

Book Group Selection Ideas

Oct 22, 2021 Edition



Oryx & Crake by Margaret Atwood

Genre: Science Fiction. Genetic Engineering, Apocalyptic.

Selling Points

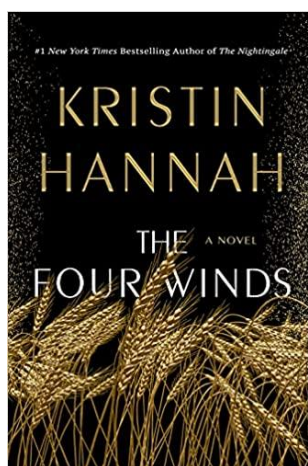
Renée recommends as a must read.
New hulu series adaptation is coming out.
Paperback available.

Down side:

Older book, many may have read.

Description:

Oryx and Crake is at once an unforgettable love story and a compelling vision of the future. Snowman, known as Jimmy before mankind was overwhelmed by a plague, is struggling to survive in a world where he may be the last human, and mourning the loss of his best friend, Crake, and the beautiful and elusive Oryx whom they both loved. In search of answers, Snowman embarks on a journey—with the help of the green-eyed Children of Crake—through the lush wilderness that was so recently a great city, until powerful corporations took mankind on an uncontrolled genetic engineering ride. Margaret Atwood projects us into a near future that is both all too familiar and beyond our imagining.



The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

Genre: Historical Fiction, Dust Bowl/Great Depression

Selling Points

Two members recommend.
Excellent writing by this author
Paperbacks available.
New best seller this year.

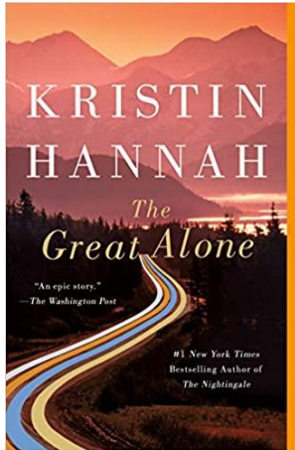
Down side:

Still a very popular titles with lots of holds on our library copies.

Description:

The Four Winds is a rich, sweeping novel that stunningly brings to life the Great Depression and the people who lived through it—the harsh realities that divided us as a nation and the enduring battle between the haves and the have-nots. A testament to hope, resilience, and the

strength of the human spirit to survive adversity, *The Four Winds* is an indelible portrait of America and the American dream, as seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation



The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah

Genre: Historical Fiction

Selling Points

- Two members recommend.
- Excellent writing by this author
- Paperbacks available.
- Easier to get multiple copies than “four winds”

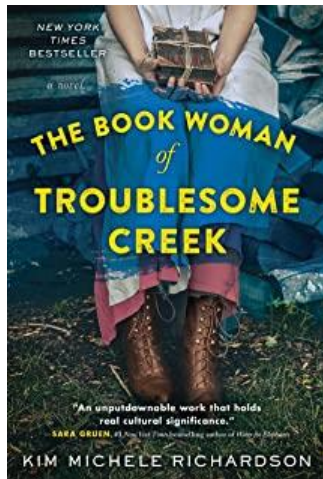
Down side:

Many may have already read this one.

Description:

In a wild, remote corner of Alaska, the Allbrights find a fiercely independent community of strong men and even stronger women. The long, sunlit days and the generosity of the locals make up for the newcomers’ lack of preparation and dwindling resources.

But as winter approaches and darkness descends, Ernt’s fragile mental state deteriorates. Soon the perils outside pale in comparison to threats from within. In their small cabin, covered in snow, blanketed in eighteen hours of night, Leni and her mother learn the terrible truth: they are on their own.



The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek

Genre: Historical Fiction

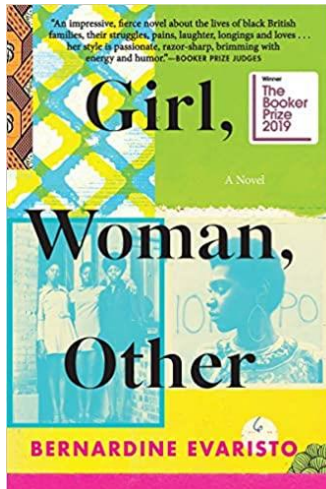
Selling Points

- At least one member recommends
- Popular book group selection.
- Paperbacks available
- No longer top of best sellers list – copies easy to get.

Description

The hardscrabble folks of Troublesome Creek have to scarp for everything—everything except books, that is. Thanks to Roosevelt's Kentucky Pack Horse Library Project, Troublesome's got its very own traveling librarian, Cussy Mary Carter.

Cussy's not only a book woman, however, she's also the last of her kind, her skin a shade of blue unlike most anyone else. Not everyone is keen on Cussy's family or the Library Project, and a Blue is often blamed for any whiff of trouble. If Cussy wants to bring the joy of books to the hill folks, she's going to have to confront prejudice as old as the Appalachias and suspicion as deep as the holler.



Girl, Woman, Other by Bernardine Evaristo

Genre: Literary Fiction, LGBT, English author

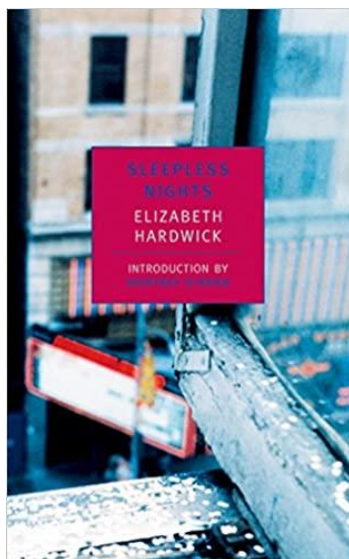
Selling Points

Renee recommends
Short listed for booker award
Available in paperback

Description

Bernardine Evaristo is the winner of the 2019 Booker Prize and the first black woman to receive this highest literary honor in the English language. *Girl, Woman, Other* is a magnificent portrayal of the intersections of identity and a moving and hopeful story of an

interconnected lives group of Black British women that paints a vivid portrait of the changing state of contemporary Britain.



Sleepless Nights by Elizabeth Hardwick

Genre: Literary Fiction

Selling Points

National Book Critics Circle Award (1979)
Great under-read female author
Available in paperback.

Description

In *Sleepless Nights* a woman looks back on her life—the parade of people, the shifting background of place—and assembles a scrapbook of memories, reflections, portraits, letters, wishes, and dreams. An inspired fusion of fact and invention, this beautifully realized, hard-bitten, lyrical book is not only Elizabeth Hardwick's finest fiction but one of the outstanding contributions to American

literature of the last fifty years.