippi, Jewel and her husband are truly blessed; they have five fine children. When Brenda Kay is born in 1943, Jewel gives thanks for a healthy baby, last-born and most welcome. Jewel is the story of how quickly a life can change; how an unforeseen event can set us on a course without reason or compass.</p>
02/1999	<p>THE READER, by Bernhard Schlink Call Number: F SCHLINK</p> <p>15-year-old Michael becomes ill on the way home from school. A woman takes care of him. The boy arrives at her home with a bunch of flowers to thank her. And then comes back again. Hanna is the first woman he has ever desired. But there is something harsh about her. His questions about her family and her life go unanswered. One day Hanna simply disappears. Michael's life goes on, but he can't forget her.</p>

03/1999	<p>THE PILOT'S WIFE, by Anita Shreve Call Number: University Holdings</p> <p>As a pilot's wife, Kathryn has learned to expect both intense exhilaration and long periods alone, but nothing has prepared her for a late-night knock that lets her know her husband has died in a crash. As Kathryn struggles with her grief, she descends into a maelstrom of publicity stirred up by the modern hunger for the details of tragedy. Even before the plane is located, the relentless scrutiny of her husband's life begins to bring a bizarre personal mystery into focus. Could there be any truth to the increasingly disturbing rumors that he had a secret life?</p>
05/1999	<p>WHITE OLEANDER, by Janet Fitch Call Number: eAudiobook on Hoopla</p> <p>Astrid is the only child of a single mother, Ingrid, a brilliant, obsessed poet who wields her luminous beauty to intimidate and manipulate men. Astrid worships her mother - but their idyll is shattered when Astrid's mother falls apart over a lover. Deranged by rejection, Ingrid murders the man, and is sentenced to life in prison. White Oleander is the unforgettable story of Astrid's journey through a series of foster homes and her efforts to find a place for herself in impossible circumstances.</p>
06/1999	<p>MOTHER OF PEARL, by Melinda Haynes Call Number: Interlibrary Loan</p> <p>revolves around twenty-eight-year-old Even Grade, a black man who grew up an orphan, and Valuable Korner, the fifteen-year-old white daughter of the town whore and an unknown father. Both are passionately determined to discover the precious things neither experienced as children: human connection, enduring commitment, and, above all, unconditional love.</p>
09/1999	<p>TARA ROAD, by Maeve Binchy Call Number: F BINCHY</p> <p>Tara Road is about Ria, and her husband and children, and her husband's boss and his wife, and his mistress, and her friends and neighbors, and their husbands, wives, children, and the people they are having affairs with. Ria's mother Nora, who prides herself on never popping in unannounced, her penny-pinching sister, and her rich and successful friend Rosemary, take a big part of the center stage of the book. But when everything falls apart for Ria, she's in danger of losing everything she loves.</p>
10/1999	<p>RIVER, CROSS MY HEART, by Breena Clarke Call Number: Interlibrary Loan</p> <p>When five-year-old Clara Bynum drowns in the Potomac River under a seemingly haunted rock outcropping known locally as the Three Sisters, the community must reconcile themselves to the bitter tragedy.</p>
11/1999	<p>VINEGAR HILL, by A. Manette Ansay Call Number: ebook & eAudiobook on Hoopla</p> <p>It is 1972 when circumstance carries Ellen Grier and her family back to Holly's Field, Wisconsin. Dutifully accompanying her newly unemployed husband, Ellen has brought her two children into the home of her in-laws on Vinegar Hill--a loveless house suffused with the settling dust of bitterness and routine--where calculated cruelty is a way of life preserved and perpetuated in the service of a rigid, exacting and angry God. And here Ellen must find the strength to endure, change, and grow.</p>
12/1999	<p>A MAP OF THE WORLD, by Jane Hamilton Call Number: Interlibrary Loan</p> <p>The Goodwins, Howard, Alice, and their little girls, Emma and Claire, live on a dairy farm in Wisconsin. Although suspiciously regarded by their neighbors as "that hippie couple" because of their well-educated, urban background, Howard and Alice believe they have found a source of emotional strength in the farm, he tending the barn while Alice works as a nurse in the local elementary school.</p>

01/2000	<p>GAP CREEK, by Robert Morgan Call Number: F MORGAN</p> <p>A novel on the harsh life in the Appalachian Mountains at the turn of the century. The heroine is Julie Harmon whose work load includes hauling water, butchering a hog, rendering lard, plucking a turkey, baking and preserving--all described in detail.</p>
02/2000	<p>DAUGHTER OF FORTUNE, by Isabel Allende Call Number: University Holdings</p> <p>Orphaned at birth, Eliza Sommers is raised in the British colony of Valparaso, Chile, by the well-intentioned Victorian spinster Miss Rose and her more rigid brother Jeremy. Just as she meets and falls in love with the wildly inappropriate Joaquin Andieta, a lowly clerk who works for Jeremy, gold is discovered in the hills of northern California. By 1849, Chileans of every stripe have fallen prey to feverish dreams of wealth. Joaquin takes off for San Francisco to seek his fortune, and Eliza, pregnant with his child, decides to follow him.</p>
03/2000	<p>BACK ROADS, by Tawni O'Dell Call Number: eAudiobook on Hoopla</p> <p>Harley's mother is in prison for killing his father, so he's in charge of bringing up his younger sisters and working two jobs to pay the bills—and that doesn't leave a lot of time for distractions. But lately, he's getting more and more sidetracked by lusting after Callie Mercer, his middle-aged neighbor. As he struggles to keep it together, things begin to spin out of control. Soon Harley finds that as shattered as his family is, there are still more crushing surprises in store.</p>
04/2000	<p>THE BLUEST EYE, Toni Morrison Call Number: F MORRISON</p> <p>It is the story of 11-year-old Pecola Breedlove--a black girl in an America whose love for its blond, blue-eyed children can devastate all others--who prays for her eyes to turn blue: so that she will be beautiful, so that people will look at her, so that her world will be different. This is the story of the nightmare at the heart of her yearning.</p>
05/2000	<p>WHILE I WAS GONE, by Sue Miller Call Number: F MILLER</p> <p>Jo Becker has every reason to be content. She has three dynamic daughters, a loving marriage, and a rewarding career. But she feels a sense of unease. Then an old housemate reappears, sending Jo back to a distant past when she lived in a communal house in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Drawn deeper into her memories of that fateful summer in 1968, Jo begins to obsess about the person she once was. As she is pulled farther from her present life, her husband, and her world, Jo struggles against becoming enveloped by her past.</p>
06/2000	<p>THE POISONWOOD BIBLE, by Barbara Kingsolver Call Number: F KINGSOLVER</p> <p>The drama of a U.S. missionary family in Africa during a war of decolonization. At its center is Nathan Price, a self-righteous Baptist minister who establishes a mission in a village in 1959 Belgian Congo. The resulting clash of cultures is seen through the eyes of his wife and his four daughters.</p>
08/2000	<p>OPEN HOUSE, Elizabeth Berg Call Number: F BERG</p> <p>Samantha Morrow's husband has left her, and after a spree of overcharging at Tiffany's, she settles down to reconstruct a life for herself and her 11-year-old son. Her eccentric mother tried to help by fixing her up with dates, but a more pressing problem is money. To meet her mortgage payments, Sam decides to take in boarders. The first is an older woman who offers sage advice and sorely needed comfort; the second, a maladjusted student, is not quite so helpful. A new friend, King, an untraditional man, suggests that Samantha get out, get going, get work. But her real work is this: In order to emerge from grief and the past, she has to learn how to make her own happiness.</p>

09/2000	<p><u>DROWNING RUTH</u>, by Christina Schwarz Call Number: F SCHWARZ Deftly written and emotionally powerful, Drowning Ruth is a stunning portrait of the ties that bind sisters together and the forces that tear them apart, of the dangers of keeping secrets and the explosive repercussions when they are exposed. A mesmerizing and achingly beautiful debut.</p>
11/2000	<p><u>HOUSE OF SAND AND FOG</u>, by Andre Dubus III Call Number: F DUBUS On a road crew in California, a former colonel in the Iranian Air Force under the Shah yearns to restore his family's dignity. When an attractive bungalow comes available on county auction for a fraction of its value, he sees a great opportunity for himself, his wife, and his children. But the house's former owner, a recovering alcoholic and addict down on her luck, doesn't see it that way, nor does her lover, a married cop driven to extremes to win her love and get her house back.</p>
01/2001	<p><u>WE WERE THE MULVANEYS</u>, by Joyce Carol Oates Call Number: F OATES The Mulvaneys, at first a close and very lucky family, drift apart over the years, until the youngest son, Judd, discovers the secret of their downfall and sets out to help reunite the family.</p>
03/2001	<p><u>ICY SPARKS</u>, by Gwyn Hyman Rubio Call Number: eAudiobook on Hoopla Ten-year-old Icy Sparks already has one strike against her: She's an orphan. Life becomes even more difficult when Icy develops strange symptoms: violent tics, inexplicable convulsions, sudden outbursts, and uncontrollable cursing that accompany her rare neurological disorder. Her affliction goes undiagnosed until adulthood, but the all-too-visible signs are the source of endless mystery and hilarity as everyone around offers an opinion about what's troubling the girl. Eventually Icy finds solace in the company of Miss Emily, who knows what it's like to be an outcast in this tightly knit community.</p>
05/2001	<p><u>STOLEN LIVES: TWENTY YEARS IN A DESERT JAIL</u>, by Malika Oufkir Call Number: University Holdings Born into a proud Berber family in 1953, the eldest daughter of the King of Morocco's closest aide, Malika Oufkir was adopted at the age of five by King Muhammad V to be brought up as the companion of his daughter, Princess Amina. When he died, his son Hassan II became King and took charge of rearing the two girls as well as his own children. Malika spent eleven years living at the court, in the seclusion of the harem, until she left the palace, at the age of 16, as one of the most eligible heiresses in the kingdom and tasted a couple of years of a heady jet-set lifestyle. On August 16th, 1972, her father, General Muhammad Oufkir, was arrested and executed after an attempt to assassinate the king. Malika, her mother, and four siblings were imprisoned in a penal colony.</p>
06/2001	<p><u>CANE RIVER</u>, by Lalita Tademy Call Number: F TADEMY Lalita Tademy was a corporate vice president at a Fortune RM 500 company when she decided to give notice and embark upon an odyssey to uncover her family's past. Through her exhaustive research, she would find herself transported back to the early 1800s, to an isolated, close-knit rural community on Louisiana's Cane River. Here, Tademy takes historical fact and mingles it with fiction to weave a vivid account of what life was like for the four remarkable women who came before her.</p>
09/2001	<p><u>THE CORRECTIONS</u>, by Jonathan Franzen Call Number: F FRANZEN After almost fifty years as a wife and mother, Enid Lambert is ready to have some fun. Unfortunately, her husband, Alfred, is losing his sanity to Parkinson's disease, and their children have long since flown the family nest to the catastrophes of their own lives. Desperate for some pleasure to look forward to, Enid has set her heart on an elusive goal: bringing her family together for one last Christmas at home.</p>

11/2001	<p>A FINE BALANCE, by Rohinton Mistry Call Number: Interlibrary Loan</p> <p>The time is 1975. The place is an unnamed city by the sea. The government has just declared a State of Emergency, in whose upheavals four strangers—a spirited widow, a young student uprooted from his idyllic hill station, and two tailors who have fled the caste violence of their native village—will be thrust together, forced to share one cramped apartment and an uncertain future.</p>
01/2002	<p>FALL ON YOUR KNEES, by Ann-Marie MacDonald Call Number: F MACDONALD</p> <p>The Piper family is steeped in secrets, lies, and unspoken truths. At the eye of the storm is one secret that threatens to shake their lives -- even destroy them. Set on stormy Cape Breton Island off Nova Scotia, Fall on Your Knees is an internationally acclaimed multigenerational saga that chronicles the lives of four unforgettable sisters. Theirs is a world filled with driving ambition, inescapable family bonds, and forbidden love.</p>
04/2002	<p>SULA, by Toni Morrison Call Number: F MORRISON</p> <p>Two girls who grow up to become women. Two friends who become something worse than enemies. In this brilliantly imagined novel, Toni Morrison tells the story of Nel Wright and Sula Peace, who meet as children in the small town of Medallion, Ohio. Their devotion is fierce enough to withstand bullies and the burden of a dreadful secret. It endures even after Nel has grown up to be a pillar of the black community and Sula has become a pariah. But their friendship ends in an unforgivable betrayal--or does it end?</p>
06/2003	<p>EAST OF EDEN, by John Steinbeck Call Number: F STEINBECK</p> <p>A New York Times Bestseller. Set in the rich farmland of California's Salinas Valley, this sprawling and often brutal novel follows the intertwined destinies of two families -- the Trasks and the Hamiltons -- whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel.</p>
09/2003	<p>CRY, THE BELOVED COUNTRY, by Alan Paton Call Number: F PATON</p> <p>Cry, the Beloved Country, is the deeply moving story of the Zulu pastor Stephen Kumalo and his son, Absalom, set against the background of a land and a people riven by racial injustice. Remarkable for its lyricism, unforgettable for character and incident, Cry, the Beloved Country is a classic work of love and hope, courage and endurance, born of the dignity of man.</p>
01/2004	<p>ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF SOLITUDE, by Gabriel Garcia Marquez Call Number: F GARCIMARQUEZ</p> <p>The brilliant, bestselling, landmark novel that tells the story of the Buendia family, and chronicles the irreconcilable conflict between the desire for solitude and the need for love--in rich, imaginative prose that has come to define an entire genre known as "magical realism.</p>
04/2004	<p>THE HEART IS A LONELY HUNTER, by Carson McCullers Call Number: F MCCULLERS</p> <p>At its center is the deaf-mute John Singer, who becomes the confidant for various types of misfits in a Georgia mill town during the 1930s. Each one yearns for escape from small town life. When Singer's mute companion goes insane, Singer moves into the Kelly house, where Mick Kelly, the book's heroine, finds solace in her music. Wonderfully attuned to the spiritual isolation that underlies the human condition, and with a deft sense for racial tensions in the South, McCullers spins a haunting, unforgettable story that gives voice to the rejected, the forgotten, and the mistreated--and, through Mick Kelly, gives voice to the quiet, intensely personal search for beauty.</p>

05/2004	<p>ANNA KARENINA, by Leo Tolstoy Call Number: F TOLSTOY Anna Karenina (1877) is one of the greatest novels ever written. The story of an aristocratic woman who brings ruin on herself, Anna Karenina is not only about Anna's tragedy, but about marriage and relationships and families, suffused by Tolstoy's moral vision. Malcolm Bradbury is Emeritus Professor at the University of East Anglia and the author of critical works, novels, and plays.</p>
09/2004	<p>THE GOOD EARTH, by Pearl S. Buck Call Number: F BUCK Paints an indelible portrait of China in the 1920s, when the last emperor reigned and the vast political and social upheavals of the twentieth century were but distant rumblings.</p>
06/2005	<p>THE SOUND AND THE FURY, AS I LAY DYING, LIGHT IN AUGUST, by William Faulkner Call Number: F FAULKNER For this Oprah's Book Club selection, three classic titles by author William Faulkner were chosen to be read as a set.</p>
09/2005	<p>A MILLION LITTLE PIECES, by James Frey Call Number: eBook on OverDrive A story of drug and alcohol abuse and rehabilitation as it has never been told before. Recounted in visceral, kinetic prose, and crafted with a forthrightness that rejects piety, cynicism, and self-pity, it brings us face-to-face with a provocative new understanding of the nature of addiction and the meaning of recovery.</p>
01/2006	<p>NIGHT, by Elie Wiesel Call Number: 940.5318 WIE The year was 1944. The village of Sighet in Hungary had been grasped by the evil and unrelenting hand of Hitler. For the next year, young Elie Wiesel witnesses the agonizing, tortured death of all he loves -- family, friends and religious devotion. Birkenau, Auschwitz, Buna, Buchenwald. That he survived these death camps is a miracle even he finds impossible to comprehend.</p>
01/2007	<p>THE MEASURE OF A MAN: A SPIRITUAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY, by Sir Sidney Poitier Call Number: Digital Copies on OverDrive & Hoopla In this luminous memoir, a true American icon looks back on his celebrated life and career. His body of work is arguable the most morally significant in cinematic history, and the power and influence of that work are indicative of the character of the man behind the many storied roles. Here, Sidney Poitier explores these elements of character and personal values to take his own measure - as a man, as a husband, and father, and as an actor.</p>
03/2007	<p>THE ROAD, by Cormac McCarthy Call Number: F MCCARTHY A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. It is cold enough to crack stones, and when the snow falls it is gray. The sky is dark. Their destination is the coast, although they don't know what, if anything, awaits them there. They have nothing; just a pistol to defend themselves against the lawless bands that stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food--and each other.</p>
06/2007	<p>MIDDLESEX, by Jeffrey Eugenides Call Number: F EUGENIDES In the spring of 1974, Calliope Stephanides, a student at a girls' school in Grosse Pointe, finds herself drawn to a chain-smoking classmate with a gift for acting. The passion that furtively develops between them--along with Callie's failure to develop--leads Callie to suspect that she is not like other girls. In fact, she is not really a girl at all. The explanation for this shocking state of affairs takes us out of suburbia--back before the Detroit race riots of 1967, before the rise of the Motor City and Prohibition, to 1922, when the Turks sacked Smyrna and Callie's grandparents fled for their lives.</p>

10/2007	<p>LOVE IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA, by Gabriel Garcia Marquez Call Number: F GARCIMARQUEZ Set in a country on the Caribbean coast of South America, this is a story about a woman and two men and their entwined lives. From the author of the legendary One Hundred Years of Solitude.</p>
11/2007	<p>THE PILLARS OF THE EARTH, by Ken Follett Call Number: F FOLLETT Set in twelfth-century England, this epic of kings and peasants juxtaposes the building of a magnificent church with the violence and treachery that often characterized the Middle Ages.</p>
01/2008	<p>A NEW EARTH, by Eckhart Tolle Call Number: eAudiobook on OverDrive In A New Earth, Tolle expands on these powerful ideas to show how transcending our ego-based state of consciousness is not only essential to personal happiness, but also the key to ending conflict and suffering throughout the world. Tolle describes how our attachment to the ego creates the dysfunction that leads to anger, jealousy, and unhappiness, and shows readers how to awaken to a new state of consciousness and follow the path to a truly fulfilling existence.</p>
09/2008	<p>THE STORY OF EDGAR SAWTELLE, by David Wroblewski Call Number: F WROBLEWSKI A tale reminiscent of "Hamlet" that also celebrates the alliance between humans and dogs follows speech-disabled Wisconsin youth Edgar, who bonds with three yearling canines and struggles to prove that his sinister uncle is responsible for his father's death.</p>
09/2009	<p>SAY YOU'RE ONE OF THEM, by Uwem Akpan Call Number: F AKPAN The power of the human spirit is showcased in this collection of short stories featuring young children in Africa struggling to overcome extreme hardship and heartache from poverty, injustice, and violence.</p>
09/2010	<p>FREEDOM, by Jonathan Franzen Call Number: F FRANZEN The idyllic lives of civic-minded environmentalists Patty and Walter Berglund come into question when their son moves in with aggressive Republican neighbors, green lawyer Walter takes a job in the coal industry, and go-getter Patty becomes increasingly unstable and enraged.</p>
12/2010	<p>GREAT EXPECTATIONS, A TALE OF TWO CITIES, by Charles Dickens Call Number: F DICKENS For this Oprah's Book Club selection, two classic titles by author Charles Dickens were chosen to be read as a set.</p>
06/2012	<p>WILD: FROM LOST TO FOUND ON THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL, by Cheryl Strayed Call Number: 92 STRAYED A powerful, blazingly honest, inspiring memoir: the story of a 1,100 mile solo hike that broke down a young woman reeling from catastrophe--and built her back up again.</p>
12/2012	<p>THE TWELVE TRIBES OF HATTIE, by Ayana Mathis Call Number: F MATHIS The story of an African American family held together with a mother's grit and monumental courage.</p>
01/2014	<p>THE INVENTION OF WINGS, by Sue Monk Kidd Call Number: F KIDD The story follows Hetty 'Handful' Grimke, a Charleston slave, and Sarah, the daughter of the wealthy Grimke family. The novel begins on Sarah's eleventh birthday, when she is given ownership over Handful, who is to be her handmaid. "The Invention of Wings" follows the next thirty-five years of their lives.</p>

02/2015	<p>RUBY, by Cynthia Bond Call Number: F BOND</p> <p>Ephram Jenkins has never forgotten the beautiful girl with the long braids running through the piney woods of Liberty, their small East Texas town. Young Ruby, "the kind of pretty it hurt to look at," is already quite damaged, but Ephram is forcibly drawn to her. As soon as she becomes a young woman and has any power of her own, Ruby flees suffocating Liberty for the bright pull of 1950s New York City.</p>
08/2016	<p>THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD, by Colson Whitehead Call Number: F WHITEHEAD</p> <p>Cora is a slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. When Caesar, a recent arrival from Virginia, tells her about the Underground Railroad, they decide to take a terrifying risk and escape. Though they manage to find a station and head north, they are being hunted. Their first stop is South Carolina, in a city that initially seems like a haven. But the city's placid surface masks an insidious scheme designed for its black denizens. And even worse: Ridgeway, the relentless slave catcher, is close on their heels.</p>
09/2016	<p>LOVE WARRIOR, by Glennon Doyle Melton Call Number: 92 MELTON</p> <p>Traces the author's journey of self-discovery after the dissolution of her marriage, revealing how she found healing by rejecting gender standards and refusing to settle for a "good-enough" life.</p>
06/017	<p>BEHOLD THE DREAMERS, by Imbolo Mbue Call Number: F MBUE</p> <p>2007. Jende Jonga, a Cameroonian immigrant living in Harlem, has come to the United States to provide a better life for himself, his wife, Neni, and their six-year-old son. Working as a chauffeur for Clark Edwards, a senior executive at Lehman Brothers, he displays the punctuality, discretion, and loyalty that Edwards demands. Neni temporary work at the Edwardses' summer home in the Hamptons means a brighter future-- until Jende and Neni notice cracks in their employers' façades. As the financial world threatens to collapse, the Jongas become desperate. And as their marriage threatens to fall apart, Jende and Neni are forced to make an impossible choice.</p>
02/2018	<p>AN AMERICAN MARRIAGE, by Tayari Jones Call Number: F JONES</p> <p>Newlyweds Celestial and Roy are the embodiment of both the American Dream and the New South. He is a young executive and she is an artist on the brink of an exciting career. But as they settle into the routine of their life together, they are ripped apart by circumstances neither could have imagined. Roy is arrested and sentenced to twelve years for a crime Celestial knows he didn't commit. Though fiercely independent, Celestial finds herself bereft and unmoored, taking comfort in Andre, her childhood friend, and best man at their wedding. As Roy's time in prison passes, she is unable to hold on to the love that has been her center. After five years, Roy's conviction is suddenly overturned, and he returns to Atlanta ready to resume their life together.</p>
06/2018	<p>THE SUN DOES SHINE, by Anthony Ray Hinton Call Number: 92 HINTON</p> <p>A powerful, revealing story of hope, love, justice, and the power of reading by a man who spent thirty years on death row for a crime he didn't commit.</p>
11/2018	<p>BECOMING, Michelle Obama Call Number: 92 OBAMA</p> <p>In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era. As First Lady of the United States of America, she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private. A deeply personal reckoning of a woman of soul and substance who has steadily defied expectations.</p>

09/2019	<p>THE WATER DANCER, by Ta-Nehisi Coates Call Number: F COATES Young Hiram Walker was born into bondage. When his mother was sold away, Hiram was robbed of all memory of her, but was gifted with a mysterious power. Years later, when Hiram almost drowns in a river, that same power saves his life.</p>
11/2019	<p>OLIVE, AGAIN, Elizabeth Strout Call Number: F STROUT Olive Kitteridge has returned, as indomitable as ever, this time as a person getting older, navigating her next decade as she comes to terms with the changes--sometimes welcome, sometimes not--in her own life. Here is Olive, strangely content in her second marriage, still in an evolving relationship with her son and his family, encountering a cast of memorable characters in the seaside town of Crosby, Maine. Whether it's a young girl coming to terms with the loss of her father, a young woman about to give birth at a baby shower, or a nurse who confesses a secret high school crush, the irascible Olive improbably touches the lives of others.</p>
01/2020	<p>AMERICAN DIRT, by Jeanine Cummins Call Number: F CUMMINS Lydia Quixano Pérez lives in the Mexican city of Acapulco. She runs a bookstore. She has a son, Luca, the love of her life, and a wonderful husband who is a journalist. And while there are cracks beginning to show in Acapulco because of the drug cartels, her life is, by and large, fairly comfortable.</p>
04/2020	<p>HIDDEN VALLEY ROAD, by Robert Kolker Call Number: UNIVERSITY HOLDINGS Don and Mimi Galvin seemed to be living the American dream. After World War II, Don's work with the Air Force brought them to Colorado, where their twelve children perfectly spanned the baby boom: the oldest born in 1945, the youngest in 1965. In those years, there was an established script for a family like the Galvins--aspiration, hard work, upward mobility, domestic harmony--and they worked hard to play their parts. But behind the scenes was a different story: psychological breakdown, sudden shocking violence, hidden abuse.</p>
06/2020	<p>DEACON KING KONG, by James McBride Call Number: NOT HOUSED In September 1969, a fumbling, cranky old church deacon known as Sportcoat shuffles into the courtyard of the Cause Houses housing project in south Brooklyn, pulls a .38 from his pocket, and, in front of everybody, shoots the project's drug dealer at point-blank range.</p>
10/2020	<p>CASTE, by Isabel Wilkerson Call Number: The hierarchy of caste is not about feelings or morality. It is about power--which groups have it and which do not. In this book, Isabel Wilkerson gives us a portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings.</p>

03/2021	<p>GILEAD, by Marilynne Robinson Call Number: F ROBINSON</p> <p>In 1956, toward the end of Reverend John Ames's life, he begins a letter to his young son, an account of himself and his forebears. Ames is the son of an Iowan preacher and the grandson of a minister who, as a young man in Maine, saw a vision of Christ bound in chains and came west to Kansas to fight for abolition: He "preached men into the Civil War," then, at age fifty, became a chaplain in the Union Army, losing his right eye in battle. Reverend Ames writes to his son about the tension between his father--an ardent pacifist--and his grandfather, whose pistol and bloody shirts, concealed in an army blanket, may be relics from the fight between the abolitionists and those settlers who wanted to vote Kansas into the union as a slave state. And he tells a story of the sacred bonds between fathers and sons, which are tested in his tender and strained relationship with his namesake, John Ames Boughton, his best friend's wayward son.</p>
03/2021	<p>HOME, by Marilynne Robinson Call Number: F ROBINSON</p> <p>The Reverend Boughton's hell-raising son, Jack, has come home after twenty years away. Artful and devious in his youth, now an alcoholic carrying two decades worth of secrets, he is perpetually at odds with his traditionalist father, though he remains his most beloved child. As Jack tries to make peace with his father, he begins to forge an intense bond with his sister Glory, herself returning home with a broken heart and turbulent past.</p>
03/2021	<p>LILA, by Marilynne Robinson Call Number: F ROBINSON</p> <p>Abandoning her homeless existence to become a minister's wife, Lila reflects on her hardscrabble life on the run with a canny young drifter and her efforts to reconcile her painful past with her husband's gentle Christian worldview.</p>
03/2021	<p>JACK, by Marilynne Robinson Call Number: F ROBINSON</p> <p>Marilynne Robinson's mythical world of Gilead, Iowa--the setting of her novels Gilead, Home, and Lila, and now Jack--and its beloved characters have illuminated and interrogated the complexities of American history, the power of our emotions, and the wonders of a sacred world. Jack is Robinson's fourth novel in this now-classic series. In it, Robinson tells the story of John Ames Boughton, the prodigal son of Gilead's Presbyterian minister, and his romance with Della Miles, a high school teacher who is also the child of a preacher.</p>
05/2021	<p>WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?, by Bruce D. Perry and Oprah Winfrey Call Number: 616.8521 PER</p> <p>Have you ever wondered "Why did I do that?" or "Why can't I just control my behavior?" Others may judge our reactions and think, "What's wrong with that person?" When questioning our emotions, it's easy to place the blame on ourselves; holding ourselves and those around us to an impossible standard. It's time we started asking a different question. Through deeply personal conversations, Oprah Winfrey and renowned brain and trauma expert Dr. Bruce Perry offer a groundbreaking and profound shift from asking "What's wrong with you?" to "What happened to you?"</p>

06/2021	<p>THE SWEETNESS OF WATER, by Nathan Harris eBOOK ON OVERDRIVE</p> <p>In the waning days of the Civil War, brothers Prentiss and Landry—freed by the Emancipation Proclamation—seek refuge on the homestead of George Walker and his wife, Isabelle. The Walkers, wracked by the loss of their only son to the war, hire the brothers to work their farm, hoping through an unexpected friendship to stanch their grief. Prentiss and Landry, meanwhile, plan to save money for the journey north and a chance to reunite with their mother, who was sold away when they were boys.</p>
10/2021	<p>BEWILDERMENT, by Richard Powers eBOOK & eAUDIOBOOK ON LIBBY</p> <p>The thirteenth novel by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Richard Powers, <i>Bewilderment</i> follows the story of astrobiologist Theo Byrne as he searches for life throughout the cosmos while single-handedly raising his unusual nine-year-old, Robin, following the death of his wife. This intimate and timely novel allows readers an opportunity to reflect on all that is currently happening throughout our beautiful, imperiled planet Earth—and in our own lives.</p>