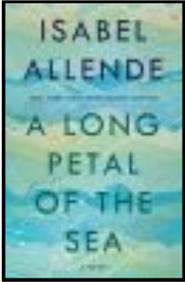


# ADULT BOOKLIST

## Historical Fiction

Allende, Isabel

### **A Long Petal of the Sea**

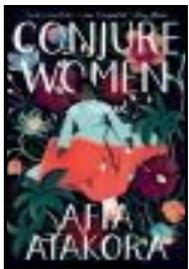


In the late 1930s, civil war gripped Spain. Roser, a pregnant young widow, finds her life intertwined with that of Victor Dalmau, an army doctor and the brother of her deceased love. In order to survive, the two must unite in an unwanted marriage and emigrate to Chile as the rest of Europe erupts in war. Starting over on a new continent tests their wills, but they also find joy and friendships. Through it all, it is the hope of being reunited with their homeland that keeps them going. In the end they find that home is closer than they thought.

**Call #:** Fiction All

Atakora, Afia

### **Conjure Women**

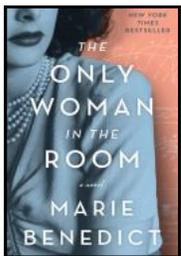


A sweeping story that brings the world of the South before and after the Civil War vividly to life. Spanning many eras and generations, it tells the stories of three unforgettable women: Miss May Belle, a wise healing woman; her precocious and observant daughter Rue, who is reluctant to follow in her mother's footsteps as a midwife; and their master's daughter Varina. The secrets and bonds among these women and their community come to a head at the beginning of a war and at the birth of a cursed child, who sets the townspeople alight with fear and a spreading superstition that threatens their newly won, tenuous freedom.

**Call # Fiction Ata**

Benedict, Marie

### **The Only Woman in the Room**

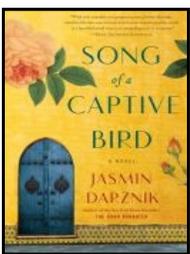


Her beauty almost certainly saved her from the rising Nazi party and led to marriage with an Austrian arms dealer. She devised a plan to flee in disguise from their castle, and the whirlwind escape landed her in Hollywood. She became Hedy Lamarr, screen star. But she kept a secret more shocking than her heritage or her marriage: she was a scientist. And she knew a few secrets about the enemy. She had an idea that might help the country fight the Nazis...if anyone would listen to her. A powerful novel based on the incredible true story of the glamour icon and scientist whose groundbreaking invention revolutionized modern communication.

**Call # Fiction Ben**

Darznick, Jasmi

### **Song of a Captive Bird**



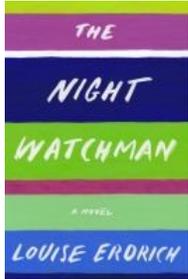
Although she is told that daughters should be quiet and modest, Forugh Farrokhzad finds ways to rebel - gossiping with her sister, composing poems behind her closed bedroom door, and sneaking out to meet a beau. As a young woman in the 1950s, Forugh flees her forced marriage, returns to Tehran, and falls in love. When her newfound freedom finds its voice on the page, her published poems - brilliant and utterly scandalous - polarize Iranian society. Unwilling to return to a traditional life, Forugh continues to live by her own rules, finding fulfillment and success - at enormous cost.

**Call #:** Fiction Dar

# Historical fiction

2020

Erdrich, Louise

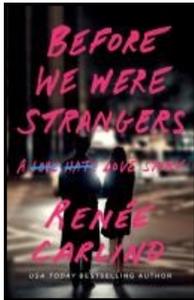


## **The Night Watchman**

Based on the extraordinary life of National Book Award winner Louise Erdrich's grandfather, this novel follows a night watchman as he carries the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota all the way to Washington, D.C. Exploring themes of love and death with lightness and gravity, this story unfolds with the elegant prose, sly humor and depth of feeling that Erdrich is known for.

**Call # :Fiction Erd**

Francis-Sharma, Lauren

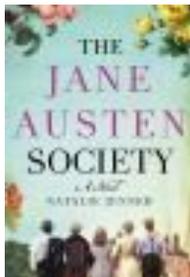


## **Book of the Little Axe**

In 1796 Trinidad, young Rosa quietly but purposefully rebels against the life others expect of her. Bright, competitive, and opinionated, Rosa sees no reason to learn to cook and keep house, for it is obvious her talents lie in running the farm she views as her birthright. But when her homeland changes from Spanish to British rule, it becomes increasingly unclear whether free black property owners will be allowed to keep their property or their freedom. By 1830, Rosa is living in Montana, married to a Crow Chief and raising her family. As the time for her son to seek his vision and become a man approaches, Rosa must confront the secrets of her past and take him to where her story began, retracing her roots and acknowledging the painful events that forced her from the middle of an ocean to the rugged terrain of a far-away land.

**Call # : Fiction Fra**

Jenner Natalie



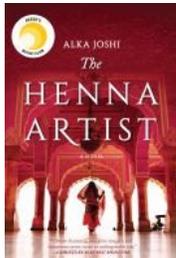
## **The Jane Austen Society**

Just after the Second World War, in the small English village of Chawton, an unusual but like-minded group of people band together to attempt something remarkable. One hundred and fifty years ago, Chawton was the final home of Jane Austen, now it's home to a few distant relatives and their diminishing estate. With the last bit of Austen's legacy threatened, a group of disparate individuals: a young widow, the local doctor, a movie star, among others, come together to preserve both Jane Austen's home and her legacy. Though they couldn't be more different from each other, they are united in their love for the works and words of Austen.

Despite personal trauma and tragedy, they rally together to create the Jane Austen Society.

**Call # : Fiction Nat**

Joshi, Alka



## **The Henna Artist**

Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi makes her way alone to the vibrant city of Jaipur. There she becomes the most highly requested henna artist, and a confidante, to the wealthy women of the upper class. Though trusted with the secrets of the wealthy, she can never reveal her own. As she pursues her dream of an independent life, she is startled years later when she is confronted by her husband who has a high-spirited young girl in tow, a sister Lakshmi never knew she had. Suddenly the caution that she has carefully cultivated as protection is threatened. Still she perseveres, lifting up those that surround her as she does.

**Call # : Fiction Jos**

# Historical Fiction

2020

Lawhon, Ariel

## Codename Helene

In 1944, Australian journalist Nancy Wake parachuted into the French countryside on a mission to organize resistance fighters and sabotage German plans. Based on the fascinating real life story of an astonishing woman who killed a Nazi with her bare hands and went on to become one of the most decorated women in WWII.,

**Call # : Fiction Law**



Lea, Caroline

## The Glass Woman

Rósa has always dreamed of living a simple life in her Icelandic town, but when tragedy strikes she hastily marries a visiting trader despite rumors surrounding the death of his first wife. Living in isolation, forbidden to explore the attic of her new home, Rósa seeks solace and answers from the neighbor women about her husband's mysterious past. Rósa's isolation begins to play tricks on her mind. When her husband is brutally maimed in an accident, a series of events are set in motion that will force Rósa to choose between obedience and defiance or her own survival and the safety of the ones she loves.

**Call # : Fiction Lea**

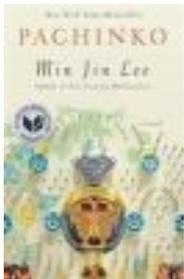


Lee, Min Jin

## Pachinko

This story follows one Korean family through generations, beginning in early 1900's Korea with Sunja, the prized daughter of a poor yet proud family, whose unplanned pregnancy threatens to shame them all. Deserted by her lover, Sunja is saved when a young tubercular minister offers to marry and bring her to Japan. This begins a sweeping saga of an exceptional, exiled family caught in the indifferent arc of history. Through desperate struggles and hard-won triumphs, its members are bound together by deep roots as they face enduring questions of faith, family, and identity.

**Call # : Fiction Lee**



McPhee, Martha

## An Elegant Woman

As Isadora, a novelist, and two of her sisters sift through the artifacts of their ancestors lives, trying to decide what to salvage and what to toss, the narrative shifts to a winter day in 1910 at a train station in Ohio. Two girls wait in the winter cold with their mother—the mercurial Glenna Stewart—to depart for a new life in the West. As Glenna campaigns in Montana for women's suffrage and teaches in one-room schoolhouses, Tommy finds creative ways to take care of her little sister. When her sister Katherine graduates, Tommy makes a decision that will change the course of both of their lives. A profound meditation on memory, history, and legacy.

**Call # Fiction McPhee**



# Historical Fiction

2020

McBride, James

## Deacon King Kong

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 .45 from his pocket, and in front of everybody shoots the project's drug dealer at point-blank range. The reasons for this desperate burst of violence and the consequences that spring from it lie at the heart of Deacon King Kong. When the truth does emerge, the story shows us that not all secrets are meant to be hidden, that the best way to grow is to face change without fear, and that the seeds of love lie in hope and compassion.

Call # : Fiction Mcb

Morris, Heather

## The Tattooist of Auschwitz

In April 1942, Lale Sokolov, a Slovakian Jew, is transported to the concentration camps at Auschwitz-Birkenau. When his captors discover that he speaks several languages, he is put to work as a Tätowierer, tasked with permanently marking his fellow prisoners. Imprisoned for over two and a half years, Lale bears witness to atrocities and incredible acts of bravery and compassion, while risking his own life to save others. One day Lale comforts Gita, a scared young woman waiting in line to have the number 34902 tattooed onto her arm. Lale vows to somehow survive the camp and marry her. The Tattooist of Auschwitz is a testament to the endurance of love and humanity under the darkest possible conditions.

Call # : Fiction Mor

Swift, Graham

## Here We Are

It's the summer of 1959, and something magical can be witnessed at the end of the pier in beach town Brighton, England. Jack Robbins, Ronnie Deane, and Evie White are performing in a seaside variety show and magic act. By the end of the summer, Evie's glinting engagement ring will be flung to the bottom of the ocean and one of the three will vanish forever. Magic and reality share the stage in this masterly and devastating story that pulls back the curtain on the power of love, family, and the touchstones of our memories.

Call # : Fiction Swi

Whitehead, Colson

## The Nickel Boys

As the Civil Rights movement begins to reach the black enclave of Frenchtown in segregated Tallahassee, Elwood Curtis takes the words of Dr. Martin Luther King to heart: He is "as good as anyone." Abandoned by his parents, but kept on the straight and narrow by his grandmother, Elwood is about to enroll in the local black college. But for a black boy in the Jim Crow South of the early 1960s, one innocent mistake is enough to destroy the future. Elwood is sentenced to a juvenile reformatory called the Nickel Academy, whose mission statement says it provides "physical, intellectual and moral training" so the delinquent boys in their charge can become "honorable and honest men." In reality, the Nickel Academy is a grotesque chamber of horrors run by a sadistic staff. Based on the real story of a reform school in Florida that operated for one hundred and eleven years and warped the lives of thousands of children.

Call # : Fiction Whi

